

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Performance Progress Report

2. Award Or Grant Number
19-50-M09047

4. Report Date (MM/DD/YYYY)
10-12-2011

1. Recipient Name
Connected Nation, Inc. - Iowa

6. Designated Entity On Behalf Of:
Iowa

3. Street Address
1020 College Street, P.O. Box 3448,

8. Final Report? Yes No
9. Report Frequency
 Quarterly
 Semi Annual
 Annual
 Final

5. City, State, Zip Code
Bowling Green, KY 42102-3448

7. Project / Grant Period
Start Date: (MM/DD/YYYY)
01-01-2010

7a. End Date: (MM/DD/YYYY)
12-31-2014

7b. Reporting Period End Date:
09-30-2011

9a. If Other, please describe:
N/A

10. Broadband Mapping 10a. Provider Table

Number of Providers Identified	Number of Providers Contacted	Number of Agreements Reached for Data Sharing	Number of Partial Data Sets Received	Number of Complete Data Sets	Number of Data Sets Verified
0	0	0	0	0	0

10b. Are you submitting the required PROVIDER DATA by using the Excel spreadsheet provided by the SBDD grants office? Yes No

10c. Have you encountered challenges with any providers that indicate they may refuse to participate in this project? Yes No

10d. If so, describe the discussions to date with each of these providers and the current status

Amberwave Communications: In addition to multiple contact attempts made between June 22, 2010 and January 27, 2011, 6 additional attempts were made this period with no response.

Eastlight, LLC: On July 19, 2011 the provider stated that they do not wish to provide their fiber coverage at this time.

Coon Creek Telecommunications Corp.: In addition to multiple contact attempts made between July 30, 2010 and February 11, 2011, 5 additional attempts were made this period with no response.

Global Crossing Telecommunications, Inc.: In addition to multiple contact attempts made between July 1, 2010 and February 17, 2011, 3 additional attempts were made this period with no response.

Mechanicsville Telephone Company: On August 04, 2011 we spoke with a provider representative who stated their refusal to participate.

PAETEC Communications, Inc.: Multiple outreach attempts were conducted but no response was received. PAETEC was bought out during the collection phase of this round by Windstream, and we intend to be able to include the PAETEC coverage as a part of the Windstream footprint during the next round.

RuralWaves Wireless Internet: In addition to multiple contact attempts made between August 5, 2010 and February 18, 2011, 4 additional attempts were made this period with no response.

Schaller Telephone Company: In addition to multiple contact attempts made between August 3, 2010 and February 10, 2011, 5 additional attempts were made this period with no response.

10e. If you are collecting data through other means (e.g. data extraction, extrapolation, etc), please describe your progress to date and the relevant activities to be undertaken in the future

Data is not being collected through extraction or extrapolation.

10f. Please describe the verification activities you plan to implement

ESRI has deployed and is hosting the BroadbandStat (BBStat) web application. ESRI houses the customized application in their highly available, monitored, and managed environment. Their services include maintaining a staging environment for data verification and

compatibility as well as a production environment for client access.

Consumer feedback is collected in the form of broadband inquiries. These inquiries represent any type of communications received from the public regarding broadband service. Once broadband inquiries are received across the state, this information is overlaid with the broadband availability information which was collected through the State Broadband Initiative (SBI) program. This allows for a real-world comparison of the broadband landscape to the information received from broadband inquiries. Broadband inquiries are able to provide three types of information: 1) residents who do not have broadband but want it; 2) residents who have broadband but want a different provider; and 3) residents who do not have broadband, but the broadband inventory maps indicate that they do. If residents within a region state that they are without broadband, but the broadband inventory maps show otherwise, this allows Connected Nation to approach the providers within that area in an effort to trim down their coverage to more accurately represent real-world availability on the ground.

Within the Q2 2011 Performance Progress Report (PPR) Connected Nation proposed to target 10 companies in order to achieve a total field validation rate equal to or exceeding 46.80% before December 31, 2011. As of this report, Connected Nation has completed field validation on 51.47% of the provider universe.

10g. Have you initiated verification activities? Yes No

10h. If yes, please describe the status of your activities

BroadbandStat is publicly available on the Connect Iowa website (<http://connectiowa.org>) and received a total of 271 visits between July 1, 2011 and September 30, 2011.

During this quarter, the Connect Iowa project received a total of 7 broadband inquiries. Additional information received through e-mail from consumers that can also be used for verification purposes totaled 2 for this quarter.

(For more details, please refer to the Q3 Supplemental Answers Document.)

10i. If verification activities have not been initiated please provide a projected time line for beginning and completing such activities

Verification activities have been initiated.

Staffing

10j. How many jobs have been created or retained as a result of this project?

13.55

Connected Nation has numerous staff working on the Connect Iowa project, some at only a small percentage of their time. This approach is beneficial to the project in various ways: some staff provide necessary project support, many staff work together utilizing a team approach, and others are subject matter experts in their respective areas, and by leveraging their expertise, the project benefits from their knowledge and skills without the necessity of supporting a more expensive full-time resource.

10k. Is the project currently fully staffed? Yes No

10l. If no, please explain how any lack of staffing may impact the project's time line and when the project will be fully staffed

The positions not currently staffed are related to Connect Iowa's new broadband capacity and local and regional tech team activities that are only just beginning and as such have no impact on the project's timeline. The positions are expected to be filled during the fourth quarter of 2011.

10m. When fully staffed, how many full-time equivalent (FTE) jobs do you expect to create or retain as a result of this project?

16.55

10n. Staffing Table

Job Title	FTE %	Date of Hire
Associate Counsel	4	09/14/2009
Business Programmer Analyst	2	04/02/2007
CAI Coordinator	15	12/13/2004
CAI Data Analyst	6	03/24/2009
ETS Analyst	78	08/03/2009

ETS Analyst	69	11/01/2007
ETS Analyst	42	02/18/2010
ETS Analyst	16	02/08/2010
ETS Manager	8	07/01/2007
ETS Sr. Analyst	80	02/18/2010
General Counsel	10	01/01/2007
GIS Analyst	49	09/17/2007
GIS Analyst	5	04/01/2010
GIS Analyst	2	11/16/2009
GIS Analyst	1	10/19/2009
GIS Services Manager	3	05/15/2007
Outreach & Awareness Manager	10	03/24/2009
Outreach & Awareness Specialist	9	02/02/2009
Outreach & Awareness Specialist	9	01/04/2010
Outreach & Awareness Specialist	7	01/04/2010
Outreach & Awareness Specialist	6	10/01/2007
Program Director	8	08/04/2008
Program Manager	49	08/22/2011
Project Coordinator	3	04/01/2005
Project Management Director	5	12/16/2009
Project Manager	35	03/16/2010
Project Manager	5	01/14/2008
Project Manager	5	09/01/2006
Project Manager	1	03/16/2010
Project Manager	1	01/14/2008
Provider Relations Manager	8	02/17/2005

Research & GIS Analyst	12	05/14/2007
Research Analyst	93	02/16/2010
Research Analyst	93	02/16/2010
Research Analyst	93	02/16/2010
Research Analyst	93	02/16/2010
Research Analyst	93	02/16/2010
Research Analyst	93	02/16/2010
Research Analyst	93	02/16/2010
Research Analyst	92	02/16/2010
Research Analyst	2	02/01/2010
Research Analyst	2	06/01/2009
Research Analyst	2	03/22/2010
Research Manager	4	05/14/2007
State Services Manager	3	07/01/2007
State Services Specialist	36	02/02/2009

Add Row

Remove Row

Sub Contracts

10o. Subcontracts Table

Name of Subcontractor	Purpose of Subcontract	RFP Issued (Y/N)	Contract Executed (Y/N)	Start Date	End Date	Federal Funds	In-Kind Funds
Thoroughbred Research Group	Research Surveys	Y	Y	02/09/2010	02/08/2012	143,175	0
Contract Labor	Contract Labor	N	Y	01/01/2010	12/31/2014	340,105	236,849

Add Row

Remove Row

Funding

10p. How much Federal funding has been expended as of the end of the last quarter? \$1,918,495 10q. How much Remains? \$3,851,447

10r. How much matching funds have been expended as of the end of last quarter? \$581,790 10s. How much Remains? \$864,684

10t. Budget Worksheet

Mapping Budget Element	Federal Funds Granted	Proposed In-Kind	Total Budget	Federal Funds Expended	Matching Funds Expended	Total Funds Expended
Personal Salaries	\$1,781,593	\$154,543	\$1,936,136	\$510,512	\$151,654	\$662,166
Personnel Fringe Benefits	\$382,149	\$45,123	\$427,272	\$102,274	\$43,358	\$145,632

Mapping Budget Element	Federal Funds Granted	Proposed In-Kind	Total Budget	Federal Funds Expended	Matching Funds Expended	Total Funds Expended
Travel	\$284,757	\$0	\$284,757	\$67,232	\$582	\$67,814
Equipment	\$146,140	\$0	\$146,140	\$84,167	\$0	\$84,167
Materials / Supplies	\$49,415	\$0	\$49,415	\$21,377	\$0	\$21,377
Subcontracts Total	\$1,187,286	\$295,447	\$1,482,733	\$499,071	\$236,849	\$735,920
Subcontract #1	\$301,831	\$0	\$301,831	\$143,175	\$0	\$143,175
Subcontract #2	\$829,232	\$295,447	\$1,124,679	\$340,105	\$236,849	\$576,954
Subcontract #3	\$17,540	\$0	\$17,540	\$7,333	\$0	\$7,333
Subcontract #4	\$38,683	\$0	\$38,683	\$8,458	\$0	\$8,458
Subcontract #5	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Construction	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other	\$37,181	\$896,648	\$933,829	\$13,657	\$29,672	\$43,329
Total Direct Costs	\$3,868,521	\$1,391,761	\$5,260,282	\$1,298,290	\$462,115	\$1,760,405
Total Indirect Costs	\$1,901,421	\$54,713	\$1,956,134	\$620,205	\$119,675	\$739,880
Total Costs	\$5,769,942	\$1,446,474	\$7,216,416	\$1,918,495	\$581,790	\$2,500,285
% Of Total	80	20	100	77	23	100

Hardware / Software

10u. Has the project team purchased the software / hardware described in the application? Yes No

10v. If yes, please list

Hardware/Software purchases for the project to date include the following:

- BroadbandStat-\$60,000
- GIS Software Maintenance-\$13,009
- Spectrum Analyzer-\$9,008
- Computers & Software-\$4,692
- Speed Test Software-\$4,081
- Google Earth Pro-\$266

10w. Please note any software / hardware that has yet to be purchased and explain why it has not been purchased

Remaining purchases may include SQL server for mapping geodatabase, SQL server software, multiple dedicated storage servers, security application, additional backup replication solution, computers, GPS units, BroadbandStat maintenance, ArchInfo/ArcGIS maintenance, and speed test updates as well as computers and software maintenance.

10x. Has the project team purchased or used any data sets? Yes No

10y. If yes, please list

Connect Iowa received a listing of Community Anchor Institution (CAI) addresses and technology data from the Iowa Communications Network as part of an in-kind match contribution to assist Connect Iowa with its mapping and planning goals - \$25

10z. Are there any additional project milestones or information that has not been included? Yes No

10aa. If yes, please list

- *Maintained budget/finance cost model for Connect Iowa.
- *Updated Work Breakdown Structure and tracked project deliverables.
- *Maintained Connect Iowa website to explain program, process speed tests, gather information from consumers and Community Anchor Institutions (CAI).
- *Maintained broadband data collection activity and updated database.
- *Requested/processed broadband coverage coordinates data sets (updates and new requests) from Iowa provider community.
- *Maintained outreach and awareness strategy.

*Responded to consumer inquiries through Connect Iowa website.

*Produced monthly status reports, data collection, activity log, and website statistics and distributed to Connect Iowa project team.

*During third quarter 2011, Connect Iowa submitted to National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) an update to state broadband data. The data update submission includes participation of 95% of the Iowa provider community, or 195 of 204 total providers. Of 195 participating providers, 48 supplied an update to their network or coverage area(s), while 144 reported no change. Remaining 3 represents providers who previously submitted data but were non-responsive in this update. Of the 8 providers not represented in the datasets, 6 refused to participate or were non-responsive to contact attempts, and 2 providers were in some form of progress toward data submission but were not able to submit coverage areas at submission.

*Initial results of 2011 Iowa Residential Technology Assessment were released during quarter.

*In conjunction with Iowa Department of Economic Development, outreach was conducted to continue identification of existing, centralized sources for CAI connectivity data.

*Connect Iowa performed broadband verification activities. In addition to confirmation of service area(s) by providers, 94 (46.08%) providers have been validated through field verification activities to date.

*Hired Connect Iowa Program Manager.

10bb. Please describe any challenge or obstacle that you have encountered and detail the mitigation strategies the project team is employing

All mapping deadlines have been achieved. No obstacles have been encountered.

10cc. Please provide any other information that you think would be useful to NTIA as it assesses your Broadband Mapping Project
Connect Iowa maps were used to further identify unserved and underserved areas and to expand service to unserved households.
<http://connectiowa.org/mapping/>

Also, during Q3 2011, Connect Iowa continued gathering data on the location and broadband connectivity of Community Anchor Institutions (CAI), in accordance with the data requirements of the State Broadband Initiative (SBI) Notice of Funds Availability (NOFA) Technical Appendix. Efforts have been focused on conducting outreach and raising awareness of this important project through a statewide campaign.

Connect Iowa conducted an extensive CAI overview to engage a new client contact with the Iowa Department of Economic Development. As a result of this overview, a plan has been developed to engage new department head appointees within the state that represent key CAI sectors. Developing these relationships with these new appointees will be key to assisting with data-gathering efforts leading up the next submission.

We continue to utilize our online survey and raise awareness of the importance of CAI broadband connectivity. Connect Iowa has an ongoing mission to educate CAI throughout the state on the importance of participating in the project.

Our education campaign has been heightened during Q3 with the release of a CAI newsletter which was targeted across all CAI sectors. This newsletter profiled an institution within the state, requested participation in our survey and shared key policy updates. The newsletter is available on the CAI page of the Connect Iowa website at the following link:
http://connectiowa.org/mapping/Community_Anchor_Institution_Data_Collection.php

11. Broadband Planning

11a. Please describe progress made against all goals, objectives, and milestones detailed in the approved Project Plan. Be sure to include a description of each major activity / milestone that you plan to complete and your current status

Broadband Capacity Milestones, Year 2, Quarter3, per approved project plan:

- Connect Iowa Program Office Administration and Iowa Broadband Deployment Governance Board support – This milestone was met. Connect Iowa hired a Program Manager during the quarter. This position allows the program to provide administrative project oversight involving a variety of tasks that encompass administering the project plan, managing workflow and timeline, verifying work quality, gathering documentation in support of community outreach/projects, and preparing reports as required by the Iowa Department of Economic Development and other stakeholders, such as the Iowa Broadband Deployment Governance Board.
- Conduct the meeting(s) of the Iowa Broadband Deployment Governance Board (IBDGB) – This milestone was not met. Due to political administrative changes, the IBDGB has not been re-instituted with new members assigned to carry out the work of broadband adoption in the state. The IBDGB Chairperson departed the board's membership when her term on the Iowa Utilities Board expired on April 30, 2011. The IBDGB has not reconvened since and has yet to reorganize. With the change of administration earlier this year, the future of the statutorily created IBDGB remains uncertain at this time. Connect Iowa has worked in conjunction with the Iowa Economic Development Authority to pursue alternative methods of completing this milestone in future periods via either a reconstituted IBDGB or alternative methods.

For more details, please refer to the Q3 Supplemental Answers Document.

11b. Please describe any challenge or obstacle that you have encountered and detail the mitigation strategies the project team is employing

Connected Nation has worked closely with our recently appointed state point of contact, Iowa Economic Development, to ensure that our work exceeds expectations. During Q3 2011, there were no significant obstacles during the planning process.

11c. Does the Project Team anticipate any changes to the project plan for Broadband Planning? Yes No

11d. If yes, please describe these anticipated changes. Please note that NTIA will need to approve changes to the Project Plan before they can be implemented

Connect Iowa is anticipating the use of a sub-recipient, Iowa Association of Regional Councils, to complete the community engagement work instead of consultants.

Funding

11e. How much Federal funding has been expended as of the end of the last quarter? \$0

11f. How much Remains? \$0

11g. How much matching funds have been expended as of the end of last quarter? \$0

11h. How much Remains? \$0

11i. Planning Worksheet

Personal Salaries	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Personnel Fringe Benefits	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Travel	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Equipment	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Materials / Supplies	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subcontracts Total	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subcontract #1	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subcontract #2	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subcontract #3	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subcontract #4	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subcontract #5	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Construction	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Direct Costs	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Indirect Costs	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Costs	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
% Of Total	0	0	0	0	0	0

Additional Planning Information

11j. Are there any additional project milestones or information that has not been included?

Connected Nation conducted a survey that oversamples households that do not subscribe to broadband. This second survey was in addition to the previously scheduled residential survey. This updated and improved methodology will provide a greater level of analysis regarding barriers to technology adoption among different socioeconomic and demographic groups by surveying non-adopters in Iowa in a way similar to that conducted by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) as part of the National Broadband Planning effort. This approach will help create a demographic and socioeconomic profile of the population of non-adopters in Iowa, which can then be applied at the local level of detail by area planning teams to assist in developing local adoption initiatives that will target the barriers that are unique to that area. In Q3 2011, CN surveyed 2,400 adult heads of households who do not subscribe to broadband across the state of Iowa and presented the initial results to state stakeholders.

11k. Please describe any challenge or obstacle that you have encountered and detail the mitigation strategies the Project Team is employing. Connected Nation has discussed with Lynn Chadwick, our Federal Program Officer, the anticipated use of a sub-recipient, Iowa Association of Regional Councils, to complete the community engagement work instead of consultants as previously submitted in the Detailed Project Plan. A formal Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is being finalized and local/regional technology planning outreach efforts are set to begin in Q4 2011. As a result of this change, the local/regional planning team process has been delayed and is expected to begin immediately following a formally agreed upon MOU by both Connected Nation and the Iowa Association of Regional Councils.

11l. Please provide any other information that you think would be useful to NTIA as it assesses your Broadband Mapping Project

- Connect Iowa named a new state program manager, Amy Kuhlert. Her duties will include promoting collaboration between Connect Iowa, the Iowa Economic Development Authority, the public arm of the Iowa Partnership for Economic Progress, and local, state, and federal stakeholders. Kuhlert will also be responsible for spreading awareness of the benefits of broadband, gathering and sharing information on best practice programs, and publicly demonstrating program impact and progress in communities across the state.

- o Press Release: http://connectiowa.org/press_release/?id=tag%3Ablogger.com%2C1999%3Ablog-8673836811623808190.post-4082656629932306453

- Several state and national news outlets presented stories on the Connect Iowa planning initiative generating 11 million positive impressions:

- o Sample: Connect Iowa hires program manager (Des Moines Business Record, 9/7/11) <http://www.businessrecord.com/main.asp?SectionID=36&SubSectionID=99&ArticleID=14964>

12. Certification: I certify to the best of my knowledge and belief that this report is correct and complete for performance of activities for the purpose set forth in the award documents.

12a. Typed or Printed Name and Title of Authorized Certifying Official

Bernie Bogle

12c. Telephone
(area code, number, and extension)

12d. Email Address

bbogle@connectednation.org

12b. Signature of Authorized Certifying Official

Submitted Electronically

12e. Date Report Submitted
(Month, Day, Year)

10-28-2011