

Award # 56-50-M09016

EdLab Group (*Designated SBDD / SBI entity for the State of Wyoming*)

Q4-2012 Performance Progress Report

PPR_SBI_Project-Attachment_Section-2_Technical-Assistance_WY

Section 2

Describe your progress meeting each major activity/milestone approved in the Project Plan for this project; any challenges or obstacles encountered and mitigation strategies you have employed; planned major activities for the next quarter; and any additional project milestones or information.

The following comprises activities toward meeting the LinkWYOMING Q4-2012 **technical assistance** objectives:

Milestone 1: Complete database/list development comprising technical leaders across the state

Objective 1: Work with the broadband provider community and the Regional Planning Teams to identify key resources that might benefit from training in technology and policy change

Activities and accomplishments during Q4-2012 included review of Regional Planning Teams and key resources in Wyoming. We also began researching and obtaining information related to resources and stakeholders for future use. The Broadband Summit was a major outreach opportunity for contacting key resources. There was a large attendance from technical directors, government leaders, municipalities and other stakeholders at the summit. The group attending the first annual broadband summit has put additional resources in touch with the office of the State of Wyoming Broadband Enterprise Architect.

Status: In Progress; Ongoing.

Objective 2: Develop preliminary database of technology leaders and confirm their interest in attending events

Activities and accomplishments during Q4-2012 included reviewing current database and identifying additional potential leaders. When advertising for the broadband summit, multiple databases from different entities were merged together in order to distribute registration information. This new database is the preliminary contact of technology leaders in the state.

Status: Complete; however database is a dynamic document that can be updated at any time. Efforts to identify additional stakeholders will be ongoing.

Objective 3: Finalize database of technology leaders.

Activities and accomplishments during Q4-2012 included reviewing and finalizing the database.

Status: Complete; however database is a dynamic document that can be updated at any time. Efforts to identify additional stakeholders will be ongoing.

Milestone 2: Supply the state's leaders with current technology/policy news through content distribution (RSS feed)

Objective 1: Develop and offer optional RSS feeds to state leaders

During Q4-2012, we completed a Request for Proposals (RFP) process and contracted with ICF International for technical assistance efforts. Activities and accomplishments during Q4-2012 also included developing RSS feed for LinkWYOMING website. We are considering a redesign of our public website and will make the feeds available after redesign.

Status: Design Complete. The feeds will be made available early 2013.

Objective 2: Provide brief online or on-site training for state leaders on subscribing to and benefiting from RSS feeds

Training will be developed once RSS feed is live on the LinkWYOMING website. The focus of the feed is keeping Wyoming stakeholders updated with up-to-the-minute changes and challenges relating to broadband on a local and national level.

Status: Estimated completion is Q1-2013.

The following comprises LinkWYOMING **technical assistance** efforts that began in Q4-2012, but are scheduled for completion in Q1-2013:

Milestone 1: Informed group of technical leaders on the latest developments with Universal Service Funding (USF) and the Collecting America Fund (CAF)

Objective 1: Work with program partners to determine webinar topics that best meet the needs of the State; develop content / facilitate webinar on topics, such as Universal Service Funding and the CAF; and provide recording of seminar for LinkWYOMING website and dashboard; and provide needed follow-up and evaluation of the effectiveness of the webinar.

Activities related to this objective that took place during Q4-2012 included identification of topics of interest to Wyoming. It was determined that initial webinars will be most effective if the trainings are based on USF-CAF and FirstNet programs.

Status: In Progress. Anticipate delivering initial webinar late Q1 or early Q2-2013.

Objective 2: Support the LinkWYOMING program with input to and updating edits on existing or emerging technical and/or policy-related white papers and other materials.

Activities related to this objective that took place during Q4-2012 included identification of topics of interest to Wyoming. White papers will be developed or updated based on interest; initial white paper will be developed on FirstNet and released late Q1 or early Q2-2013. We will collaborate with LinkWYOMING partners and other stakeholders on an ongoing basis to determine topics of interest and greatest needs.

Status: In Progress.

Efforts Planned for Q1-2013

During Q1-2013, we will finish development of optional RSS feeds and training materials. Feeds will be completed and made available to state leaders, project partners and all stakeholders in LinkWYOMING database. Training will be conducted on the benefits of RSS feeds, how to subscribe and how to use feeds effectively.

We will also conduct the first technical assistance webinar in Q1-2013. The topic determined to be of greatest need at this point is information and training on the USF-CAF and FirstNet programs.