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Organization:	Communication Service for the Deaf, Inc. (CSD)
Project Name:	Project Endeavor
Project Type:	Sustainable Broadband Adoption
States:	All 56 U.S. States and Territories
Federal Award:	\$14,988,657

ABOUT THE PROJECT

Broadband's ability to expand educational and employment opportunities is especially meaningful for Americans who are deaf or hard of hearing, a community that faces unique challenges in education and that suffers from a rate of unemployment much higher than the national average. **Communication Service for the Deaf, Inc.** (CSD) intends to expand broadband adoption among people who are deaf and hard of hearing and provide them with online tools to more fully participate in the digital economy. The project proposes to employ a combination of discounted broadband service and specialized computers, technology training from an online state-of-the-art support center customized to the community's needs, public access to videophones at anchor institutions from coast to coast, and a nationwide outreach initiative. Thousands will gain online access to all the Internet has to offer, including sign language interpreters, captioned video services, and other content and functionalities designed especially to advance their educational, employment, and healthcare interests.

Project Endeavor also proposes to:

- Add 60 new staff, proficient in sign language, to its contact center in South Dakota for voice, text, and video-enabled broadband training and support focusing on broadband use, technical training on computers and specialized functionalities, and employment training.
- Stimulate an estimated 16,000 new broadband subscribers through discounted equipment and service.
- Facilitate improved access to enhanced 911 public safety services by those who are deaf or hard of hearing.
- Collect and evaluate data on the effect of training programs on broadband adoption, barriers to accessibility, and the value of specialized equipment subsidies on advancing broadband use among deaf persons.

ORGANIZATION'S HISTORY

The South Dakota-based not-for-profit Communication Service for the Deaf (CSD) has been delivering American Sign Language interpreting services for more than 34 years and professional call center services for the past 17 years. CSD provides Sprint Relay with operator services in 35 states, and provided informational and technical assistance services to the FCC during the Digital Television Transition.

PROJECT PARTNERS

- CoSentry
- SDN Communications

Data provided in the project description is based on information supplied by the applicant. An executive summary of this application can be found on www.ntia.doc.gov/broadbandusa.

For press-related inquiries, contact 202-482-7002 or press@ntia.doc.gov. For the general public, contact BTOP@ntia.doc.gov.

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