



BROADBANDUSA

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Organization:	Axiom Technologies, LLC
Project Name:	Washington County Education and Employment through Sustainable Broadband Adoption
Project Type:	Sustainable Broadband Adoption
State:	Maine
Federal Award:	\$1,429,596

ABOUT THE PROJECT

Washington County is a major hub for blueberry farming and commercial fishing in Maine, but it is also the state's poorest county. **Axiom Technologies** proposes a sustainable broadband adoption project that intends to provide broadband education, training, access, equipment, and support to community-serving institutions and economically vulnerable populations in the county. In addition, to address a healthcare worker shortage in the area, the project proposes to expand distance learning for healthcare professionals in partnership with the Central Maine Medical Center College of Nursing and Health Professions, with the goal of expanding the pool of local residents with associate degrees in nursing. The project also intends to equip ten local farmers and ten local fishermen with wireless equipment and a rugged laptop as a pilot project to help local industries utilize broadband technology in the field and for small business and economic development purposes.

The Washington County Education and Employment project also proposes to:

- Provide teacher-led training for approximately 100 residents with 8,200 hours of training over the two-year life of the project.
- Serve as a prototype for similar projects in the state, compiling best practices and measuring changes in subscribership and job creation for use in future broadband deployment plans across the agriculture and fishing industries.
- Deploy an outreach campaign about the services being offered in the program through newspaper and radio advertising and cooperative marketing with local trade organizations, Chambers of Commerce, and economic development groups.

ORGANIZATION'S HISTORY

Axiom Technologies' mission is to bring broadband Internet and services to rural communities overlooked by larger service providers and to provide top quality consulting services to business and the community at reasonable prices. The company strives to create economic opportunities for the less fortunate and to advance replicable, sustainable new models of economic justice.

PROJECT PARTNERS

- Down East Community Hospital
- University of Maine at Machias
- Central Maine Medical Center College of Nursing and Health Professions
- Sunrise County Blueberry Cooperative
- Downeast Institute for Applied Marine Research and Education

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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