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Organization:	Ute Indian Tribe
Project Name:	Ute Indian Tribe of the Uintah and Ouray Reservation Fiber Optic Infrastructure Project
Project Type:	Comprehensive Community Infrastructure
State:	Utah
Federal Award:	\$1,418,266

ABOUT THE PROJECT

Many of the community anchor institutions on the Uintah and Ouray Reservation, home to the Ute Indian Tribe, lack sufficient broadband infrastructure to interconnect the tribal government, the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), and other federal agencies. Many residents in the area, such as the Fort Duchesne Tribal Community, are also severely underserved by current broadband providers.

The **Ute Indian Tribe** is proposing to install new fiber optic cable to enhance distance learning, telehealth, and public safety applications in the region. The project would also help spur economic opportunities and social services in an area that, according to BIA, has an unemployment rate of up to 77 percent. The network would bring speeds of up to 10 Mbps to police, courts, emergency and social services facilities, and enable rapid information sharing between local, inter-tribal, state, and federal agencies.

The Ute Indian Tribe project also proposes to:

- Connect up to 40 community anchor institutions, including as many as two K-12 schools, five public safety entities, a library, 22 government facilities, one college, and three healthcare providers.
- Construct eight miles of new fiber, extending an existing one-mile network, to facilitate more affordable and accessible broadband service for up to 180 households and 10 businesses by enabling local Internet service providers to utilize the project's open network.
- Enhance telehealth services, particularly in treating alcohol and drug addiction through the U.S. Department of Interior's Indian Health Services clinics.

ORGANIZATION'S HISTORY

The Ute have a tribal membership of 3,157 and over half of its membership lives on the Uintah and Ouray Reservation in Northeastern Utah in the Fort Duchesne region. The Tribe operates its own tribal government and oversees approximately 1.3 million acres of trust land. The Tribe's Information Department has provided network services for over 12 years and has extensive experience with federal grants.

PROJECT PARTNERS

- Net-IT-Works, Inc.

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.

