



DCN's CCI Broadband Grant Award

DATE: 10/19/10

Dakota Carrier Network's CCI Broadband project proposes to provide high-speed fiber connectivity to more than 175 largely rural and underserved North Dakota critical community anchor institutions, including public safety entities, schools, and government agencies. The project involves a unique combination of public and private partnerships and collaboration with multiple Round One Recovery Act broadband awardees to provide last mile service. Given the largely rural, underserved nature of the proposed service area, in which many community anchor organizations lack access to necessary last-mile broadband speeds, DCN intends to deploy 169 miles of new fiber with backhaul speeds as fast as 1 Gbps to enable last-mile service across the state. The project also proposes to enhance e-health in the state by deploying a dedicated 10 Gbps healthcare network for over 200 hospitals, clinics, and other healthcare providers to enable telemedicine, teleradiology, telepharmacy, and electronic health information exchange.

- **What is DCN's CCI Broadband Project?**
 - DCN's project will upgrade the high-speed broadband access to over 175 Critical Community Institutions across North Dakota.
- **How is the project Funded?**
 - DCN was chosen by the federal government to receive \$10.7 million in grant dollars. To receive access to the grant dollars, DCN has committed to providing a cash match of \$4.6 Million.
- **How Long will the project take?**
 - DCN has committed to complete 100% of the project by August 2013.
- **Who will be affected by the project?**
 - The primary beneficiaries will be Critical Community Anchor Institutions.
 - K12 Schools & Libraries
 - Medical or Healthcare
 - Public Safety Entities (DOT, PSAP's Etc.)
 - Community Colleges & Other Higher Ed locations
 - Other Government organizations
- **Does this mean that we will get free or discounted service?**
 - No, the grant dollars can only be used for infrastructure (fiber and electronics) to be used in order to upgrade your facilities.
- **Can DCN use the funds to connect to a commercial business?**
 - Only if the business is classified as a "CCI" Critical Community Institution. However, DCN and our Owner telephone companies will work with individual businesses to ensure that you have access to the most state of the art broadband access.
- **How do I know if my office was included in DCN's initial project scope?**
 - Contact DCN, if your site is not currently on the project plan, and it fits within the guidelines it can still be added.

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