

Guthrie Telecommunications Network, Inc
Broadband Grant Program- Empower Rural Iowa
NOFA #003

Executive Project Summary

Guthrie Telecommunications Network, Inc (GTN) infrastructure application targets high cost geographic areas in West Central Iowa where lowans are either unserved or underserved with broadband service. The locations are spread throughout the counties of Audubon and Carroll, which are in close proximity to fixed wireless deployment sites in use currently by GTN.

GTN has excellent response in its current fixed wireless locations and is constantly being asked for more bandwidth or extension of service. This grant will allow for electronic advances as well as a new location launch that would not be as feasible if not because of this grant opportunity. With the cost of equipment coupled with population counts, this grant will provide enormous advancements in these areas of Audubon and Greene county.

The grant program potentially will impact 85 households that may have challenges in subscribing to high speed internet service. This grant will make possible 25/3 opportunities to locations that currently have no or limited internet service today.

Serving high cost areas with dependable internet is hard during normal times. Covid-19 has made it even more challenging but also even more important. The demand to work from home, distance learn and Telemedicine are growing. This grant will allow GTN to continue to expand what it currently does very well; provide quality broadband to high cost locations.

Without this infrastructure grant, GTN feels the cost of serving many of these high cost areas with the capabilities of 25/3 broadband services extremely cost prohibitive and these locations will continue struggle as the cost to providing service will make the subscription pricing unaffordable to most in these high cost service areas. The infrastructure grant will give these locations opportunities that do not exist today.

If awarded, GTN will instigate network advancements quickly, as this is not foreign to us. The table below will demonstrate we will have 25/3 broadband functioning in these locations easily in advance of grant requirements.

Project Objectives & Activities	2020	
	Qtr 3	Qtr 4
Network Design	X	
Pre-Construction meeting	X	
Construction	X	
Electronics Order	X	
Electronics Ship		X
Equipment Install		X
Equipment Turn Up/Test		X