

**Windstream Experience Narrative for IA CARES Application – NOFA #005**

Windstream is a leading provider of advanced network communications and technology solutions for consumers, small businesses, enterprise organizations and carrier partners across the U.S. Windstream offers bundled services, including broadband, security solutions, voice and digital TV to consumers. The company also provides data, cloud solutions, unified communications and managed services to business and enterprise clients. Windstream supplies core transport solutions on a local and long-haul fiber-optic network spanning approximately 125,000 miles.

Windstream has deployed over 33,000 digital subscriber line access multiplexers (DSLAMs) throughout its footprint supporting over 4 million serviceable locations. Windstream has deployed 400 fixed wireless sites serving almost 30,000 locations. Since January 2018, Windstream has completed 400 fixed wireless deployments in Arkansas, Iowa, Missouri, Nebraska, Oklahoma, Texas and Georgia serving over 30,000 locations.

With the completion of our financial restructuring, we now have an enhanced balance sheet and a robust capital investment program to expand 1 Gig Internet service in rural America. Beginning early 2020, Windstream embarked on a multi-year program to invest 2 billion dollars of capital to bring fiber-backed gigabit services to millions of households across its footprint. Windstream had over 598,000 locations with gigabit-capable services, at the end of the year, with over 100,000 new locations enabled during 2020. As a result of these investments and recent additional network enhancements, Windstream added over 60,000 net new broadband subscribers during 2020 and completed its ninth consecutive quarter of broadband subscriber growth.