

Partnership for a Connected Illinois
2013 Quarter 2 Supplemental Information

Data Collection

- Submitted the seventh round of mapping for the National Telecommunications and Information Association (NTIA).
- Continued working with broadband providers to collect and verify data on their broadband availability.
- Updated the Request Broadband Tool on the broadbandillinois.org website with new providers and updates data submitted in the seventh round of mapping for the National Telecommunications and Information Association (NTIA).
- Continued extensive updates to the Community Anchor Institution database.
- Continued working with Softweb Solutions to develop the Illinois Wi-Fi Mobile Application, which is now awaiting approval from the App Store. (Artifact 1)
- GIS Analysts presented information on their work to fellow staff members as a learning opportunity during weekly staff meetings. (Artifact 2-3)

Capacity Building

- Released the “Broadband Illinois eSolutions Benchmarking Report.” Key findings of the household report focus on internet usage, benefits, and barriers. (Artifact 4-8).
- Made progress on “Broadband Adoption by Technology” project. Specifically, focusing on arriving at adoption percentages by (fixed) technology utilizing FFC reports (based on Form 447 data) for the past five years.
- Held the Broadband Deployment Council quarterly meeting. The Council exists to improve access to broadband networks not just for residential consumers, but also for public, private, and not-for-profit organizations all across the state. (Artifact 9)
- Partnered with MOBroadbandNow and held the 2013 Broadband Telemedicine Summit in Saint Louis. Missouri Governor Jay Nixon, R. Thomas Hale, Executive Medical Director for Mercy’s Telehealth Services, Pat Schou, Executive Director of the Illinois Critical Access Hospital Network, and Nancy Kazak, Telehealth Consultant spoke at the Summit. (Artifact 10)
- Attended a grantee meeting of the NTIA State Broadband Initiatives, learning about how other states are using their grant funds to further broadband data collection and adoption efforts. (Artifact 11)
- Attended the Schools, Health, Libraries, & Broadband Coalition conference held in Washington, D.C., where topics such as eRate, FFC Lifeline Pilot, and Gigabit Communities were highlighted.
- Attended the 2013 Broadband Communities Summit in Dallas, TX where the University of Chicago, Gigabit Squared Partnership was highlighted.
- Attended breakfast of the Illinois Science and Technology Coalition at Governor Quinn’s Executive Mansion. Open government data, green energy research, and youth STEM development were priority items the Governor identified. (Artifact 12)

- Continued producing a monthly report for the Governor's Office and the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity on the status of ARRA Broadband Projects in Illinois. (Artifact 13)
- Convened meetings with several stakeholders to advance our mutual interest in using better broadband to create better lives. These stakeholders included:
 - 21st Century Youth Project
 - Adams Telephone Cooperative
 - AT&T Illinois and Missouri
 - Bluebird Network
 - BSpeedy Wireless
 - Cass Telephone Company
 - Charter Communications
 - Citizens Utility Board
 - City of Casey Economic Development
 - City of Chicago
 - City of Monmouth
 - Comcast
 - Computer Banc
 - Connect2Complete
 - Connected Living
 - Connecting Generations
 - Cox Communications
 - Dell
 - Eastern Illinois University
 - East Central Illinois Development Corporation
 - Explore Locally
 - Farm Bureau
 - FirstNet
 - Fishin' Buddies
 - Frontier Communications
 - Gigabit Squared
 - Global Med-Telemedicine
 - Harrisonville Telephone Company
 - Illinois Commerce Commission
 - Illinois Critical Access Health Network
 - Illinois State Library
 - InTouch Health
 - LISC Chicago
 - MacArthur Foundation
 - Madison Telephone Company
 - McDonough Telephone Company
 - MediaCom
 - Metro Communications

- Microsoft
- Mid Century Telephone Cooperative
- MOBroadbandNow
- Polycom
- Quad Cities Chamber of Commerce
- Senator Larry Bomke
- Shawnee Telephone Company
- Southern Illinois School of Medicine
- Strategic Networks Group
- Tele-Health Resource Centers
- Schools, Health, Libraries, & Broadband Coalition
- The State Journal Register
- Tri-County Regional Planning Commission
- Two Rivers Regional Planning Council
- United State Department of Agriculture
- University of Illinois Extension
- US-Ignite
- Wabash Telephone Cooperative

Technical Assistance

- Held eTeam meetings in 8 of the 10 regions, bringing together broadband enthusiasts from various sectors to strategize about broadband issues in their regions. (Artifact 14)
- Discussed the 2013 NTIA Broadband Adoption Toolkit at eTeam meetings, which gave some ideas of best practices on broadband awareness campaigns.
- Held a West Central eTeam Healthcare taskforce meeting and collected needs from several health institutions, nursing homes, and clinics in the region. Needs include better broadband access, more programs, and computers needed for staff to meet mandates.
- Began experimenting with a region-based platform on the Broadband Illinois website, where each eTeam region showcases the work and news specific to their region. (Artifact 15)
- Met with economic development group from Rockford and Machesney Park and identified four fiber carriers in their Tech Park, and developed a strategy on how to market their infrastructure in the available building at the park.
- Participated in an Economic Development Meeting by the Illinois Association of Electric Cooperatives. The meeting focused on six community colleges in the mid-state eastern region developing a manufacturing curriculum and database to address a skilled workforce.
- Attended the US Ignite Summit, where Broadband Illinois moderated the “Chicago and the Illinois Gigabit Communities Challenge” panel. (Artifact 16)
- Met with FFA students and agriculture instructors to discuss the impact of broadband on the agriculture progress and lifestyle. (Artifact 17)
- Regional eTeam Leaders presented information on their work to fellow staff members as a learning opportunity during weekly staff meetings. (Artifact 18-19)