QUARTERLY PERFORMANCE PROGRESS REPORT FOR SUSTAINABLE BROADBAND ADOPTION

General Information

1. Federal Agency and Organizational Element to Which Report is Submitted	2. Award Identification Number	3. DUNS Number
Department of Commerce, National Telecommunications and Information Administration	21-43-B10546	086130007

4. Recipient Organization

Connected Nation, Inc. 1020 College St, Bowling Green, KY 421012137

5. Current Reporting Period End Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	6. Is this the last Report of the Award Period?
12-31-2013	⊙ Yes ○ No

7. Certification: I certify to the best of my knowledge and belief that this report is correct and complete for performance of activities for the purposes set forth in the award documents.

7a. Typed or Printed Name and Title of Certifying Official	7c. Telephone (area code, number and extension)
Bernie Bogle	270-781-4320
	7d. Email Address
Grants Management Officer	bbogle@connectednation.org

7b. Signature of Certifying Official	7e. Date Report Submitted (MM/DD/YYYY):
Submitted Electronically	08-29-2014

Project Indicators (This Quarter)

1. Please describe significant project accomplishments completed during this quarter (600 words or less).

The Every Community Online (ECO) basic computer training program trained 43,644 students through instructor-led training, and 451 students through self-paced curriculum, for a total of 44,095 trained participants across the state. A total of 1,763 computers were distributed to sub-recipients throughout the grant period. To date, 9,882 surveys have been completed by ECO participants. Of survey respondents, 69 percent have indicated they would subscribe to broadband within the next year in response to the training.

The ECO training program completed a transition this quarter. As of October 1, 2013, ECO training locations were all converted to either self-paced training sites or staffed Digital Works facilities. Digital Works is now active in ten communities including: Zanesville, Logan, Norwalk, Portsmouth, Woodsfield, Gallipolis, Lynchburg, Carrollton, Delphos, and Pomeroy. The Digital Works program provides mentoring and training to workers seeking employment and places them in quality teleworking jobs. To date, the program has 98 participants enrolled. Thirty-four (34) participants are already working and 15 are in the application process. The 49 remaining participants are currently in the rolling training and mentorship process.

The ECO public awareness campaign consisted of statewide broadcasts and publications for two and a half years. More than 328,154 radio and television spots aired in Ohio, together with 23,288 weekly newspaper spots and more than 250 press releases generating articles in local media, creating an estimated 176 million total media impressions. The Digital Works program had 16 press releases, generating articles in local media outlets, creating approximately 451 million media impressions. Several Digital Works press releases were picked up by media outlets this quarter including:

Digital Works training center opens in Highland County
http://connectohio.org/recent-news/digital-works-training-center-opens-highland-county.
A Digital Works training center has opened in neighboring Highland County. Digital Works is a sustainable job creations platform connecting 21st century workforce opportunities to people seeking employment. Using the digital learning model established by Connected Nation, the program trains, places, and mentors candidates for fast paced, high paying technology sector jobs.

Connect Ohio Holds Grand Opening of Digital Works in Woodsfield
http://connectohio.org/recent-news/release-connect-ohio-holds-grand-opening-digital-works-woodsfield.
Thursday, December 19, Connect Ohio held the grand opening of its newest Digital Works location in Woodsfield. Digital Works is a technology skills training program aimed at providing a link between twenty-first century workforce opportunities and community revitalization. The program provides mentoring and training to workers seeking employment and places them in quality teleworking jobs. The event was held at the Digital Works center located in Woodsfield at 47084 Black Walnut Parkway, with remarks from dignitaries.

Digital Works office opening in Delphos
http://connectohio.org/recent-news/digital-works-office-opening-delphos.
Connect Ohio is opening its newest Digital Works location in Delphos, located at 309 W. Second St. Digital Works is a technology skills training program aimed at providing a link between twenty-first century workforce opportunities and community revitalization.

Connect Ohio ready to train 75 for jobs
http://connectohio.org/recent-news/connect-ohio-ready-train-75-jobs.
The opening of Connect Ohio's Digital Works office in Carrollton will create the opportunity for 75 area residents to be trained for jobs in the customer service industry in the next year. The office will provide free training and will find jobs for those who successfully complete the program.

Connect Ohio Opens Jobs Skills & Placement Center in Gallipolis
http://connectohio.org/recent-news/release-connect-ohio-opens-jobs-skills-placement-center-gallipolis.
"The Digital Works program offers a great opportunity for Gallia County citizens to take advantage of the ever-growing Internet based employment opportunities," said State Representative Smith. "This training is very forward thinking in attempting to accommodate the demand in the quickly evolving technology marketplace. This program is a direct result of the creativity of our local team at Department of Jobs and Family Services and the county's Economic Development Department and its ability to think outside the box to find ways to put people to work."

Digital Works is also the first Connect Ohio program to receive its own website, http://digitalworksjobs.com, enabling clear messaging and communications to the public.

2. Please provide the percent complete for the following key milestones in your project. Write "0" in the Percent Complete column and "N/A" in the Narrative column if your project does not include this activity. If you provided additional milestones in your baseline report, please insert them at the bottom of the table. Figures should be reported cumulatively from award inception to the end of the most recent reporting quarter. Please provide a narrative description if the percent complete is different from the target provided in your baseline plan (300 words or less).

	Milestone	Percent Complete	Narrative (describe reasons for any variance from baseline plan or any other relevant information)
2.a.	Overall Project	100	N/A; the project is 100% complete.
2.b.	Equipment / Supply Purchases	-	Progress reported in Question 4 below
2.c.	Awareness Campaigns	-	Progress reported in Question 4 below
2.d.	Outreach Activities	-	Progress reported in Question 4 below
2.e.	Training Programs	-	Progress reported in Question 4 below
2.f.	Other (please specify):	-	Progress reported in Question 4 below

3. Please describe any challenges or issues faced during this past quarter in achieving planned progress against the project milestones listed above. In particular, please identify any areas or issues where technical assistance from the BTOP program may be useful (600 words or less).

ECO trainee participation converted completely to self-paced options in the fourth quarter of 2013. As a part of this effort, program staff met with sub-recipients to review their progress and finalize sub-award termination plans. Ultimately, resources were reallocated to expand upon the basic digital literacy program through the workforce training and job placement program Digital Works. This program provides a link between the digital literacy and twenty-first century teleworking careers. While the program's job placement ranking remains high, the anticipated number of candidates served is lower than expected.

Tactics used to improve program element successes are listed below:
1. Progress reports were generated in order to determine program successes and weight them against challenge areas. These reports were used in ECO sub-recipient termination plans.
2. Program staff engaged a diversified stream of partners including Department of Jobs and Family Services, Economic Development Departments, Mature Services, Rehabilitative Services, Veterans Services, Bureau of Workers Compensation, etc. in an effort to identify and encourage participation in the Digital Works program.

4a. In the chart below, please provide the requested information on your BTOP grant-funded SBA activities. Please also provide a short description of the activity (600 words or less). Figures should be reported cumulatively from award inception to the end of the most recent reporting quarter. Please ensure that the numbers of new household subscribers and business or community anchor institution (CAI) subscribers reflected in the "Total" row represent the unduplicated number of new subscribers that can be attributed to your SBA project as a whole.

Name of the SBA Activity	Location of SBA Activity	Description of Activity (600 words or less)	Size of Target Audience	Actual Number of Participants	New Subscribers: Households	New Subscribers: Businesses and/or CAIs
na	na	Activities accounted for in attached forum addendum	183,737	44,095	30,425	2,209
	Total:		**183,737**	**44,095**	**30,425**	**2,209**

4b. Please describe your method for determining the number of households, businesses, and/or (CAIs) subscribing to broadband as a result of your SBA programs (600 words or less).

New Household Subscribers is a calculation of the number of participants who completed 6 hours of training multiplied by the percentage of participants who indicate their intent to subscribe to Internet for household use, but not for business use, as a result of the ECO class. The percentage of 69% is a general conversion rate based on information taken from a survey that is completed by participants through the program website. This percentage has varied each quarter as survey responses vary.

New Business Subscribers is a calculation of the number of participants who completed 6 hours of training multiplied by the percentage of participants who indicate their intent to subscribe to broadband for business use as a result of the ECO class. The percentage of 5% is a general conversion rate based on information taken from a survey that is completed by participants through the program website. This percentage has varied each quarter as survey responses vary.

4c. Please provide a narrative explanation if the total number of new subscribers is different from the targets provided in your baseline plan (600 words or less).

The total number of new Household Subscribers (reported cumulatively through project inception) is 30,425 and new Business Subscribers is 2,209. Our baseline goal through the reporting quarter was 71,440 for Household Subscribers and 3,760 for Business Subscribers. Ultimately, the program fell short of its anticipated number of trainees due to a variety of challenges experienced such as:

sub-recipients representing larger organizations who originally committed to the program but were unable to begin training as a result of funding cuts and/or lack of staff; a high volume of sub-awards that did not necessarily result in a high number of anticipated trainees; and a lower number of self-paced trainees due to the level of computer knowledge necessary to complete the curriculum. By not reaching the originally anticipated number of trainees, the program was unable to attain the original baseline subscribership goals. In addition, the reluctance of participants to complete the program survey hindered the program's success in reaching its targets as the survey responses are an important piece of the subscribership calculation.

4d. Please provide the number of households and the number of businesses and CAIs receiving discounted broadband service as result of BTOP funds.

Households: 0	Businesses and CAIs : 0

Project Indicators (Next Quarter)

1. Please describe significant project accomplishments planned for completion during the next quarter (600 words or less).
Program staff plan to successfully closeout the grant by finalizing and presenting all required reports. Additionally, public release of a White Paper on the program is planned.

2. Please provide the percent complete anticipated for the following key milestones in your project as of the end of the next quarter. Write "0" in the second column if your project does not include this activity. If you provided additional milestones in your baseline report, please insert them at the bottom of the table. Figures should be reported cumulatively from award inception to the end of the next reporting quarter. Please provide a narrative description if the planned percent complete is different from the target provided in your baseline plan (300 words or less).

	Milestone	Percent Complete	Narrative (describe reasons for any variance from baseline plan or any other relevant information)
2.a.	Overall Project	100	N/A; the project is 100% complete.
2.b.	Equipment Purchases	-	Milestone Data Not Required
2.c.	Awareness Campaigns	-	Milestone Data Not Required
2.d.	Outreach Activities	-	Milestone Data Not Required
2.e.	Training Programs	-	Milestone Data Not Required
2.f.	Other (please specify):	-	Milestone Data Not Required

3. Please describe any challenges or issues anticipated during the next quarter that may impact planned progress against the project milestones listed above. In particular, please identify any areas or issues where technical assistance from the BTOP program may be useful (600 words or less).
No challenges are anticipated.

Sustainable Broadband Adoption Budget Execution Details

Activity Based Expenditures (Sustainable Broadband Adoption)

1. Please provide details below on your total budget, cumulative actual expenditures (for the period ending the current quarter), and cumulative anticipated expenditures (for the period ending next quarter) for each line item, including detailed disbursements of both matching funds and federal funds from project inception through end of this quarter (actual) or next quarter (anticipated). Actual and anticipated figures should be reported cumulatively from award inception to the end of the applicable reporting quarter.

Cost Classification	Budget for Entire Project			Actuals from Project Inception through End of Current Reporting Period			Anticipated Actuals from Project Inception through End of Next Reporting Period		
	Total Cost (plan)	Matching Funds (plan)	Federal Funds (plan)	Total Cost	Matching Funds	Federal Funds	Total Costs	Matching Funds	Federal Funds
a. Personnel	$1,543,924	$0	$1,543,924	$1,543,924	$0	$1,543,924	$1,543,924	$0	$1,543,924
b. Fringe Benefits	$372,984	$0	$372,984	$372,984	$0	$372,984	$372,984	$0	$372,984
c. Travel	$218,070	$0	$218,070	$218,070	$0	$218,070	$218,070	$0	$218,070
d. Equipment	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
e. Supplies	$193,956	$93,795	$100,161	$193,956	$93,795	$100,161	$193,956	$93,795	$100,161
f. Contractual	$244,341	$65,852	$178,489	$244,341	$65,852	$178,489	$244,341	$65,852	$178,489
g. Construction	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
h. Other	$5,531,649	$2,188,070	$3,343,579	$5,531,649	$2,188,070	$3,343,579	$5,531,649	$2,188,070	$3,343,579
i. Total Direct Charges (sum of a through h)	$8,104,924	$2,347,717	$5,757,207	$8,104,924	$2,347,717	$5,757,207	$8,104,924	$2,347,717	$5,757,207
j. Indirect Charges	$1,099,192	$0	$1,099,192	$1,099,192	$0	$1,099,192	$1,099,192	$0	$1,099,192
k. TOTALS (sum of i and j)	$9,204,116	$2,347,717	$6,856,399	$9,204,116	$2,347,717	$6,856,399	$9,204,116	$2,347,717	$6,856,399

2. Program Income: Please provide the program income you listed in your application budget and actuals to date through the end of the reporting period.

a. Application Budget Program Income: $0	b. Program Income to Date: $0