

March 20, 2010

Curtis Lowery, MD
Center for Distance Health
University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences
4301 W. Markham Street / #518
Little Rock, Arkansas 72205
CLLowery@uams.edu

RE: Letter of Participation

Dear Dr. Lowery:

The Arkansas Association of Public Universities (AAPU) supports and would like to participate in the Arkansas Telehealth Oversight & Management (ATOM) Network's proposed broadband services as delivered through the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP). Our Universities will serve as an interconnect with ATOM to utilize the ARE-ON backbone for network transport. As we understand, in addition to the interconnect, connection to ATOM will enable our staff and clientele to access healthcare education, training, and research afforded through broadband-enabled interactive video and educational services. By leveraging our University's current broadband and upcoming ARE-ON connections, we recognize our community's businesses and visitors can benefit from these proposed services. We wish to pledge our support and participation in this proposed broadband effort.

The AAPU is a private 501c6 nonprofit organization whose members include a majority of four-year public Arkansas Universities and nonformula entities. The vision/mission of the Association is to enhance the quality and quantity of educational opportunities for Arkansas citizens in order to derive the many benefits of an educated citizenry for our state and to advocate the collective interests of its members and the value of public higher education in serving the public interest and the people of Arkansas.

Sincerely,

Tim Wooldridge

Executive Director
Arkansas Association of Public Universities

Tuesday, March 16, 2010

1401 West Capitol Avenue
Suite 300, Victory Building
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

www.achi.net

501-526-ACHI (2244)
501-526-2252 (Fax)

Curtis Lowery, MD
University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences
4301 W. Markham, Slot #518
Little Rock, AR 72205

RE: Arkansas Telehealth Management Network

Dear Dr. Lowery:

It is with pleasure that I commend the application submitted for the Arkansas Telehealth Management Network (ATOM). This proposal supports the state's goal to increase the broadband access so that telemedicine can be advanced. As you know, far too many Arkansans live in areas where their access to primary and specialized health care is limited if not totally unavailable. Establishing a network to connect health services which serve as regional hubs of care with more locally placed clinics and practitioners is a critical step in providing *last mile* connectivity to patients. Arkansans struggle with two distinct burdens which keep modern advances from reaching their homes and places of business. The geographic location of communities and the technology pathways have not always been available so that connectivity is possible. Additionally, the income of many Arkansans is so low that affording either the in-home equipment or the commercial products to link them to the Internet is not possible. Similar to the past problems the state had in providing all Arkansans access to phone service, not providing Internet access threatens to keep Arkansans from accessing both preventive health tools or tools that allow monitoring and treatment of chronic disease. Your project promises to provide access much quicker than the state might be able to do alone.

ACHI's mission
is to be a catalyst for
improving the health
of Arkansans through
evidence-based research,
public issue advocacy,
and collaborative
program development.

As Arkansas plans for the execution of an HIT system of care, it will be important that Telehealth, broadband, and HIE investments are strategically coordinated to reduce and/or eliminate the underserved and unserved populations in the state. I believe that your proposal is one component for tackling this difficult problem. I am very excited that you have included public libraries, community health centers and the home health agencies into this network. All of these organizations have direct day to day contact with the consumer who will need this service the most. Having these groups serve as local health agents brings technology one step closer to being in our citizen's homes. Just as The Center for Distance Health has brought innovative healthcare services to Arkansas; expansion of broadband capability throughout the state will expand greatly needed health services to the public. I appreciate the leadership you took in creating this new network and stand ready to assist you in this vital work.

Sincerely,



Kevin W. Ryan, JD, MA
Executive Associate Director

KWR/kww

A partnership of
Arkansas Blue Cross and Blue Shield
Arkansas Children's Hospital
Arkansas Department of Health
Delta Dental of Arkansas
University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences

March 5, 2010

Curtis Lowery, MD
University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences
4301 West Markham, Slot #518
Little Rock, Arkansas 72205

President

RE: Arkansas Rural Broadband Infrastructure

Chief Executive Officer

Nick J. Paslidis, MD, PhD, MHCM

Dear Dr. Lowery,

Executive Committee

On behalf of the Arkansas Foundation for Medical Care (AFMC), the designated Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services Quality Improvement Organization for the state of Arkansas, I am pleased to submit this letter in support of your application for the development of the Arkansas Telehealth Oversight & Management (ATOM) Network.

John Henderson, MD

Joann B. Mays, MD

Sherrill Wise, CPA

Jim Teeter

AFMC has been committed to improving health care in Arkansas for more than 37 years and we value partnerships such as yours that share our mission: to promote excellence in health care through evaluation and education. By improving the infrastructure for connectivity and increasing broadband to consumers in “un-served” and “underserved” areas, not only will access to appropriate health care be improved, but there will follow an increased awareness through education and health care support.

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Portia Short

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Dwight Williams, MD

AFMC is pleased to support ATOM in this vital provision of broadband services to rural communities in support of this much needed health care reform and to help build economic capacity for communities currently without broadband.

Corporate Secretary

Patricia J Williams

Sincerely,



Nick J. Paslidis, MD, PhD, MHCM
President & Chief Executive Officer

NJP:PS/cjb

4301 W. Markham St., #748
Little Rock, AR 72205-7199

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www.instituteonaging.uams.edu

UAMS

 DONALD W. REYNOLDS
INSTITUTE ON AGING

UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS FOR MEDICAL SCIENCES

March 2, 2010

Curtis Lowery, MD
University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences
4301 West Markham Slot #518
Little Rock, AR 72205

Dear Dr. Lowery,

The Arkansas Aging Initiative (AAI), a program of the Donald W. Reynolds Institute on Aging, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences is delighted to support the application to further develop the Arkansas Telehealth Oversight & Management (ATOM) Network by increasing broadband to rural communities. The increased capacity of broadband to rural communities is essential to provide the expert care and education to Arkansas seniors. Further, Arkansas is ranked in the top five in the country with 14.5% of the population 65+ and this is expected to continue increasing to over 23% by 2030.

The Arkansas Aging Initiative (AAI) is an infrastructure of eight regional Centers on Aging (COA) located across the state and funded by a portion of Arkansas' share of the Master Tobacco Settlement. The eighth center is our newest and is funded by the Oaklawn Foundation for the Future of Hot Springs. The AAI is designed to address one of the most pressing policy issues facing this country how to care for the burgeoning number of older adults in rural community settings. The AAI is located geographically across the state, places older Arkansans and their families, many who reside in rural areas, live in poverty and suffer from poor health within a 60 mile radius of expert interdisciplinary geriatric team care and world class education.

The vision of the AAI is to improve the quality of life for older adults and their families living in rural Arkansas and is fulfilled through two primary missions: to develop an infrastructure that provides quality interdisciplinary clinical care and innovative education programs, and to influence health policy at the state and national levels with emphasis on care of rural older adults.

Each COA has two major components: a health care clinic and an education program:

- The health care component is designed to improve the health of older persons by providing more accessible specialty geriatric care and by providing health care that is prevention focused. The main method established to accomplish this has been the development of geriatric provider-based outpatient clinics in the rural communities in partnership with the local or regional hospitals.

Eight clinics are in operation across Arkansas and 90.1% of the 65+ population is within 60 miles of one of the geriatric interdisciplinary clinics. Almost 100,000 visits have been made to these clinics during the past 3 years.

- The goal of the educational component is to provide innovative educational programming that focuses on geriatric topics and best practices in clinical care for health professionals, health professional students, and promotes health and provides reliable information for community members, older adults and their families. During the past 3 years, over 120,000 educational encounters originated from AAI events.

Development of more broadband capacity will make it possible for the AAI to extend geriatric interdisciplinary team care and education to more remote areas of Arkansas. This is especially critical because of the dearth of health care professionals with expertise in geriatrics/gerontology. We are excited about the possibility of increased infrastructure that will lead to an improved quality of life for Arkansas' seniors.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Claudia J. Beverly".

Claudia J. Beverly, PhD, RN, FAAN
Director Arkansas Aging Initiative
Donald W. Reynolds Institute on Aging
University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences



Arkansas Children's Hospital

1 Children's Way • Little Rock, AR 72202-3591 • 501/364-1100
www.archildrens.org



Jonathan Bates, M.D.
President / Chief Executive Officer

John Bel
President / ACH Foundation

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Betty Lowe, M.D.

12/1/09

March 4, 2010

Curtis Lowery, MD
University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences
4301 W. Markham Street / #518
Little Rock, Arkansas 72205

Dear Dr. Lowery:

Arkansas Children's Hospital fully supports the Arkansas Telehealth Oversight and Management (ATOM) Network's proposed broadband services as delivered through the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP). Our understanding is that connection to the ATOM Network will enable our staff and patients to access health care education, training, health care services, health care information exchange, and resources afforded through broadband-enabled ATOM Network. Being one of the major hubs with 100 meg capacity, we wish to pledge our support and participation in this proposed broadband effort.

Medical care in Arkansas, specifically for the most vulnerable children, is primarily located in the larger urban areas leaving many without access to necessary health services. These funds have the potential for providing connectivity to health care services while serving the greatest need and improving the quality of life for many children here in Arkansas.

As part of the health care system in the state of Arkansas, connectivity for our patients through the health care system is a priority. In connecting regional hospitals with high-speed broadband lines, this will provide an opportunity to link smaller hospitals to regional hubs. The direct result will be increased capacity creating a higher level of patient care throughout Arkansas. Additional benefits include job creation through the extension of broadband in some of our most economically distressed communities and making them more viable candidates for industry locations. Further, as we continue to address our transportation and energy issues, providing distance learning through the reduction of travel will provide another direct benefit for this funding.

I look forward to helping make this initiative become reality!

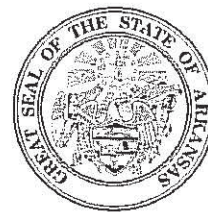
Best Regards,

Jonathan Bates, M.D.
President and CEO



Division of Medical Services

P.O. Box 1437, Slot S-401 · Little Rock, AR 72203-1437
501-682-8292 · Fax: 501-682-1197 · TDD: 501-682-6789



March 19, 2010

Dr. Curtis Lowery
Center for Distance Health
UAMS College of Medicine
4301 West Markham, Slot 518
Little Rock, Arkansas 72205

Dear Dr. Lowery:

I am pleased to offer you this letter of support for your upcoming grant submission to the Department of Commerce's National Telecommunications and Information Administration. It is my understanding that the Arkansas Telehealth Oversight & Management (ATOM) Network is answering the call for its Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP) as provided in Section 6001 of the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act. The BTOP funds for Broadband Infrastructure Public Computer Centers, and Sustainable Broadband Adoption, are critical to the state's overall ability to serve its citizens more efficiently.

By expanding the broadband capabilities throughout the state, especially the underserved and underserved population of Arkansas primarily located in the vast rural areas of our state, the Center for Distance Health provides each citizen access to quality healthcare and healthcare education, regardless of location. My interests lie in improving the quality of life for all Arkansans and this proposal directly responds to helping all citizens by increasing public access and availability of broadband services.

ATOM has a solid reputation for quality healthcare delivery and education. It is obvious that by taking on this collaboration with hospitals, health centers, and libraries throughout the state, The Center for Distance Health is continuing to take the lead in helping all Arkansans with better and higher quality healthcare. I hope you find success in this endeavor on behalf of all Arkansans. If I can be of any further assistance, please contact me at 501-682-8292.

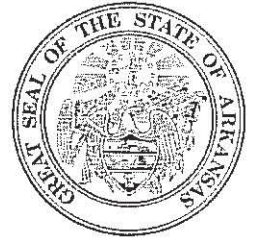
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eugene I. Gessow". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "E".

Eugene I. Gessow
Director



Office of the Director



P.O. Box 1437, Slot S-201 · Little Rock, AR 72203-1437
501-682-8650 · Fax: 501-682-6836 · TDD: 501-682-8933

March 19, 2010

Curtis Lowery, MD
University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences
4301 W. Markham, Slot #518
Little Rock, AR 72205

Dear Dr. Lowery,

On behalf of the Arkansas Department of Human Services (ADHS), comprised of ten divisions and five offices, I am pleased to submit this letter pledging our support and participation in the Arkansas Telehealth Oversight & Management (ATOM) Network's application for proposed broadband services delivered through the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP).

Each year, ADHS touches the lives of over 1,000,000 Arkansans in numerous ways from foster care, child care/ behavioral health, and long term care depending upon countless numbers of providers to deliver services and supports to those in need. As part of the ten divisions mentioned above, ADHS has the primary responsibility for the State's Medicaid agency as well as the mental health and substance abuse authority. As one of the largest agencies in Arkansas, ADHS has more than 7,500 employees working in 83 county offices throughout the state.

Through ADHS's systems transformation efforts we are committed to identifying and implementing new and innovative ways to provide services and supports to our clients in their local communities. One such example of our systems transformation initiatives includes building upon our partnership with the UAMS Antenatal and Neonatal Guidelines, Education and Learning System (ANGELS) program and the Psychiatric Research institute (PRI) to expand the delivery of mental health services via telemedicine throughout the state. Similarly, the development and implementation of an enhanced broadband system will provide increased distance education opportunities for our employees and providers.

In closing, ADHS is pleased to support ATOM in this important endeavor to not only improve the availability and accessibility of health care in Arkansas, but also to help drive economic development---particularly in rural communities---through the provision of broadband services.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Selig".

John Selig
Director



Arkansas Department of Health

4815 West Markham Street • Little Rock, Arkansas 72205-3867 • Telephone (501) 661-2000

Governor Mike Beebe

Paul K. Halverson, DrPH, FACHE, Director and State Health Officer

March 2, 2010

Curtis Lowery, MD
Center for Distance Health
University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences
4301 W Markham Street / #518
Little Rock, Arkansas 72205

Dear Dr. Lowery:

This letter documents the support of the Arkansas Department of Health for the Arkansas Telehealth Oversight & Management (ATOM) Network's proposed broadband services as delivered through the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP). This program will connect the Arkansas Department of Health (ADH) to hospitals, community health centers and other health care facilities throughout the state. This capacity enhances the ability of ADH to communicate with these entities during a disaster or other public health emergency such as the recent Novel H 1 N 1 Influenza A Pandemic.

ADH will also be able to communicate and provide public health education training, information exchange, and resources to hospitals, clinics, local public health units, and community health centers through the broadband capacity of the ATOM Network. ADH supports and will be an active participant in the proposed broadband effort.

Sincerely,

Charles McGrew, MPH
Deputy Director and Chief Operating Officer

March 11, 2010

Curtis Lowery, MD
University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences
4301 W. Markham, Slot #518
Little Rock, AR 72205

RE: Arkansas Telehealth Oversight & Management (ATOM) Network

Dear Dr. Lowery:

The State of Arkansas, Department of Information Systems (DIS) is the state government agency that is designated to design and manage the state's core information technology infrastructures and to provide information technology services. This is accomplished through purchasing technology services from the private sector. DIS then manages the distribution, network design and operations for the State network. The current State network consists of over 2000 end user locations interconnected with a common backbone. The network serves K-12 schools, public libraries, higher education, local health units, hospitals, and state agency locations on a broadband basis.

The health care providers in Arkansas face many challenges in the provision of health care to their patients. The development of an expanded broadband network linking rural clinics, health units, and hospitals with the regional hospital hubs that are connected to the primary teaching hospitals in the State, can provide health related access to the underserved population. In addition, this expansion will provide distance education for health providers and exchange of electronic health records, as well as access for remote health consultations.

DIS supports the Arkansas Telehealth Network in expansion of the State network to provide much needed health care reform and increased economic viability to our rural communities and looks forward to bridging state network resources to the Arkansas Telehealth Oversight & Management Network. And, as always, we look forward to our continued collaborative efforts for Arkansas.

Sincerely,



Claire Bailey
Chief Technology Officer, State of Arkansas and
Director, Department of Information Systems





STATE OF ARKANSAS
MIKE BEEBE
GOVERNOR

March 8, 2010

Curtis Lowery, M.D.
Director, Center for Distance Health
UAMS College of Medicine
4301 West Markham, Slot 518
Little Rock, AR 72205

Dear Dr. Lowery:

As Governor of the State of Arkansas, it is my goal to improve the State in all aspects, primarily in the areas of health care and education. The University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences has my full support in seeking a grant that will enhance broadband technology as it relates to health-care delivery and education by increasing its access to citizens throughout the State. This innovative approach of linking libraries, hospitals, and clinics together with the UAMS Center for Distance Health is a very exciting and highly replicable concept. I believe that this effort will have a positive impact on rural areas of Arkansas and on the health-care delivery challenges providers in these areas face each day.

If the "American Reinvestment and Recovery Act" initiative succeeds, it will be because of projects such as this one, which proposes that the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP) drives the effort to provide connectivity to all corners of the State. The UAMS Center for Distance Health has an outstanding track record, and I agree that this is the next logical step to positively enhancing health care statewide; particularly for our un-served and the underserved populations. Additionally, by incorporating the educational component, you will be training health-care providers in the innovative field of telemedicine and providing the tools for them to serve in rural areas.

This initiative has my enthusiastic support, and I look forward to working with UAMS in successfully implementing it. Please call on me if I can be of help in any way.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike Beebe".

Mike Beebe

MB:jb



PHIL E. MATTHEWS
President and CEO

March 8, 2010

Curtis Lowery, M.D.
University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences
4301 W. Markham, Slot 518
Little Rock, AR 72205

RE: Arkansas Rural Broadband Infrastructure

Dear Dr. Lowery:

On behalf of the more than 100 hospitals in Arkansas, the Arkansas Hospital Association (AHA) is pleased to offer this letter of support of your application for the development of the Arkansas Telehealth Oversight & Management (ATOM) Network.

Most of the hospitals in Arkansas are located in rural communities where industrial development is lacking and commercial insurance is too often unaffordable. The elderly and some of the poor are served by Medicare and Medicaid, but many persons in these rural communities have no insurance at all.

With a patient base such as this, access to healthcare is often lacking. In particular, access to medical specialties is unavailable. Should this application be successful and funds be made available to extend broadband telemedicine services to these rural communities, patients in these remote areas will have access via televideo to the same healthcare specialties that are available to urban residents. This will provide countless benefits to patients and families in rural communities that will no longer have to travel to distant cities for evaluation and treatment by medical specialties and sub-specialties. The lost productivity that now goes with an entire family being uprooted to take a family member to a distant city for evaluation and treatment will be eliminated.

Additional benefits will be realized from deployment of this broadband televideo network. Productivity will be enhanced for healthcare workers that now have to travel to attend meetings and receive proper training to keep their professional education current. Countless other benefits like Health Information Exchange are sure to accrue to residents of our rural state.

The AHA is pleased to lend its support to this vital link that is necessary to bring the same world class healthcare services to rural residents that are now available to urban residents.

Sincerely,



Phil Matthews



March 9, 2010

Curtis Lowery, MD
Center for Distance Health
University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences
4301 W. Markham Street / #518
Little Rock, Arkansas 72205
CLLowery@uams.edu

Re: Letter of Participation

Dear Dr. Lowery:

This letter documents the support of Arkansas Tech University to participate in the Arkansas Telehealth Oversight & Management (ATOM) Network's proposed broadband services as delivered through the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP). Our university will serve as an interconnect for the ATOM Network to utilize the ARE-ON backbone for network transport. As we understand, in addition to the interconnect, connection to ATOM will enable our staff and public to access healthcare education, training, and resources afforded through broadband-enabled interactive video and Internet services. By leveraging our University's ARE-ON connections, we recognize our community's businesses and visitors can benefit from these proposed services. We wish to pledge our support and participation in this proposed broadband effort. Arkansas Tech University enrollment consists of 8,814 students. Our university also provides community services to an estimated 26,000 community citizens.

The Emergency Management Department at Arkansas Tech University has two academic programs dedicated entirely to the Emergency Management profession; a BS in Emergency Management and an MS in Emergency Management and Homeland Security. These programs are aimed at increasing learning and knowledge by providing outstanding teaching, scholarship, and service for the university and at educating students to become leaders in the emergency management profession and to make a positive contribution to the field. The first program was introduced in 1997 and there are currently 200 students in the undergraduate program and 100 in the graduate program representing many areas of the US and several foreign countries. The programs are very supportive of distance and non-traditional students offering over half of the coursework via distance delivery. The success and contribution of the programs is attributed to their focus on "Preparedness through Education".

Sincerely,

Robert Charles Brown
President and Professor of Economics

ARKANSAS STATE HIGHWAY COMMISSION



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WWW.ARKANSASHIGHWAYS.COM

March 19, 2010

Curtis Lowery M.D.
University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences
4301 W. Markham, Slot 518
Little Rock, AR 72205

Dear Dr. Lowery:

The Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department is pleased to work with the University of Arkansas Medical Sciences, the Association of Two Year Colleges, and the Arkansas Research and Education Optical Network (ARE-ON) in the further development of the Telemedicine network via the robust ARE-ON backbone.

It is our understanding that connecting the two-year campuses to the network will greatly increase the information technology opportunities for the State's educational system. As you may know, all government, educational system or public utility owned fiber optic cables are eligible to be placed on non-interstate Highway Department rights-of-way and represents a significant value to the network.

The Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department fully supports the expansion of the Optical Network for the benefit of the citizens of Arkansas. We stand ready to assist in the grant application and the permitting process for the necessary installations.

Please let us know if we can provide any further assistance in the development of this network.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dan Flowers", is written over a printed name and title.

Dan Flowers
Director of Highways
and Transportation

Attachments

c: Highway Commission
Deputy Director and Chief Engineer
Assistant to the Director

Realized Value By Route and Miles ARE-ON Fiber Placed on Highway Rights-of-Way

<u>Highway</u>	<u>Segment</u>	<u>Mileage</u>	<u>Linear Ft.</u>	<u>Value @ \$1 / Ft.</u>
I-540	Fayetteville - Rogers	25	132,000	\$132,000
62	Rogers - No. Harrison	71	374,880	\$374,880
65	No. Harrison - Bellefonte	12	63,360	\$63,360
62	Bellefonte - Mtn. Home	45	237,600	\$237,600
5	Mtn. Home - Salesville	10	52,800	\$52,800
177	Salesville - Calico Rock	14	73,920	\$73,920
56	Calico Rock - Brockwell	12	63,360	\$63,360
9	Brockwell - Melbourne	6	31,680	\$31,680
69	Melbourne - Batesville	24	126,720	\$126,720
69	Batesville - Newark	15	79,200	\$79,200
69	Newark - Newport	15	79,200	\$79,200
384/18	Newport - Jonesboro	55	290,400	\$290,400
63	Joncsboro - Pocahantas	38	200,640	\$200,640
18	Jonesboro - Blytheville	53	237,600	\$237,600
1/242	Forrest City - Helena	43	227,040	\$227,040
278	Monticello - Camden	68	359,040	\$359,040
7	Camden - El Dorado	32	168,960	\$168,960
82	El Dorado - Lewisville	58	306,240	\$306,240
29	Lewisville - Hope	23	121,440	\$121,440
278	Hope - Nashville	27	142,560	\$142,560
371	Nashville - DeQueen	32	168,960	\$168,960
71	DeQueen - Mena	45	237,600	\$237,600
71	Mena - Ft. Smith	82	432,960	\$432,960
255	Ft. Smith - Barling	5	26,400	\$26,400
59	Barling - I-40	12	63,360	\$63,360
270	I-30 - Hot Springs	18	95,040	\$95,040
I-440/67	I-40 - Beebe	30	158,400	\$158,400
I-30	I-430 - Pulaski Tech	4	21,120	\$21,120
51/7	I-30 - HSU	2	10,560	\$10,560
79	Hwy. 65 - UAPB	1	5,280	\$5,280
TOTAL		877	4,630,560	\$4,630,560

Request for Partnership with the Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department re: the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program

*RACPH
Dirk gave me
this - can you
find out what your
did & what LADOT
we can do? NB
ASAP.
DF*

INTRODUCTION: Mr. Trammel, Ed Franklin recommended that I prepare a short description of an opportunity for the Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department to provide critical assistance to the team of composed of the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS), the Arkansas Association of Two Year Colleges (AATYC), and the Arkansas Research and Education Optical Network (ARE-ON), as we move forward to complete a large, and strategically vital broadband grant proposal through the Broadband Technology Opportunities (BTOP) component of the Federal Stimulus Grants Program.

BACKGROUND: The State of Arkansas has been afforded the opportunity to seek federal funding for connecting all two year campuses to the expanding UAMS Telemedicine network via the robust ARE-ON backbone with local loop services provided to commercial vendors owned/operated by Arkansas companies. This network strategy is a sustainable model for extending broadband services to anchor institutions with the follow-on benefit to all of the State's citizens. The proposed network does not compete with commercial providers, and results in an enhanced medical resource base, as well as affording teaching and learning opportunities to the two year campuses at a time when they must respond to the economic challenges facing the state and the nation. The BTOP program is a "once in a lifetime" chance to do something significant in the realm of broadband opportunities for the citizens Arkansas as those opportunities relate to healthcare and education.

REQUIREMENT AND REQUEST: The BTOP regulations provide a framework that clearly defines the importance of collaboration, technical merit, statement of need, and a match component of 30% of the requested amount. Arkansas' proposal has clearly addressed the first three requirements, and is currently seeking support for the match requirement. Each of the partners has provided as much match (both cash and in-kind) as can be found in the medical and academic communities. Dialog with southern state who has recently received full funding surfaced a role for State Highway Departments to provide in-kind match over a three-year period without cash outlay.

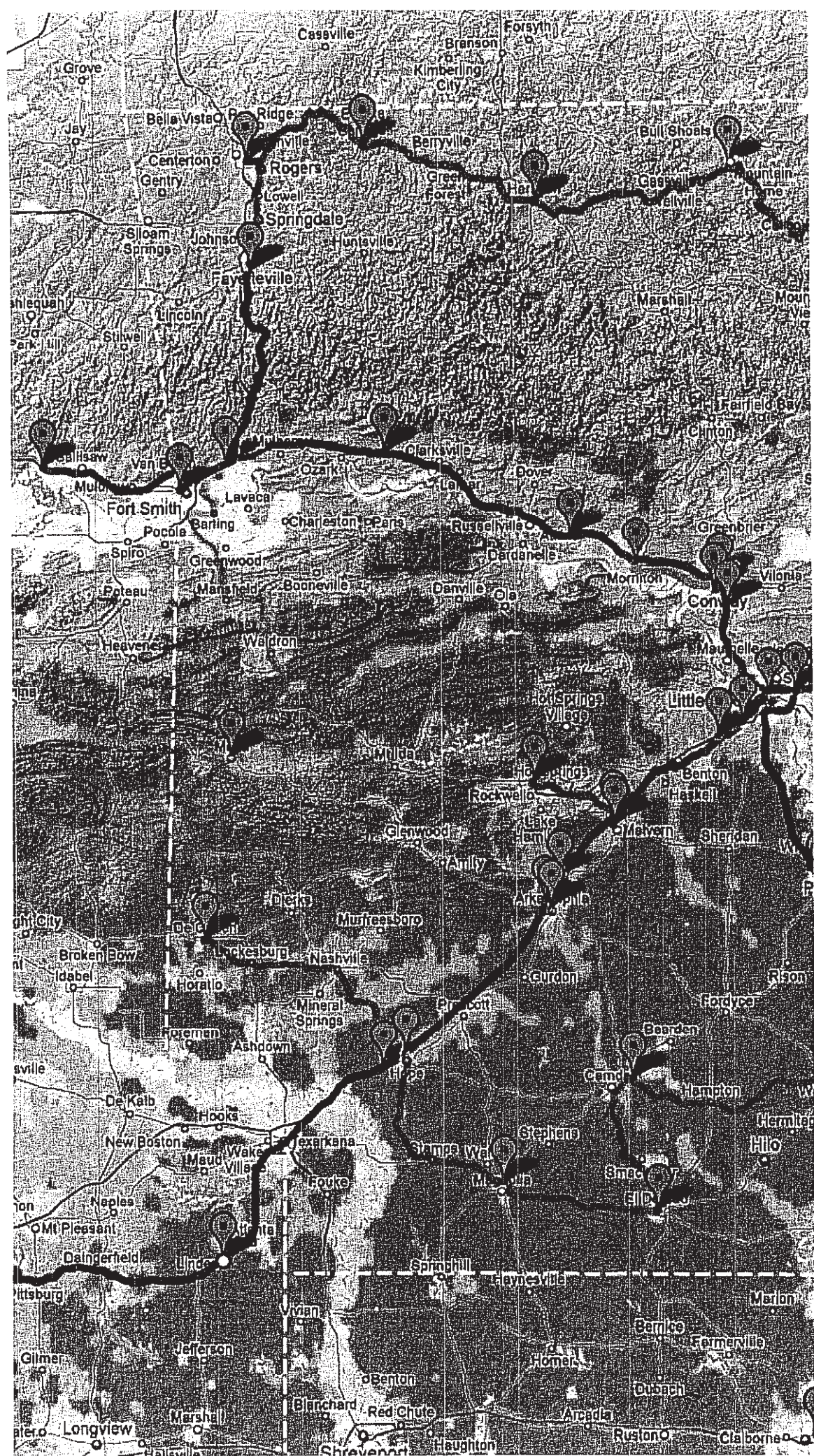
The State of Louisiana announced an award of \$80M through the BTOP program on 5 March 2010. Louisiana's successful proposal is very similar to that proposed by Arkansas with the exception of the role of the LA Department of Transportation and Development (DOTD). Under a collaborative agreement, LA DOTD assigned a dollar value to each mile of fiber optic cable proposed to traverse public right of way. The cumulative figure was then included as in-kind match for the LA proposal. The Arkansas team of UAMS, AATYC, and ARE-ON request a similar arrangement with the Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department for the purposes of in-kind match for the collaborative proposal. Although the budget has not been

finalized pending data collection and engineering estimates, the Arkansas proposal will seek in excess of \$130M. In-kind match requirement yet to be secured are in the \$24M range.

SUMMARY: The State of Arkansas has been working diligently to expand broadband opportunities to its citizens for a number of years. Multiple plans and initiatives have been proposed. Of those public projects that have been launched, the three partners in this BTOP proposal UAMS, AATYC, and ARE-ON are linking arms to move apply our collective resources to ensure that Arkansans have a place in the Global Community. Without the required 30% in-kind match, our proposal, and the needs for broadband connectivity in healthcare and higher education through this amazing opportunity will fall on deaf ears. The time has come for Arkansas to stand up and artfully change the perception of the Natural State from "poor me" to "FOLLOW ME". If ASHTD will join the team then we will move forward.

I appreciate your attention to this request, and stand by to provide details at your earliest convenience based upon a grant submission deadline of 26 March 2010.

Mike Abbiatti, Executive Director
Arkansas Research and Education Optical Network
155 Razorback Road
Fayetteville, AR 72701
Voice: 479.856.2413
Video : 208.90.144.133
SKYPE : mabbiatt
e-mail : mike.abbiatti@areon.net







Arkansas State Library

900 West Capitol Ave., Suite 100 - Little Rock, Arkansas 72201-3108

March 11, 2010

Curtis Lowery, MD
Center for Distance Health
University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences
4301 West Markham Street / #518
Little Rock, AR 72205

Dear Dr. Lowery:

I am writing to express our support of the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences' proposal to the American Recovery & Reinvestment Program in regards to expanding broadband services delivered through the Arkansas Telehealth Network.

UAMS proposes to offer access to healthcare education, training, services and information through expanding and upgrading broadband access. In particular, you are reaching out to the citizens of Arkansas through collaboration with public libraries in rural communities defined as 'underserved' or 'unserved'.

In times of economic stress, libraries are in great demand. Libraries provide a broad range of services, from access to research databases, to loaning videos, to providing Internet access. People of all ages, incomes, and backgrounds use the library. Like schools, healthcare facilities, and governmental facilities, libraries are an anchor institution and a first point of service for many of our citizens. They are an obvious partner in the efforts to achieve the objectives of the Recovery Act.

I am happy to support the UAMS application. If I can provide any further assistance, please do not hesitate to let me know.

Respectfully yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Carolyn Ashcraft". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Carolyn Ashcraft
State Librarian

cc: files



P.O. Box 960 • 183 Highway 399 • DeQueen, AR 71832
<http://cccua.edu>

Ashdown • DeQueen • Nashville
(870) 898-4733 • (870) 584-4471 • (870) 845-2454

Curtis Lowery M.D.
University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences
4301 W. Markham, Slot 518
Little Rock, AR 72205

March 8, 2010

RE: Broadband Technology Opportunities Program Grant

Dear Dr. Lowery:

Cossatot Community College of the University of Arkansas is willing to participate in the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP) grant request and will provide a 20% match for our portion of the grant.

If funded, the opportunity to bring the high-speed fiber access to our campuses provided by this grant could significantly improve the bandwidth available to the college. One use the additional bandwidth would be to improve our Compressed Video (CV) classes by using the High Definition (HD) capability of our CV equipment. Our concurrent classes, especially the classes in our Licensed Practical Nursing program, with rural secondary schools throughout southwest Arkansas conducted via CV will benefit. Additionally, we would be able to expand our partnerships with state universities allowing them to bring additional upper division classes to our campus via CV assisting our graduates to obtain Baccalaureate Degrees without the added financial burden of travel. Also, we could establish a collaborative arrangement between the college and a local rural hospital to offer classes in Healthcare Information Technology (IT) whereby students on our campus could connect to and experience working with Healthcare IT equipment that the college could not otherwise afford to purchase and operate.

Our current bandwidth limitation at times results in choppy CV and audio connections, and lack of HD video results in degraded image quality. Additionally, we have had to restrict unlimited access to certain Internet sites and media as a result of limited affordable bandwidth. This is done to preserve the bandwidth for those applications, such as our CV classes, that we deem more necessary. Increased access to affordable bandwidth would allow us to remove current restrictions and allow our students and public library patrons more unfettered access to Internet resources for educational research.

Sincerely,

Frank G. Adams, Chancellor
Cossatot Community College of the University of Arkansas

March 9, 2010

Curtis Lowery M.D.
University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences
4301 W. Markham, Slot 518
Little Rock, AR 72205

RE: AR-EON

Dear Dr. Lowery:

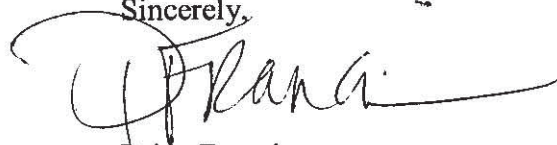
NorthWest Arkansas Community College (NWACC) is committed to providing high-speed internet access to our stakeholders. This includes students, faculty, staff, and others in the community that need to make use of our network and infrastructure.

Given our location in the northwest part of the state, we have many students and faculty who live in rural areas. We are always looking to enhance our services to these stakeholders who live at a distance from the main campus. In addition, we serve students at several satellite campuses, some of which do not currently have high-speed internet access.

NWACC is interested in participating in the AR-EON endeavor. We have two areas where we can see benefit. Currently on the NWACC main campus we have approximately 50 MB coming in. It would be nice to have double that – 100 MB – to better serve student and faculty needs. Secondly, we are in the process of moving one of our satellite locations from Fayetteville to Farmington High School. We will need to provide our own internet connection at Farmington – AR-EON could do this for us. We currently have NO internet access at that location – but do, in fact, need it.

Depending on available resources, NWACC could be willing to commit to up to a 20 percent match.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paige Francis". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "P" and a long, sweeping underline.

Paige Francis
Information Technology
NorthWest Arkansas Community College



March 3, 2010

Curtis Lowery, M.D.
University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences
4301 W. Markham, Slot 518
Little Rock, AR 72205

Dear Dr. Lowery:

On behalf of Ouachita Technical College, we are interested in participating in the proposed Arkansas Rural Broadband Infrastructure development project and in the related grant application that seeks financial support for the project. The concept of connecting all the two-year colleges and all the hospitals in the state with UAMS and the other universities is an exciting one that could benefit us, higher education and the health care of the public greatly.

For OTC specifically, we could use the additional bandwidth in some or all of the following ways: I. Expand the use of bandwidth intensive material in our existing online courses to 1. Offer streaming video from the server for related instruction, 2. Offer simulated instruction hosted on our network, 3. Deliver compressed video classes hosted on campus or delivered to the campus, 4. Have video conferencing with online classes, and 5. Increase our ability to grow our online course enrollments. With this resource, we envision: 1. The possible establishment of a training/conference center available to community, business and health care; 2. The possible collaboration with OTC's medical programs and local hospitals and clinics for training, research, and continuing education; 3. Possible co-location of servers with other colleges/universities for disaster recovery and business continuity; and 4. A more cost effective means of accessing the internet and telecommunications.

We currently need additional bandwidth for reasons that will benefit students, faculty and our community. For example, we recently had to purchase a business class DSL connection for classroom and lab use because the previously available 3mb connection began slowing and degrading below acceptable levels. During the middle of the day when large student numbers on campus cause dramatic increases in internet use, we see access speeds slow to a crawl. Student internet needs and our distance education courses that are running simultaneously had to compete for the same, fixed amount of bandwidth. The new DSL service is designed mainly for internet browsing and we find it unacceptable and ill suited for uploading large files from campus. The additional bandwidth that could be provided from this project would allow expansion of online courses and increased access speed in our classrooms and labs, especially the ones that involve simulations hosted on other networks. We would also be better equipped to provide resources to the local business, manufacturing, and medical community for conferencing, training and technical assistance.

Because of the many benefits that would result from this project, OTC is willing to provide a 20 percent match for the total cost of installation and operation of the proposed system over a period of time. Many thanks for the opportunity to be included as a full partner in this proposed project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "J. Barry Ballard".

J. Barry Ballard, Ed.D.
President



Ozarka College

Providing life-changing experiences through education

March 12, 2010

Curtis Lowery, M.D.
University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences
4301 W. Markham, Slot 518
Little Rock, AR 72205

RE: Arkansas Rural Broadband Infrastructure

Dear Dr. Lowery:

Ozarka College is pleased to offer this letter of support for application for the development of the Arkansas Telehealth Oversight & Management (ATOM) Network. The associated fiber optic links will provide community colleges across Arkansas access to the Arkansas Research and Education Optical Network.

As with most of Arkansas' community colleges, Ozarka College is located in an area where industrial and business development is lacking; therefore, easy access to affordable, high quality, higher education programs and job training is necessary to further economic development in rural areas.

This fiber network will allow greatly needed additional opportunities to provide access to shared educational applications such as high-definition video/audio distance learning and adult education and training opportunities. An Ozarka College specific example would be the high-quality archived lectures for the Arkansas Rural Nursing Education Consortium (ARNEC). Current capacity constraints require us to only make those archived lectures accessible to our 20 students whereas a connection to ARE-ON would provide us with the capacity to provide the lectures to ARNEC students at five other Arkansas community colleges.

Ozarka College is committed to supporting these vital links that are so critical to providing the same world class educational resources to rural residents that are typically found only in larger urban areas.

Sincerely,

Richard Dawe, Ph.D.
President



Dedicated to your success
www.pulaskitech.edu

March 12, 2010

Curtis Lowery, M D.
University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences
4301 W. Markham, Slot 518
Little Rock, AR 72205

Dear Dr. Lowery:

Pulaski Technical College, the largest two-year college and 5th largest college or university in Arkansas, with a current enrollment of 11,167 students, is pleased to offer this letter of support of your application for the development of the Arkansas Telehealth Oversight & Management (ATOM) Network.

Of our students, 58% are living at or below the federal poverty level and close to 70% receive partial or full federally-funded need-based financial aid (Pell grants); 77% work full or part-time and 55% have children living at home. Many struggle to achieve their academic goals while raising families and working. Often, they do not have computers or Internet service at home and rely on computer centers on our campus to complete classroom assignments, participate in on-line classes and use computer-based lab modules. PTC and our students will benefit from additional bandwidth to expand services or offer new services that will enhance instruction or research.

The PTC Ottenheimer Library has defined anticipated benefits of connecting to AR-EON. They are: 1) **two-way video instruction between locations and classrooms.** Currently, Library staff commute to PTC Little Rock-West site with 1,500 students, where there is no library branch, to conduct information literacy instruction. With a greater bandwidth, Library staff will conduct that instruction remotely and still interact in real time with students. A system such as this one that will seamlessly “send” a librarian into a classroom to teach MLA citation with the instructor and allow students to ask question in real time will be a great benefit; 2) **Seamless streaming of video/audio.** Many DVD’s and videos are available as streaming video at a less expensive cost. Pulaski Tech, however, cannot use streaming video on its current broadband. Streaming video could easily be sent to classrooms, conference rooms, labs or other locations as needed; 3) **RFID for the Libraries.** This tracking system combines security with efficient tracking of materials, making for easier and faster charge and discharge, inventorying, reporting and materials handling. Monitoring the system and tracking materials is done via a web-based system, which requires additional bandwidth.

Additional benefits will be realized in instructional and administrative areas of the College. Pulaski Tech is committed to a 20% match for implementation of this project.

Sincerely,

Dan F. Bakke, Ed.D.
President

Rich Mountain Community College

Dr. Wayne Hatcher, President



1100 College Drive, Mena, Arkansas 71953
479-394-7622 Fax: 479-394-7295
whatcher@rmcc.edu

March 12, 2010

Curtis Lowery M.D.
University of Arkansas of Medical Sciences
4301 W. Markham Slot 518
Little Rock, AR 72205

RE: RMCC Grant Commitment for ARE-ON Pipeline Connectivity

Dear Dr. Lowery,

Rich Mountain Community College (RMCC) is willing to participate in the grant being written under the leadership of the Arkansas Association of Two Year Colleges to connect two year college across the state to the high speed, super capability internet fiber optic system Arkansas Research and Education Optical Network (ARE-ON) pipe.

Rich Mountain Community College serves the rural area of the Ouachita Mountain region located on the west central edge of Arkansas. Due to the rural nature of the service area, internet connectivity is a challenge. Being connected to the ARE-ON pipe would be of great benefit to the RMCC service area. The connectivity provided by the ARE-ON pipe would allow citizens of the area access to academic programs that would normally be inaccessible.

The connectivity opens up partnership opportunities with four year and other two year institutions to provide training only feasible through distance education. This will provide access to educational opportunities to students and families in rural communities minimizing the travel required to gain much needed training and education. It has been noted that once a student leaves the RMCC service area to obtain an advanced degree, they rarely return to the area. This perpetuates the problem of having an under educated populace in west central Arkansas. The ARE-ON pipe would be a tremendous benefit to keeping our best and brightest in the service area.

To show its commitment to the project, Rich Mountain Community College commits the necessary resources to meet the required match outlined in the grant. RMCC is pleased to be a part of this important project. The enhanced connectivity provided by the receipt of the grant would be a substantial advancement in providing much needed educational opportunities to citizens in the most rural parts of Arkansas where it is needed most.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Wayne Hatcher".

Wayne Hatcher, Ph.D.



Office of the Chancellor

March 3, 2010

University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences
Attention: Curtis Lowery, M.D.
4301 West Markham Street, Slot 518
Little Rock, Arkansas 72205

Dear Dr. Lowery:

Southern Arkansas University Tech ("SAU Tech") is a two-year comprehensive college specializing in technical training and offers the first two years of a university transfer program. In addition to offering traditional classroom courses, SAU Tech offers a number of Internet courses. SAU Tech has a large enrollment in its high school dual credit program. SAU Tech also operates the Arkansas Environmental Training Academy, the Arkansas Fire Training Academy, the SAU Tech Secondary Career Academy, and the Adult Education Center, which services both Calhoun and Ouachita counties. SAU Tech is the only college in Arkansas located in an industrial park.

When I became chancellor at SAU Tech in January 2008, the College's bandwidth was 1.5Mb. I immediately took steps to increase the speed to 6Mb. In 2009, SAU Tech contracted with AT&T for its Internet service and increased its bandwidth to 40Mbs. This increase did, however, come with a much greater cost.

SAU Tech is excited about the opportunity to participate in this project hoping it will result in the College gaining access to the AERON network. If SAU Tech were able to obtain more bandwidth, at a reasonable price, below are some of the activities the College could pursue:

- Through streaming video, the online Teacher Education program faculty and local teachers would be able to collaborate to establish an educational climate that would allow all participants to better achieve success. Streaming video would also enable frequent observations of classroom scenarios that demonstrate at-risk strategies.
- With access to much greater bandwidth, the Information Technology degree program could offer IT classes in various formats giving students access to live equipment (routers, switches, servers, etc.) via the Internet. This would allow students more practice/lab time outside of class. These technical classes could also then be offered as fully online and/or blended courses.
- SAU Tech's Film & Video program could benefit from increased bandwidth which is far reaching across the nation. When film and video students are working jobs out of town such as the recent work with the Arkansas Bar Association, the increased bandwidth would eliminate the need to transfer large video files (several gigabytes) by mailing DVDs. Students could immediately go to work at school on editing and clients could immediately review completed work. Packages of news stories could be sent to all major networks such as CNN for breaking news as it happens. In this program, the students are taught the importance of getting information to the public in a timely manner and this would be more evident if SAU Tech could practice the concept while the students are training.

CJL-10-0006

www.sautech.edu

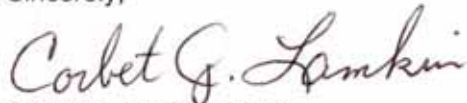
University of Arkansas for Medical Services
March 3, 2010
Page Two

- SAU Tech offers extensive Internet coursework which continues to grow. The College's distance learning program is already being delivered to students all across this country and even other countries. With improved connectivity, video streams and graphic/simulations and animations would be possible that keep pace with the learning styles of the upcoming "millennial" students who will be replacing our aging workforce.
- SAU Tech's technical programs have the right combination of fields and talent that can complement each other and other colleges across the state. Such collaboration is highly benefited by webinar style meetings which highly reduce or eliminate travel costs. With video, the quality of the meeting is often considered as good as face to face.

If awarded this grant, SAU Tech is willing to provide the required 20 percent match.

If you have questions or would like to discuss this issue further feel free to contact me at 870.574.4420.

Sincerely,



Corbet J. Lamkin, Ph.D.
Chancellor

CJL/vw/pjb

March 9, 2010

Ed Franklin
Executive Director
Arkansas Association of Two-Year Colleges
1400 W. Markham, Suite 402
Little Rock, AR 72201

RE: Broadband Technology Opportunities Program Grant Application

Dear Dr. Franklin:

South Arkansas Community College (SouthArk) is pleased to offer this letter of support of Arkansas Association of Two-Year Colleges' (AATYC) application for a federal Broadband Technology Opportunities Program grant to bring high speed connectivity to the twenty-two community colleges in Arkansas via an expanded AR-EON network.

The high connectivity costs have limited SouthArk's access to the Internet and negatively impacted our ability to leverage our investment in instructional technologies, especially compressed interactive video solutions. Currently, SouthArk participates in collaborative educational programs delivered by interactive video. These programs include the preparation of Associate degree nurses (ARNEC) and a 2+2 K-4 teacher education program with the University of Arkansas at Monticello. With the addition of bandwidth, we hope to be able to deliver or receive additional courses and programs to make higher education more accessible to rural Arkansas citizens.

SouthArk anticipates meeting the matching funds requirement of approximately \$500,000 from costs arising from the following permitted sources: new construction \$313,657; classroom upgrades \$108,000; infrastructure upgrades \$45,000; staff time \$11,404; cash match from offset connection costs \$21,939. These numbers are preliminary and shall be revised as the grant guidelines are refined.

SouthArk is pleased to lend its support to this exciting project that will bring the same world class telecommunications and instructional resources to our service area that are now available to more urban areas of the state.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Barbara R. Jones". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Barbara R. Jones, Ph. D.
President



Southeast Arkansas College

1900 Hazel St., Pine Bluff, AR 71603

Tel (870) 543-5900



Fax (870) 543-5927



1-888-SEARKTC (Toll Free)



Email: MAIN@SEARK.EDU

March 1, 2010

Curtis Lowery M.D.
University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences
4301 W. Markham, Slot 518
Little Rock, AR 72205

Dear Dr. Lowry,

Please accept this letter of support from Southeast Arkansas College (SEARK) for the grant application as put forward by the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS) to extend an optical network to enhance the health care and educational network.

Our facility currently offers classes via distance learning to other campuses in the state; currently we are offering classes in cooperation with the University of Central Arkansas (UCA) for our Nursing and Allied Health program. With additional facilities and bandwidth the college could potentially open the doors to cooperative education with other locations, such as UAMS and Jefferson Regional Medical Center (JRMC), as well as the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff (UAPB). We currently hold a partnership in our Nursing and Allied Health program with UAPB. Such benefits would not be limited to Nursing of course; the partnership could extend to other programs and other campuses state-wide.

Such improvements could also improve our ability to reach employers for workforce education, high schools, and more. It has the potential to improve the availability of our services not only by time, but by shortening the distance to potential students electronically.

It is our understanding that a match will be required to demonstrate the institution's commitment to the project, and at this time this has not been defined. SEARK College is prepared to step up to the challenge and do our part to improve education across the state and accept a 20 percent match as outlined.

We support the effort of the UAMS to obtain this grant for collaboration between not only our two institutions, but to improve research and education across the state. We believe that it is critical to the perpetuation of elementary, secondary and higher education in this state, particularly in this region.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Phil Shirley", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Dr. Phil Shirley
President



Southeast Arkansas College

1900 Hazel St., Pine Bluff, AR 71603

Tel (870) 543-5900



Fax (870) 543-5927



1-888-SEARKTC (Toll Free)



Email: MAIN@SEARK.EDU

Southeast Arkansas College Current Connectivity

March 1, 2010

1. How much bandwidth?

On the administrative network (staff network) the current bandwidth is 4.5 Mbs delivered as 3- T1 lines across fiber.

On the direct internet connection (student network) the current bandwidth is 30Mbs, delivered as 1 connection on fiber.

2 PRI's provide VoIP phone service, which has not been cut over from the copper as of this date.

Early Childhood Development is an off-campus satellite with 1 DSL connection on copper.

2. Who supplies it?

DIS is the current provider of all services, though the direct internet connection and DSL are provided by AT&T through DIS.

3. What technologies are used by the institution to provide connectivity to the internet and the campus?

On the main campus we are building a converged network with Voice over IP as our latest addition. Internet is connected entirely by fiber with 1Gb switches along the edge and in the core, all of which are upgradable for load balancing and future growth (Enterasys). We currently have a wireless network that has been unavailable due to bandwidth constraints and other issues, and we look forward to making that available by the end of the semester.

4. What local loop services support the connectivity and who supplies them. What are the monthly costs of local loop services?

After a long venture with AT&T and DIS, the college is now connected to AT&T's fiber loop, with MUX equipment housed in our datacenter- mostly open and available for expansion. Our costs are as follows:

Direct internet access:	\$3515.75
Connectivity-T1 (3)	\$2280.48
DSL	\$ 114.00



March 12, 2010

Curtis Lowery M.D.
University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences
4301 West Markham Slot 518
Little Rock, AR 72205

RE: Arkansas Rural Broadband Infrastructure

Dear Dr. Lowery:

I am pleased to offer this letter of support on behalf of the University of Arkansas Community College at Batesville to be included in your application for the development of the Arkansas Telehealth Oversight and Management Network (ATOM). In addition, the associated fiber optic links that will provide community colleges in rural areas, the opportunity to access telehealth, telemedicine, higher education research and supercomputing capabilities, will greatly enhance the collaborative spirit currently being developed in the north central part of the state.

Arkansas' community colleges are located primarily in rural areas of the state. Community college's in Arkansas play a vital role in economic development in their regions. Our community has experienced the loss of in excess of 900 jobs in the last twenty seven months. In an effort to attract high wage, high demand jobs the community passed an economic development tax. When the recruitment of these jobs is successful, the demand for a highly skilled workforce will be urgent. The training and educational opportunities that will be provided through the fiber network will allow our region to meet the needs of the potential employers.

With the development of the Arkansas Research and Education Optical Network (ARE-ON) access to diverse, high quality, higher education will afford great benefits to students, faculty and staff in rural communities without the requirement to travel long distances. In providing this supercomputing access to broadband data and televideo, network efficiencies will also be achieved by local business and industry. Infrastructure like this would provide incentives for additional economic development.

The many benefits of this opportunity cannot be understated. The opportunities for job training and career development this technology will deliver to rural Arkansas are immeasurable. Thus, on behalf of the University of Arkansas Community College at Batesville, I offer my full support to your efforts in successfully developing the application and will provide an accounting of matching funds to make this project successful.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Deborah J. Frazier'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Deborah J. Frazier
Chancellor

University of Arkansas Community College at Batesville



UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS
COMMUNITY COLLEGE AT HOPE

www.uacch.edu

Curtis Lowery M.D.
University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences
4301 W. Markham, Slot 518
Little Rock, AR 72205

March 5, 2010

RE: Arkansas Rural Broadband Infrastructure

Dear Dr. Lowery:

The University of Arkansas Community College at Hope is pleased to offer this letter of support of your application for the development of the Arkansas Telehealth Oversight & Management (ATOM) Network and the associated fiber optic links to provide rural community colleges across Arkansas access to telehealth, telemedicine, higher education research and supercomputing capabilities, while providing significant new collaborative distance learning opportunities.

Arkansas' community colleges are typically located where industrial and business development is severely lacking; therefore, easy access to affordable, high quality, higher education programs and job training is critical to further economic development of rural Arkansas. Many rural areas, such as our region of Southwest Arkansas, are suffering plant closures and many businesses have had to lay employees off. We have seen an influx of non-traditional students seeking new skills or looking to retrain to high tech/high demand jobs. This fiber network will allow new opportunities to share specialty training and education applications, such as our rather unique Funeral Services Program with other community colleges across the state, starting with National Park Community College in Hot Springs AR.

With a rural population base such as this, access to diverse, high quality, higher education is often lacking. In particular, access to key databases and large scale computing is unavailable. Should this application be successful and funds be made available to extend broadband higher education services to these rural communities, students and faculty in these remote areas will have access via the Arkansas Research and Education Optical network (ARE-ON) to information currently available at major state universities. This will provide countless benefits to students, faculty and staff in rural communities that will no longer have to travel to distant cities and universities for access to specialty computing technologies.

Additional benefits will be realized from deployment of this broadband data and televideo network. Productivity will be enhanced for business, industry and educational workers that now have to travel to attend meetings and receive proper training to keep their professional education current. Countless other benefits, like access to research databases and supercomputing resources, are sure to accrue to residents of our rural state.

your bridge to the future

The University is pleased to lend its support to these vital links that are critically necessary to bring the same world class higher education services to rural residents that are now available to urban residents. The college will certainly provide our fair share of matching funds to make this project successful.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'CTH', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Chris Thomason, JD
Chancellor



Office of the President

Phone: (870) 762-1020
Fax: (870) 763-0948
E-mail: rmyers@anc.edu

P.O. Drawer 1109
Blytheville, AR 72316-1109

March 12, 2010

Dear Sirs:

Arkansas Northeastern College is willing to participate in the AREON grant and can be counted upon for full support. We are willing to provide 20% or greater in-kind matching funds to help this project reach fruition.

The benefits of this project to Arkansas Northeastern College will be many and varied. The first anticipated advantage is that the increased bandwidth will allow us to expand our online and distance learning to include media that we are unable to provide at the current time. The intranet to the other schools in the AREON network will allow collaborative research that is unimaginable otherwise. The ability to include collaborative research projects in online classes will take online learning to a much higher level.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Robert Myers".

Robert Myers, Ed.D.
President

March 9, 2009

Curtis Lowery, MD
University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences
4301 West Markham, Slot 518
Little Rock, AR 72205

RE: Arkansas Rural Broadband Infrastructure

Dear Dr. Lowery:

As Chancellor of Arkansas State University – Beebe, I am pleased to submit this letter of support of your application for the development of the Arkansas Telehealth Oversight & Management (ATOM) Network and specifically for the connection of Arkansas' two-year colleges and universities to the Arkansas Research and Education Optical Network (ARE-ON).

ASU-Beebe, like many community colleges, strives to meet the needs Arkansas families, communities, and industries by pursuing a mission of "transforming lives through quality learning experiences." We offer these learning experiences in the traditional classroom, online, and at times through real-time, interactive video.

To create these learning experiences, the University relies heavily on technology. ASU-Beebe is getting a 12 megabit connection to the Internet with plans for a 20 megabit by summer supplied by Arkansas State University – Jonesboro via multi-mode fiber and CAT-5 connections. Our local loop service is an MPLS from AT&T and costs us about \$5,000 per month. This connection has been upgraded several times in the past few years, and will need likely further upgrades in the very near future as University enrollment continues to climb.

Connecting to ARE-ON would provide countless benefits for students learning in each modality listed above. Students in the traditional classroom could be exposed to a wide range of live or recorded video streamed through the network or see real-time simulations produced by super-computing resources elsewhere in the world. Online students could have a more robust learning environment as the University's current bandwidth is severely taxed by current usage levels. Students who cannot participate in traditional or online instruction may be able to take classes via interactive video as well. This additional bandwidth would also enable enhanced collaboration among our 4 campus

P. O. Box 1000
Beebe, AR 72012

Phone:
501-882-8956

Fax:
501-882-4402

Web Site:
www.asub.edu

Curtis Lowery, MD
March 9, 2009
Page Two

locations because many faculty and staff are unable to work together on projects due to the distances involved. Faculty at each campus could work real-time with each other to create innovative learning experiences for students.

Specifically, ASU-Beebe supports this cooperative effort. Furthermore, the University is willing and able to provide a 20 percent match. It is our hope that these efforts succeed because the students that we now serve and those that we can be reached with expanded bandwidth will greatly benefit.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Eugene McKay". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Eugene McKay, Ph.D.
Chancellor

Black River



TECHNICAL COLLEGE

March 15, 2010

Curtis Lowery M.D.
University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences
4301 W. Markham, Slot 518
Little Rock, Arkansas 72205

Re: Arkansas Rural Broadband Infrastructure
Dear Dr. Lowery:

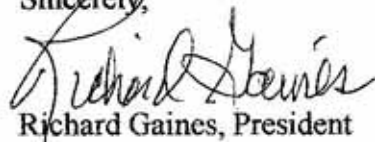
On behalf of the board of trustees, faculty, and staff of Black River Technical College, I am pleased to offer this letter of support for the application being submitted to provide increased bandwidth to the two year colleges in Arkansas.

Within the last few years bandwidth has become critical to BRTC. Prior to that it was important as we augmented existing processes such as registration and distance education, but now bandwidth is a pervasive need across almost all aspects of the college. Some of those areas include: registration, placement testing, student orientation, financial aid application/transmission and award, student email, online instruction originating at BRTC (Blackboard & Moodle), online instruction destined to BRTC (Plato, State Nursing, etc.), library management system and bookstore point-of-sale just to name a few. As we increase our presence on our sister campus in Paragould, the bandwidth demands between the two locations is also growing quickly. CVN classes between the two campuses are almost constant during regular class hours and with the bulk of administrative processing being done on the main campus; the bandwidth needs of both locations grow quicker than the student count.

Overall bandwidth is quickly becoming the life blood of the college. We are currently in the process of expanding our bandwidth to meet current needs, but given the trend that we've seen in the last few years, we know that we will need to expand this capacity yet again within the next 12-18 months.

The college will provide a twenty percent match for grant funds received which will greatly benefit the two year college system in Arkansas.

Sincerely,



Richard Gaines, President



ARKANSAS STATE
UNIVERSITY
MOUNTAIN HOME

1600 South College
Mountain Home, AR 72653

Arkansas State University-Mountain Home enthusiastically supports and plans to participate in the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS) and Arkansas Association of Two-Year Colleges (AATYC) grant to support the development of the Arkansas Rural Education Optical Network (ARE-ON) Network throughout the state. There is so much potential with this network that can be provided statewide in the areas of healthcare and education. In fact, development of these two areas can provide the economic drivers to push our state forward. Currently, Arkansas ranks 49th in Bachelor degree attainment. New and innovative approaches like the development of this network are exactly what we need to help us move forward as leaders in higher education.

Phone:
870-508-6101

Fax:
870-508-6288

With the progression of online learning and other delivery platforms, it is perfect for rural Arkansas community college students to access courses in credit and non-credit areas. Two-year colleges offer a plethora of courses beyond what is consider college-level work including remedial course and workforce/continuing education training and the addition bandwidth will provide training to those who generally are required to complete work onsite. On the ASUMH campus, we have a degree center in collaboration with Arkansas State University-Jonesboro that offers bachelor, master, and specialist degrees. Further, we offer health-related training programs in dental hygiene, paramedic, and respiratory care in conjunction with UAMS and Arkansas Health Education Centers (AHEC).

The education and training possibilities for the use of broadband are limitless, and we are excited about exploring options which are not possible with our current technologies. The opportunity for broadband will expand current traditional and online teaching options to better prepare our students for the "world is flat" life they will encounter. In rural Arkansas, we want students to have access to other cultures and to allow for diverse learning experience beyond our current capabilities. Further, we want to enhance students' online learning experiences through the use of electronic enhancements and links (You-Tube, video, external, links, etc.) and in the areas of basic research. We do not want our students to be left behind, and without this technology they will be.

Therefore, I am pleased to support this groundbreaking venture with the required twenty percent match. This is a stretch for our small, rural two-year college. However, it is vital to the future of the economic development of our state, our students, and our future leaders.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ed Coulter', written in a cursive style.

Ed Coulter
Chancellor



ARKANSAS STATE
UNIVERSITY
NEWPORT

7648 Victory Blvd.
Newport, AR 72112

Phone:
870-512-7850

Fax:
870-512-7840
www.asun.edu

March 3, 2010

Curtis Lowery, M.D.
University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences
4301 W. Markham, Slot 518
Little Rock, AR 72205


Dear Dr. Lowery:

I am writing to express my support for the application of Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP) by the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences to provide increased Internet access and services to rural Arkansas residents. Arkansas State University-Newport's (ASUN) role will be to work with the patrons and provide the infrastructure to access the Internet and the services. ASUN will satisfy the 20% match requirement through in-kind and cash dollars.

The need for access to the Internet is easily documented by the number of courses offered online by ASUN and the number of students wishing to take these courses. The demand for these courses is more than the college can accommodate because of infrastructure and bandwidth requirements. On the ASUN satellite campuses at Jonesboro and Marked Tree, the desire for interactive television courses is paramount because it satisfies associate degree requirements that otherwise would go unfulfilled.

It is my understanding that the BTOP funds will allow ASUN to increase the bandwidth available for use to access the Internet which includes distance education, communication, mainframe access for students and other stakeholders, and access to online instructional software. This additional bandwidth will allow the college to provide a needed service for its two satellite campuses by allowing interactive television courses to be provided to those campuses. Workforce training will also be provided via interactive television to all three campuses.

Regards,


Larry N. Williams, Ed.D.
Chancellor

March 12, 2010

Rick Williams
North Arkansas College
1515 Pioneer Dr.
Harrison, AR 72601

RE: Arkansas Rural Broadband Infrastructure

Dear Dr. Lowery:

On behalf of North Arkansas College (Northark), we are pleased to offer this letter of support of your application for the development of the Arkansas Telehealth Oversight & Management (ATOM) Network.

Northark is located in a rural setting where broadband access is sparse and where its students do not have access to many of the technological benefits that this type of access would provide. Many of Northark's programs could benefit directly by having this access available. The college has been building its online course offerings over the past several years and with the inclusion of multimedia into those courses, bandwidth has become a critical issue. In addition to the online courses, Northark offers a program of study in Geographic Information Systems which could benefit from this service.

While online courses and specific programs of study could be positively impacted, Northark also could help the community which it serves through its partnerships. One of the primary partnerships that the college has is with UAMS, AHEC, and the local hospital, North Arkansas Regional Medical Center. This partnership is called the North Arkansas Partnership for Health Education and has served Harrison and its surrounding communities in several areas. More broadband access would help strengthen these partnerships through more access to video conferencing and online resources.

Northark is pleased to lend its support to this project that is necessary to bring the same accessible services to rural residents that are available to urban residents.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Rick Williams", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Rick Williams

 **Phillips**
COMMUNITY COLLEGE
OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS
Office of the Chancellor

March 3, 2010

Dr. Curtis Lowery, M.D.
University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences
4310 W. Markham, Slot 518
Little Rock, AR 72205

Dear Dr. Lowery:

I am writing to express my institution's support for the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP) proposal. Phillips Community College of the University of Arkansas (PCCUA) will be an eager participant in the initiative.

PCCUA will use the additional bandwidth to expand its Compressed Interactive Video (CIV) capabilities through enhanced high definition delivery methods. We will be able to bridge our own CIV conferences and expand our existing partnerships with the University of Arkansas Online Consortium and with the University of Arkansas at Fort Smith and the University of Arkansas at Monticello. The increased bandwidth will, in short, allow us to provide more services, enhance technology in our classrooms, and increase productivity.

PCCUA's support for the BTOP initiative is reflected in our commitment to providing a 20 percent match. We look forward to its funding and implementation.

Sincerely,



Steven F. Murray
Chancellor



DR. EDWARD L. FRANKLIN
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Arkansas Association of
Two-Year Colleges

March 17, 2010

Curtis Lowery, MD
Center for Distance Health
University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences
4301 W. Markham Street, #518
Little Rock, AR 72205

Re: Letter of Participation

Dear Dr. Lowery:

This letter documents the support of Arkansas Association of Two-Year Colleges (AATYC) to participate in the Arkansas Telehealth Oversight & Management Network's (ATOM) proposed broadband services as delivered through the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP) and ARE-ON. AATYC represents the 22 public two-year colleges in Arkansas including both credit programs and noncredit customized training programs.

Participation in this grant will provide the high speed optical broadband capabilities to enable our colleges to better serve our students and our business partners throughout our state. Providing connectivity especially to our rural two-year colleges will greatly enhance the educational options and opportunities for our citizens.

Our two-year colleges currently serve over 58,000 credit students and provide customized training for over 50,000 employees of over 2,500 companies in Arkansas. Partnering with UAMS will also provide opportunities for health care worker training throughout the state.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Edward L. Franklin", is written over a white background.

Edward L. Franklin, Ed.D.
Executive Director

ELF/cb

Dr. Ed Franklin, Executive Director
AATYC
1400 West Markham, Suite 402
Little Rock, AR 72201

RE: Broadband Technologies Opportunity Program

Dear Dr. Franklin:

East Arkansas Community College is pleased to offer this letter of support for the development of the Broadband Technologies Opportunity Program / ARE-ON grant.

EACC will utilize this additional bandwidth to enhance distance learning between our campus and other colleges and universities across Arkansas. This increased capacity will create an abundance of opportunities for students seeking advanced degree programs available solely by means of compressed video.

Faculty and staff will have enhanced teaching resources available that are currently unavailable due to bandwidth limitations on our existing connection.

Deployment of this broadband technology will allow students and the surrounding communities to experience online learning and Internet access with amazing speed and reliability. As a result of higher bandwidth Internet connection, EACC will be able to host real-time video conferencing and provide access to computing research facilities located at various colleges and universities throughout Arkansas.

East Arkansas Community College is willing to provide a 20 percent match per the requirements of the grant.

EACC is pleased to lend its support to this vital link that is necessary to bring the same world class Internet service to rural residents that are available to urban residents.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Coy Grace". The signature is written in black ink on a light-colored background.

Dr. Coy Grace, President



101 College Drive • Hot Springs National Park, Arkansas 71913
(501) 760-4222 • Fax (501) 760-4100 • www.npcc.edu

Office of the President

March 8, 2010

Curtis Lowery, M.D.
University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences
4301 W. Markham, Slot 518
Little Rock, AR 72205

Dear Dr. Lowery:

On behalf of one of the two-year colleges in Arkansas, National Park Community College (NPCC) is pleased to offer this letter of support of your application for the development of the Arkansas Research and Educational Optical Network (ARE-ON).

ARE-ON would enable NPCC to increase the learning experience of our students. The benefits of additional bandwidth would enable us to expand, present cooperative agreements programs with other institutions, and provide online web-based and compressed interactive video. The classroom experience of traditional classes would also be enhanced by the many benefits of the high speed educational network.

NPCC's participation in ARE-ON would enable the institution to enhance the students learning experience by offering access to research, multi-media content, video conferencing, and other services that high-speed internet access offers.

NPCC is pleased to lend its support to this tool that is vital in bringing these educational opportunities to our students that will heighten the learning process, as well as prepare them for their future educational and workforce endeavors.

Sincerely,

Sally Carder, Ed.D.
President
National Park Community College



March 2, 2010

Curtis Lowery, MD
Center for Distance Health
University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences
4301 W. Markham Street / #518
Little Rock, Arkansas 72205
CLLowery@uams.edu

Re: Letter of Participation

Dear Dr. Lowery:

This letter documents the support of Arkansas Research and Education Optical Network (ARE-ON) to participate in the Arkansas Telehealth Oversight & Management Network's (ATOM) proposed broadband services as delivered through the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP). The ARE-ON will serve as a major backbone for the Arkansas Telehealth Network.

Connection to the Arkansas Telehealth Network will enable our citizens and public to access healthcare education, training and resources afforded through broadband-enabled interactive video and Internet services. By leveraging our member University's current broadband and upcoming ARE-ON connections, we recognize our community's businesses and visitors can benefit from these proposed services. ARE-ON cannot provide local broadband access to homes or businesses, but can work with the Center for Distance Health to secure such local loop resources. We wish to pledge our support and participation in this proposed broadband effort

ARE-ON member institutions include all public, comprehensive four-year institutions, the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, and the University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture. Enrollment consists of over 71,700 students. ARE-ON is an economic development asset to the entire population of the State of Arkansas through empowering member institutions to move to the next level of research and academic attainment.

Sincerely,

Michael D. Abbiatti
Executive Director

155 S. Razorback Road, Fayetteville, AR 72701
479-575-3901 * Fax: 479-575-4753 * www.aron.net



Research Support and Sponsored Programs
Office of the Director
120 Ozark Hall
1 University of Arkansas
Fayetteville, Arkansas 72701-1201

March 25, 2010

(479) 575-3845
(479) 575-3846 (FAX)
E-mail: rsspinfo@uark.edu
<http://www.uark.edu/admin/rsspinfo/>

Curtis Lowery, MD
Center for Distance Health
University of Medical Sciences
4301 W. Markham Street / #518
Little Rock, AR 72205

Dear Dr. Lowery:

The University of Arkansas, Fayetteville campus, hereby commits in-kind cost share in the amount of two millions dollars in support of the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS) Broadband Technologies Opportunity Program – Middle Mile Infrastructure grant proposal. This amount represents one fourth of the total value of our current investment, consisting of optical switching equipment and fiber resources comprising the transport backbone, which will be used by UAMS to carry out this important project.

ARE-ON is proud to play and active role in bringing this forward-thinking project to fruition. The outstanding professional and personal investment of the dedicated UAMS team is critical to improving the healthcare status of every citizen of Arkansas. This is a unique and vital initiative designed to save lives and improve the medical care of Arkansans today and in the future. The presence or absence of the infrastructure and services proposed could mean the difference between saving lives and the inability to do so.

Sincerely,

Michael Abbiatti
Executive Director
Arkansas Research and Education
Optical Network (ARE-ON)

Rosemary H. Ruff
Director
Research Support & Sponsored Programs



200 South Commerce, Suite 400
Little Rock, AR 72201
501.374.9247 ph
501.374.9425 fax
800.216.7237 toll free
www.connect-arkansas.org

March 8, 2010

Curtis Lowery, M D
Center for Distance Health
University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences
4301 W. Markham Street / # 518
Little Rock Arkansas 72205

Dear Dr. Lowery,

Through this letter, Connect Arkansas would like to express support for the broadband infrastructure proposal filed by the Arkansas Telehealth Oversight and Management (ATOM) Network through the National Telecommunications and Information Administration's Broadband Technologies Opportunity Program (BTOP).

Representing a consortium of over 240 hospitals and other healthcare centers throughout Arkansas, ATOM's submission of this proposal is a testament that broadband is a key strategic component for healthcare.

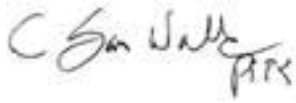
With the burgeoning demands on our existing healthcare system the ATOM proposal provides a deployable yet cost effective opportunity to leveraging existing private sector networks and the public network. More importantly the results of your work in this area will provide communities and patients with the opportunity to have more access to a quality of care that may not otherwise be available.

According to the Benton Foundation, the national telehealth savings is estimated to be \$927 billion over the 25-year period from 2005 to 2030. As a percentage of Arkansas's populations this would be an estimated \$8.7 billion in healthcare savings for Arkansas. In addition the linking of ATOM's healthcare assessments educational and training initiatives through the *Connect Arkansas: Expanding Broadband Use* application to the NTIA will further ensure that access is not just available, but also fully utilized by members of the healthcare community and the public at large.

ATOM has been an active participant in the Connect Arkansas Statewide Broadband Initiative and, as a result, we believe that ATOM's proposal would significantly improve the broadband infrastructure and telehealth services available to a number of remote and other smaller communities (especially some of our unserved and/or underserved areas) throughout Arkansas.

With their commitment to enabling greater access to services and improving healthcare outcomes, while reducing costs, ATOM is in an ideal position to effectively use BTOP funding to expand and enhance healthcare broadband services in our state. Connect Arkansas recommends that you approve their application for broadband infrastructure funding.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "C Sam Walls" with "ARK" written below it.

C. Sam Walls, President
Connect Arkansas



Baptist Health

MEDICAL CENTER
Little Rock

9601 Interstate 630, Exit 7
Little Rock, AR 72205-7299
501 202-2000

I. Dodd Wilson, MD, Chancellor
Office of the Chancellor
University of Arkansas for Medical
Sciences
4301 W. Markham Street / #541
Little Rock, Arkansas 72205

Curtis Lowery, MD
Center for Distance Health
University of Arkansas for Medical
Sciences
4301 W. Markham Street / #518
Little Rock, Arkansas 72205
CLLowery@uams.edu

March 11, 2010

RE: Letter of In-Kind Donation

Dear Drs. Wilson and Lowery:

As a legally and financially responsible partner for the Broadband Technologies Opportunity Program – Middle Mile Infrastructure grant proposal, I wish to commit in kind funding of \$879,242 to be used toward the overall match commitment of this project.

Baptist Health eICU[®] care is proud to play an active role in bringing this forward-thinking project to fruition.

To date we have the following commitments for In-Kind Match...
\$879,242 or a 20% match of our \$4,332,717 Budget for this project.

25% of the equipment listed below will be used for this project and dedicated to it:

VISICU eICU Participating Center Fees	\$500,000
VISICU Service Fees	\$700,000
VISICU Software	\$582,192
Data Center Hardware	\$297,819
Electrical/Cabling/Construction	\$279,464
Rent/Utilities	\$131,076
Data Center/SAN Hardware	\$140,444
Server/Data Center	\$120,105
ICS Vital Signs Viewer 1.0	\$ 30,820
ICS HL7 Vital Signs Interface 1.0	\$ 14,325
Data Center HA Hardware	\$182,672
VERITAS Cluster Software	\$ 26,000
Total	\$ 3,004,917
x 25%	= \$751,229

The following items are additional in-kind match and will be used 100% for this project:

Clinical User Manuals	\$ 2,250
Technical Training Course	\$10,350
System Administration Manuals	\$ 75
Clinical Training Course	\$75,000
Technical and Clinical Instruction Video	\$32,374
Spare Kit	\$ 7,289
Total	\$128,013

Sincerely,



Vicki L. Norman, RN, BSHA
Director, Baptist Health eICU[®] care



Baptist Health

ALL OUR *Best*

9601 Interstate 630, Exit 7
Little Rock, AR 72205-7299
501 202-2000

March 1, 2010

Dodd Wilson, MD, Chancellor
Office of the Chancellor
University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences
4301 W. Markham Street / #541
Little Rock, Arkansas 72205
and
Curtis Lowery, MD
Center for Distance Health
University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences
4301 W. Markham Street / #518
Little Rock, Arkansas 72205
CLLowery@uams.edu

RE: Letter of In-Kind Donation

Dear Drs. Wilson and Lowery:

As a legally and financially responsible partner for the Broadband Technologies Opportunity Program – Middle Mile Infrastructure grant proposal, we intend to commit in kind funding of \$34,800 (cash) to be used toward the overall match commitment of this project.

Baptist Health is pleased to actively participate in bringing this forward-thinking project to fruition.

To date we have the following commitments of In-Kind Match of 20% (\$34,800) for the \$174,000 budgeted amount identified in the grant proposal for Baptist Health Therapy Centers.

Best Regards,

Debbie Green
Director of Telecommunications



Community Health Centers of Arkansas, Inc.
ARKANSAS PRIMARY CARE ASSOCIATION
Expanding Access to Affordable Quality Health Care

Board of Directors

Boston Mountain Rural Health Center, Inc.
Marshall, Arkansas
Melanie Campbell, Secretary

CABUN Rural Health Services, Inc.
Hampton, Arkansas
Melanie Shepphard

Community Clinic at St. Francis House, Inc.
Springdale, Arkansas
Kathy Grisham

Corning Area Healthcare, Inc.
Corning, Arkansas
Brigitte McDonald, Past Chair

East Arkansas Family Health Center, Inc.
West Memphis, Arkansas
Susan Ward Jones, M.D., Chair

Healthy Connections, Inc.
Mena, Arkansas
Bob Young, Treasurer

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Pine Bluff, Arkansas
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Marianna, Arkansas
Denise Purnell/Interim

Mainline Health Systems, Inc.
Portland, Arkansas
Allan Nichols

Mid-Delta Health Systems, Inc.
Clarendon, Arkansas
Al Sliger

River Valley Primary Care Services, Inc.
Ratcliff, Arkansas
Jerry White

White River Rural Health Center, Inc.
Steven Collier, M.D Vice Chair.
Nick Paslidis, M.D.

Community Health Centers of Arkansas, Inc.
Sip B. Mouden, Ex Officio

March 2, 2010

Curtis Lowery, MD
University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences
4301 W. Markham, Slot#518
Little Rock, AR 72205

RE: Arkansas Rural Broadband Infrastructure

Dear Dr. Lowery:

On behalf of the Community Health Centers of Arkansas, Inc. (CHCA), Arkansas Primary Care Association, which represents 12 federally qualified health center organizations and their 68 health center locations, I am pleased to submit this letter in support of your application for the development of Arkansas Telehealth Oversight & Management (ATOM) Network.

Community Health Centers (CHCs) serve as "Health Care Homes" for over 125,000 Arkansans and are a "Safety-Net" for the underserved, uninsured, underinsured, homeless rural and migrant populations. The CHCs provide access to affordable, comprehensive, continuous, quality primary medical, dental, mental health and preventive services. CHC locations, which have increased from 62 to the current 68 as a result of the Arkansas CHCs receiving state line item funding, are located in 57 full or partially medically underserved counties in Arkansas. The number of underserved counties in which CHCs operate has also increased as the number of CHC locations has increased. In addition, seventy five percent of the patients served by the CHC's in Arkansas are below 100% of the Federal poverty level.

Community Health Centers face many challenges in the provision of care to their patients. The development and implementation of an enhanced broadband system linking small rural hospitals with regional hubs will aid in providing access to these underserved populations for remote medical consultations. In addition, this network will provide distance educational opportunities for providers, nurses, administrative and support staff in the CHC's thereby maintaining and increasing the knowledge and skills needed to continue providing quality health care.

CHCA is pleased to support ATOM in this vital provision of broadband services to rural communities in support of much-needed health care reform and to help build economic capacity for communities currently without broadband.

Sincerely,

Sip Mouden, CEO
Community Health Centers of Arkansas, Inc.

JOHN BOOZMAN
3RD DISTRICT, ARKANSAS
www.boozman.house.gov

TRANSPORTATION AND
INFRASTRUCTURE

SUBCOMMITTEES:
AVIATION

HIGHWAYS, TRANSIT, AND PIPELINES

RANKING MEMBER,

WATER RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT

POLICY COMMITTEE

SPEAKER'S TASK FORCE FOR A
DRUG FREE AMERICA

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

FOREIGN AFFAIRS
SUBCOMMITTEES:
AFRICA AND GLOBAL HEALTH
EUROPE
INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM,
NONPROLIFERATION, AND TRADE

VETERANS' AFFAIRS
SUBCOMMITTEES:
RANKING MEMBER,
ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY
HEALTH

March 22, 2010

Dr. Curtis Lowery
Center for Distance Helath
4301 West Markham Street, # 518
Little Rock, AR 72205-7101

Dear Dr. Lowery,

I am very happy to express my support for the Arkansas Telehealth Oversight & Management Network (ATOM) proposal to receive funding through the National Telecommunications and Information Administration. The ATOM will use funds received to improve broadband technology as it relates to healthcare delivery and education.

In a rural state such as Arkansas and particularly in the Third Congressional District, we must look for ways to improve access for our rural citizens. This innovative approach of linking libraries, hospitals and clinics with ATOM is very exciting and highly replicable. The effort will positively impact rural areas of Arkansas and the healthcare delivery challenges they face each day.

Efforts such as this, which propose that the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP) drive the effort to provide connectivity to all corners of the state, are critical to healthcare for un-served and under-served Arkansans. ATOM has an outstanding track record, and I am confident this effort will have a very positive impact on the state. I applaud the incorporation of the educational component as it will train healthcare providers in the innovative field of telemedicine and provide the tools for them to serve in rural areas. I hope you will share my belief that this project clearly fits the application guidelines and will be beneficial to residents in Arkansas.

Thank you in advance for your time and consideration of this matter, and please keep me informed of the status of this funding request. I am grateful for the help that your office provides to the 3rd District.

Sincerely,



John Boozman
Member of Congress

JB:tr

1519 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-4301
FAX: (202) 225-5713

213 WEST MONROE, SUITE K
LOWELL, AR 72745
(479) 725-0400
FAX: (479) 725-0408

4943 OLD GREENWOOD ROAD, SUITE 1
FORT SMITH, AR 72903
(479) 782-7787
FAX: (479) 783-7662

303 NORTH MAIN, SUITE 102
HARRISON, AR 72601
(870) 741-6900
FAX: (870) 741-7741

JOHN BOOZMAN
3RD DISTRICT, ARKANSAS
www.boozman.house.gov

TRANSPORTATION AND
INFRASTRUCTURE

SUBCOMMITTEES:
AVIATION

HIGHWAYS, TRANSIT, AND PIPELINES

RANKING MEMBER,

WATER RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT

POLICY COMMITTEE

SPEAKER'S TASK FORCE FOR A
DRUG FREE AMERICA

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

FOREIGN AFFAIRS
SUBCOMMITTEES:
AFRICA AND GLOBAL HEALTH
EUROPE
INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM,
NONPROLIFERATION, AND TRADE

VETERANS' AFFAIRS
SUBCOMMITTEES:
RANKING MEMBER,
ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY
HEALTH

March 22, 2010

Dr. Curtis Lowery
Center for Distance Health
4301 West Markham Street, # 518
Little Rock, AR 72205-7101

Dear Dr. Lowery,

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In a rural state such as Arkansas and particularly in the Third Congressional District, we must look for ways to improve access for our rural citizens. This innovative approach of linking libraries, hospitals and clinics with ATOM is very exciting and highly replicable. The effort will positively impact rural areas of Arkansas and the healthcare delivery challenges they face each day.

Efforts such as this, which propose that the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP) drive the effort to provide connectivity to all corners of the state, are critical to healthcare for un-served and under-served Arkansans. ATOM has an outstanding track record, and I am confident this effort will have a very positive impact on the state. I applaud the incorporation of the educational component as it will train healthcare providers in the innovative field of telemedicine and provide the tools for them to serve in rural areas. I hope you will share my belief that this project clearly fits the application guidelines and will be beneficial to residents in Arkansas.

Thank you in advance for your time and consideration of this matter, and please keep me informed of the status of this funding request. I am grateful for the help that your office provides to the 3rd District.

Sincerely,



John Boozman
Member of Congress

JB:tr

1519 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-4301
FAX: (202) 225-5713

213 WEST MONROE, SUITE K
LOWELL, AR 72745
(479) 725-0400
FAX: (479) 725-0408

4943 OLD GREENWOOD ROAD, SUITE 1
FORT SMITH, AR 72903
(479) 782-7787
FAX: (479) 783-7662

303 NORTH MAIN, SUITE 102
HARRISON, AR 72601
(870) 741-6900
FAX: (870) 741-7741



Home Care Association of Arkansas

Daniel Rahn, MD, Chancellor
Office of the Chancellor
University of Arkansas for Medical
Sciences
4301 W. Markham Street, #541
Little Rock, Arkansas 72205

Curtis Lowery, MD
Center for Distance Health
University of Arkansas for Medical
Sciences
4301 W. Markham Street, #518
Little Rock, Arkansas 72205
CLLowery@uams.edu

March 11, 2010

RE: Letter of In-Kind Donation

Dear Drs. Rahn and Lowery:

As a legally and financially responsible partner for the Broadband Technologies Opportunity Program – Middle Mile Infrastructure grant proposal, I wish to commit in kind funding of \$1,155,000 to be used toward the overall match commitment of this project.

The HomeCare Association of Arkansas is proud to play an active role in bringing this forward-thinking project to fruition.

To date we have the following commitments for In-Kind Match...

- 385 Telehealth monitors valued at \$3,000 each

Sincerely,

Nancy Elphingstone
Executive Director



MEMS

Curtis Lowery, MD
Center for Distance Health
University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences
4301 W. Markham Street / #518
Little Rock, Arkansas 72205
CLLowery@uams.edu

March 17, 2010

Re: Letter of Participation

Dear Dr. Lowery:

This letter documents the support of Metropolitan Emergency Medical Services (MEMS) to participate in the Arkansas Telehealth Oversight & Management (ATOM) Network's proposed broadband services as delivered through the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP). MEMS is responsible to provide Advanced Life Support services to a population of approximately 500,000 in a service area of 2100 square miles. The MEMS service area consists of the following counties in Central Arkansas: Faulkner, Grant, Lonoke, and Pulaski. MEMS will respond to over 85,000 requests in 2010.

MEMS already works with UAMS utilizing the Cardiac Action Life Link (CALL) program that was established as combined effort between the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences and MEMS to provide an expedited care for patients with acute myocardial infarction. Currently, MEMS has 38 Advanced Life Support 12 lead capable ambulances.

We have expanded our collaboration to include the major catheterization-equipped hospitals in Little Rock and Conway. Paramedics are able to transmit wirelessly the electrocardiogram to the receiving hospital. This effort shortened the time getting such patients to the optimum therapy which led to a decrease in the morbidity and mortality for such high risk patients. As a result, our extensive experience in providing a high technological advanced medical care allows us with confidence to appreciate more the ATOM project.

As we understand, in addition to the programs like the CALL, connection to ATOM will enable our staff access to healthcare education, training, and resources afforded through broadband-enabled interactive video and Internet

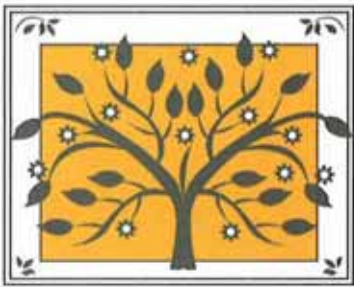
services. We wish to offer our support and participation in this proposed broadband effort. We believe that ATOM will extend our already established effort in providing telehealth care within our coverage area.

The direct result will be increased capability to provide a higher level of patient care at the most critical time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jon M. Swanson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and "S".

Jon M. Swanson
Executive Director



*Mental Health Council
of Arkansas*

ORGANIZATIONS

Birch Tree Communities
PO Box 1589
Benton, AR 72018-1589

Centers for Youth & Families
PO Box 251970
Little Rock, AR 72225-1970

Counseling Associates
350 Salem Rd., Suite 1
Conway, AR 72032

Counseling Clinic
307 East Sevier Street
Benton, AR 72015

Counseling Services
of Eastern Arkansas
4451 North Washington
Forrest City, AR 72335

Delta Counseling Associates
790 Roberts Drive
Monticello, AR 71657

Health Resources of Arkansas
PO Box 2578
Batesville, AR 72503

Little Rock Community
Mental Health Center
PO Box 250337
Little Rock, AR 72225

Mid-South Health Systems
2707 Browns Lane
Jonesboro, AR 72401

Ozark Guidance
PO Box 6430
Springdale, AR 72766

Professional Counseling Associates
P.O. box 24210
Little Rock, AR 72211

South Arkansas Regional
Health Center
715 North College Ave.
El Dorado, AR 71730

Southeast Arkansas Behavioral
Healthcare System
PO Box 1019
Pine Bluff, AR 71613

Southwest Arkansas Counseling
& Mental Health Center
PO Box 1987
Texarkana, AR 75504

Western Arkansas Counseling
& Guidance Center
PO Box 11818
Fort Smith, AR 72917-1818

March 8, 2010

Curtis Lowery, MD
University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences
4301 W. Markham, Slot 518
Little Rock, AR 72205

Dear Dr. Lowery:

I am writing on behalf of the Mental Health Council of Arkansas in support of an application submitted by UAMS for the Arkansas Rural Broadband Infrastructure grant to further develop the Arkansas Telehealth Network. Geographically, Arkansas is predominantly a rural state. These funds have the potential for providing connectivity to health care services while serving the greatest need and improving the quality of life for many Arkansans.

As part of the health care system in the state of Arkansas, connectivity for our patients through the health care system is a priority. In connecting regional hospitals and other healthcare providers with high-speed fiber optic lines, this will provide an opportunity to link these facilities to regional hubs. The direct result will be increased capacity, creating a higher level of patient care throughout Arkansas.

Additional benefits for this project include; job creation through the extension of broadband in some of our most economically distressed communities and making them more viable candidates for industry locations. Further, as we continue to address our transportation and energy issues, providing distance learning through the reduction of travel will provide another direct benefit for this funding.

Please let me know if you would like additional information concerning my support for this application.

Sincerely,

Pam Christie, Executive Director
Mental Health Council of Arkansas

501 South Woodlane, Suite 104, Little Rock, AR 72201
Phone: (501) 372-7062 • Fax: (501) 372-8039
E-mail: mhca@mhca.org • Website: www.mhca.org

UAMS BTOP GRANT - Methodist Family Health, Inc.

Site List

Methodist Counseling Clinic
1600 Aldersgate Road
Little Rock, AR 72205

Estimated Budget

Install	400.00
Router	1,400.00
Line charges for three years	21,500.00
Polycom Video confer equipmt	4,400.00
total	<u>27,700.00</u>

Methodist Counseling Clinic
1311 Stone Street
Jonesboro, AR 72401

Install	400.00
Router	1,400.00
Line charges for three years	21,500.00
Polycom Video confer equipmt	4,400.00
total	<u>27,700.00</u>

Methodist Counseling Clinic
1539 Harrison Street
Batesville, AR 72543

Install	400.00
Router	1,400.00
Line charges for three years	21,500.00
Polycom Video confer equipmt	4,400.00
total	<u>27,700.00</u>

Magale Therapeutic Day School
815 Hwy 160
Magnolia, AR 71753

Install	400.00
Router	1,400.00
Line charges for three years	21,500.00
Polycom Video confer equipmt	4,400.00
total	<u>27,700.00</u>

Grand Total	<u><u>83,100.00</u></u>
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March 2, 2010

Methodist
Children's
Home

Methodist
Behavioral
Hospital

Arkansas
CARES

Methodist
Residential
Treatment
Center

Methodist
Therapeutic
Group
Homes

Methodist
Therapeutic
Foster
Care

Methodist
Emergency
Shelter

Methodist
Day Treatment
School

Methodist
Therapeutic
Preschool

Methodist
Counseling
Clinic

Curtis Lowers M.D.
University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences
4301 W. Markham, Slot 518
Little Rock, AR 72205

RE: Arkansas Rural Broadband Infrastructure

Dear Dr. Lowery:

On behalf of Arkansas Behavioral Health Private Providers Association and Methodist Family Health, we are pleased to offer this letter of support of your application for the development of the Arkansas Telehealth Oversight & Management (ATOM) Network.

Because of Methodist Family Health's statewide role in providing quality behavioral healthcare services to Arkansas, we feel this project will help strengthen the State's telecommunications and information infrastructure, providing rural facilities with efficient access to specialty consultation, continuing education, and pertinent health information. With Arkansas's vast amount of rural communities, access to telemedicine will improve access to healthcare and contribute to enhanced patient safety and quality of care for many areas of the state challenged by healthcare professional shortages and significant geographic distances.

Our organization is pleased to provide support that will allow rural hospitals throughout Arkansas to communicate electronically with providers enabling your program to deliver healthcare to patients regardless of geographic location by actively participating in an evolving nationwide healthcare delivery network.

Arkansas Behavioral Health Private Providers Association and Methodist Family Health are excited to see the scope of this project and respectfully ask the commission to support this application for the benefit of the residents of Arkansas.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "William A. Altom". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being the most prominent.

William Altom
President/CEO

1600 Aldersgate Road
Suite 200

Little Rock, AR 72205

P.O. Box 56050

Little Rock, AR 72215

Phone: 501.661.0720

Fax: 501.687.0839

methodistfamily.org



Methodist
Behavioral
Hospital

March 3, 2010

Methodist
Residential
Treatment
Center

Curtis Lowery, M.D.
University of Arkansas for Medical Services
4301 W. Markham, Slot 518

Methodist
Therapeutic
Group
Homes

RE: Arkansas Rural Broadband Infrastructure

Methodist
Therapeutic
Foster
Care

Dear Dr. Lowery:

Methodist Family Health, Inc. is pleased to be a participant in the application for the development of the Arkansas Tele-health Oversight and Management (ATOM) Network.

Methodist
Emergency
Shelter

Methodist Family Health, Inc. will provide a thirty percent cash/in-kind match of \$24,930.00 for the portion of the proposal related to the four Methodist Family Health, Inc. sites.

Methodist
Day Treatment
School

Sincerely,

Methodist
Therapeutic
Preschool

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William A. Altom".

William A. Altom, MBA
President/CEO

Methodist
Counseling
Clinic

1600 Aldersgate Road

Suite 200

Little Rock, AR 72205

P.O. Box 56050

Little Rock, AR 72215

Phone: 501.661.0720

Fax: 501.687.0839

methodistfamily.org

St. Vincent Health System

March 1, 2010

I. Dodd Wilson, MD, Chancellor
Office of the Chancellor
University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences
4301 West Markham Street, #541
Little Rock, AR 72205

Curtis Lowery, MD
Center for Distance Health
University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences
4301 West Markham Street, #518
Little Rock, AR 72205

Dear Drs. Wilson and Lowery:

As a financially-responsible partner in the Broadband Technologies Opportunity Program – Middle Mile Infrastructure grant proposal, I wish to commit cash funding of \$53,600 to be used toward the overall match commitment of this project.

St. Vincent Health System is proud to play an active role in bringing this forward-thinking project to fruition.

Sincerely,



Matthew E. Cox
Senior Vice President and
Chief Financial Officer

St. Vincent Health System

PETER D. BANKO, FACHE

President and
Chief Executive Officer

March 3, 2010

Curtis Lowery, MD
University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences
4301 W. Markham Street / #518
Little Rock, Arkansas 72205

Dear Dr. Lowery:

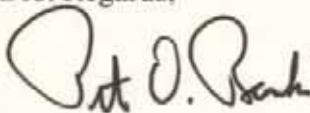
St. Vincent Health System fully supports the Arkansas Telehealth Oversight and Management (ATOM) Network's proposed broadband services as delivered through the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP). Our understanding is that connection to the ATOM Network will enable our staff and patients to access health care education, training, health care services, health care information exchange, and resources afforded through broadband-enabled ATOM Network. Being one of the Regional Hubs with 100 meg capacity, we wish to pledge our support and participation in this proposed broadband effort.

Medical care in Arkansas is primarily located in the larger urban areas leaving many without access to necessary health services. These funds have the potential for providing connectivity to health care services while serving the greatest need and improving the quality of life for many Arkansans.

As part of the health care system in the state of Arkansas, connectivity for our patients through the health care system is a priority. In connecting regional hospitals with high-speed fiber optic lines, this will provide an opportunity to link smaller hospitals to regional hubs. The direct result will be increased capacity creating a higher level of patient care throughout Arkansas. Additional benefits include job creation through the extension of broadband in some of our most economically distressed communities and making them more viable candidates for industry locations. Further, as we continue to address our transportation and energy issues, providing distance learning through the reduction of travel will provide another direct benefit for this funding.

I look forward to helping make this initiative become reality!

Best Regards,



Peter D. Banko
President & CEO



UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS SYSTEM

Office of the President

March 2, 2010

Dr. Curtis Lowery, Chair
Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology
Director of UAMS Center for Distance Health
University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences
4301 W. Markham St., Slot 518
Little Rock, AR 72205

Dear Dr. Lowery:

As Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Arkansas Research Education and Optical Network (ARE-ON), I am pleased to submit a letter of support for ARE-ON's participation in the Arkansas Telehealth Oversight and Management Network's (ATOM) proposal concerning broadband services through the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP). As ARE-ON's development progresses, a collaborative environment that empowers each higher education institution to use high performance networking and computing for research, education, telemedicine and emergency preparedness is being established.

In order to keep pace with the demand for better access, more personalized research and teaching methodologies, and a global set of shared tools, research and education networks like ARE-ON are becoming an increasingly important resource for higher education. Through ARE-ON, the public, comprehensive four-year universities, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, and the University of Arkansas' Division of Agriculture will have access to the National LambdaRail and Internet2 organizations. I truly believe ARE-ON will provide opportunities for students, researchers, and faculty members previously unavailable in our state.

There is such a great need for the type of high-speed, fiber optic broadband connectivity between and among the university campuses, that the investment this proposal offers is tremendous. Connection to the telehealth network will provide access to healthcare education, training and resources through broadband-enabled interactive video and Internet services. ARE-ON will continue to work collaboratively with UAMS' Center for Distance Health to secure local loop resources, and pledges its support and participation in the proposed broadband effort.

ARE-ON's mission is to promote, develop, and apply advanced applications and communications technologies to support and enhance research, education, telemedicine and emergency preparedness. ARE-ON has the capacity to contribute to the overall economic development and well-being of the state for years to come.

Thank you for your efforts on behalf of higher education. As Chair of the ARE-ON Board of Directors, please accept this letter as representing the Board's full support of the proposal.

Sincerely,

B. Alan Sugg
President

2404 North University Avenue / Little Rock, Arkansas 72207-3608 / 501-686-2505 / Fax 501-686-2506

University of Arkansas, Fayetteville / University of Arkansas at Little Rock / University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff
University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences / University of Arkansas at Monticello / Division of Agriculture / Criminal Justice Institute
Arkansas Archeological Survey / Phillips Community College of the University of Arkansas / University of Arkansas Community College at Hope
University of Arkansas Community College at Batesville / Cossatot Community College of the University of Arkansas
University of Arkansas Community College at Morrilton / University of Arkansas at Fort Smith
Arkansas School for Mathematics, Sciences, and the Arts / University of Arkansas Clinton School of Public Service

The University of Arkansas is an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution.

Office of the Vice Chancellor

4301 W. Markham St., #599
Little Rock, AR 72205-7199

501-686-5260
501-686-8506 (fax)

Area Health Education Centers Program
Rural Hospital Program

www.uams.edu



March 2, 2010

Curtis Lowery, MD
Center for Distance Health
University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences
4301 W. Markham Street #518
Little Rock, Arkansas 72205
CLLowery@uams.edu

RE: Letter of Participation

Dear Dr. Lowery:

This letter documents the support of the UAMS AHEC Program to participate in the Arkansas Telehealth Oversight and Management (ATOM) Network's proposed broadband services as delivered through the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP). Connection to ATOM will enable our staff and patients to access healthcare education, training, healthcare services, healthcare information exchange, and resources afforded through the broadband-enabled ATOM Network.

The Area Health Education Centers are uniquely situated to provide the infrastructure for Primary Hub Community Anchor facilities by virtue of our organizational structure, partnerships with multiple community organizations, as well as our placement around the state in most major populated areas.

We are committed to providing the following resources to assure success for this program: Support for personnel at \$80,000; Space and utilities at \$103,000; New equipment at \$351,000; Existing equipment at \$320,000, for a total of \$854,000. We feel our participation will achieve improvement in the health of all Arkansans and help us reach our program goals statewide.

Sincerely,

Mark B. Mengel, MD, MPH
Vice Chancellor, Regional Programs
Executive Director, AHEC Program

MBM:he



Office of the Chancellor

4301 W. Markham St., #541
Little Rock, AR 72205-7199

501-686-5681
501-686-8137 (fax)

www.uams.edu
www.uamshealth.com

Daniel W. Rahn, M.D.
Chancellor



March 22, 2010

National Telecommunications and Information Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce

RE: BTOP Comprehensive Community Infrastructure: UAMS Match
Commitment

Dear BTOP Reviewer:

In application of the BTOP Comprehensive Community Infrastructure grant proposal, I am confirming in-kind match of \$7,170,530.54 from the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS) that will be used as a portion of the total match of \$46,632,013.28 (31%) of the total cost of the project.

The UAMS Center for Distance Health is proud to play a leadership role in bringing this forward-thinking project to fruition. This dedicated in-kind match is one of many contributions we intend to make toward the success of this project.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dan Rahn". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Daniel W. Rahn, MD
Chancellor

DWR:jb

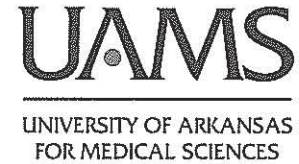
Office of the Chancellor

4301 W. Markham St., #541
Little Rock, AR 72205-7199

501-686-5681
501-686-8137 (fax)

www.uams.edu
www.uamshealth.com

Daniel W. Rahn, M.D.
Chancellor



March 22, 2010

National Telecommunications and Information Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce

RE: BTOP Comprehensive Community Infrastructure: UAMS Match
Commitment

Dear BTOP Reviewer:

As the legally and financially responsible applicant for the BTOP Comprehensive Community Infrastructure grant proposal, I am confirming match of \$46,720,413 for the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences BTOP Comprehensive Community Infrastructure application. This match includes in-kind and cash from UAMS, the Arkansas Telehealth Oversight Management (ATOM) and the Arkansas Research and Education Optical Network (ARE-ON). ARE-On is a sub-awardee of this proposal. The \$46,720,413 match represents 31% of the total project request of \$149,184,650.

The UAMS Center for Distance Health is proud to play an active role in bringing this forward-thinking project to fruition. This dedicated in-kind and cash match is one of many contributions we intend to make toward making this project a success.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dan Rahn". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Daniel W. Rahn, MD
Chancellor

DWR:jb

MARION BERRY

1ST DISTRICT, ARKANSAS

COMMITTEE:
APPROPRIATIONS

BUDGET

2305 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
TEL.: (202) 225-4076
FAX: (202) 225-5602

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0401

108 EAST HUNTINGTON AVENUE
JONESBORO, AR 72401
TEL.: (800) 866-2701
FAX: (870) 972-4605

112 SOUTH FIRST STREET
CABOT, AR 72023
TEL.: (501) 843-3043
FAX: (501) 843-4955

1 EAST 7TH STREET
SUITE 200
MOUNTAIN HOME, AR 72653
TEL: (870) 425-3510
FAX: (870) 425-3511

March 10, 2010

Curtis Lowery, MD
Director, Center for Distance Health
UAMS College of Medicine
4301 West Markham, Slot 518
Little Rock, Arkansas 72205

Dear Dr. Lowery:

I am writing in support of the grant application submitted by the Arkansas Telehealth Oversight & Management Network (ATOM), which will improve broadband technology as it relates to healthcare delivery and education. In a rural state such as Arkansas and particularly in the First Congressional District, we must look for ways to improve access for our rural citizens. I believe this innovative approach of linking libraries, hospitals, and clinics with ATOM is exciting and highly replicable. The effort will positively impact all rural areas of Arkansas and the healthcare delivery challenges they face each day.

Efforts such as this, which propose that the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP) drive the effort to provide connectivity to all corners of the state, are critical to healthcare for un-served and under-served Arkansans. ATOM has an outstanding track record, and I am confident this effort will have a very positive impact on the state. I applaud the incorporation of the educational component as it will train healthcare providers in the innovative field of telemedicine and providing the tools for them to serve in rural areas.

Please accept this letter as notification that I support the Arkansas Telehealth Oversight & Management Network's initiative and appreciate their dedication to the needs of Arkansans. It is with pleasure that I serve the people of the First Congressional District of Arkansas.

Sincerely,



MARION BERRY

Member of Congress

MB/ka

CC: Cherry Duckett

MIKE ROSS
FOURTH DISTRICT OF ARKANSAS



**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
ENERGY AND COMMERCE**
SUBCOMMITTEES:
HEALTH
ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT
OVERSIGHT AND INVESTIGATIONS

**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
FOREIGN AFFAIRS**

**NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY
ORGANIZATION (NATO)
PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY**

WASHINGTON
2436 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
1-800-223-2220
(202) 225-3772
(202) 225-1314 FAX

<http://ross.house.gov>
mike.ross@mail.house.gov

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

March 8, 2010

Curtis Lowery, MD
Director, Center for Distance Health
UAMS College of Medicine
4301 West Markham, Slot 518
Little Rock, Arkansas 72205

Dear Dr. Lowery:

I am writing in support of the grant application submitted by the Arkansas Telehealth Oversight & Management Network (ATOM), which will improve broadband technology as it relates to healthcare delivery and education. In a rural state such as Arkansas and particularly in the Fourth Congressional District, we must look for ways to improve access for our rural citizens. This innovative approach of linking libraries, hospitals, and clinics with ATOM is very exciting and highly replicable. The effort will positively impact rural areas of Arkansas and the healthcare delivery challenges they face each day

Efforts such as this, which propose that the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP) drive the effort to provide connectivity to all corners of the state, are critical to healthcare for un-served and under-served Arkansans. ATOM has an outstanding track record, and I am confident this effort will have a very positive impact on the state. I applaud the incorporation of the educational component as it will train healthcare providers in the innovative field of telemedicine and providing the tools for them to serve in rural areas.

While I know funding is limited, I am hopeful that you will give the Arkansas Telehealth Oversight & Management Network your full consideration when reviewing its application. Please do not hesitate to contact Jeffery Weaver, my District Director, at (501) 520-5892 with any questions that you have regarding this matter.

Sincerely,


Mike Ross

MR: lag

HOT SPRINGS
300 EXCHANGE STREET
SUITE A
HOT SPRINGS NATIONAL PARK, AR 71901
(501) 520-5892
(501) 520-5873 FAX

PINE BLUFF
GEORGE HOWARD JR. FEDERAL BUILDING
100 EAST 8TH AVENUE
ROOM 2521
PINE BLUFF, AR 71601
(870) 536-3376
(870) 536-4058 FAX

EL DORADO
UNION COUNTY COURTHOUSE
SUITE 406
101 NORTH WASHINGTON
EL DORADO, AR 71730
(870) 881-0681
(870) 881-0683 FAX

PRESCOTT
221 WEST MAIN STREET
PRESCOTT, AR 71857
(870) 887-6787
(870) 887-6799 FAX

BLANCHE LAMBERT LINCOLN
ARKANSAS

912 WEST FOURTH STREET
LITTLE ROCK, AR 72201
(501) 375-2593
(800) 352-8364 (IN ARKANSAS ONLY)

www.senate.gov/~lincoln

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

March 8, 2010

COMMITTEES:
AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY
ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES
FINANCE
SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING

Curtis Lowery, MD
Director, Center for Distance Health
UAMS College of Medicine
4301 West Markham, Slot 518
Little Rock, Arkansas 72205

Dear Dr. Lowery:

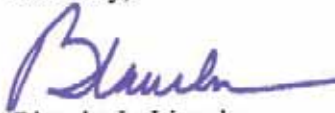
It is my pleasure to write in support of the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS) Application to the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP) for funding to improve broadband technology as it relates to healthcare delivery and education. In a rural state such as Arkansas, we must look for ways to improve access for our rural citizens.

UAMS' innovative approach of linking libraries, hospitals, clinics with the UAMS Center for Distance Health together is exciting and may be easily replicated. This proposal will positively impact rural areas of Arkansas and the healthcare delivery challenges they face each day.

Providing broadband connectivity to all corners of the state, is critical to healthcare for un-served and under-served Arkansans. The UAMS Center for Distance Health has an outstanding track record and I am confident this effort will have a positive impact on the state. I applaud the incorporation of the educational component as it will train healthcare providers in the innovative field of telemedicine and provide the tools for them to serve in rural areas.

I wholeheartedly offer my support to your application. Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can be of assistance to you in the future.

Sincerely,



Blanche L. Lincoln

BLL: cgp

4001 Rodney Parham Road
Little Rock, AR 72212



Jeffery R. Gardner
President and Chief Executive Officer

501-748-7700
501-748-7400 fax

March 17, 2010

Curtis Lowery, MD
Center for Distance Health
University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences
4301 W. Markham Street / #518
Little Rock, Arkansas 72205
CLLowery@uams.edu

RE: Letter of Participation

Dear Dr. Lowery:

Windstream Communications offers this letter of support on behalf of the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences' proposed American Recovery and Reinvestment Act broadband application as delivered through the Arkansas Telehealth Network.

It is my belief that connecting libraries, hospitals, medical centers and other health care facilities to the Arkansas Telehealth Network will enable the citizens of the great state of Arkansas (the general public) to access healthcare education, training, and other resources afforded through broadband-enabled interactive video and Internet services.

The UAMS Broadband Infrastructure Proposal will expand our state's current broadband connectivity and computer and interactive video equipment. I believe this expansion will increase Arkansans interest in making use of broadband to enhance their lives. Please know that Windstream Communications fully supports this proposal.

Sincerely,

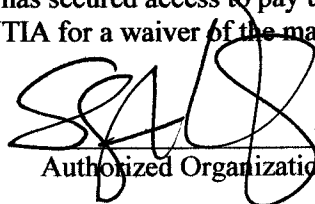
A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jeff Gardner". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jeff Gardner
Chief Executive Officer
Windstream

**U.S. Department of Commerce
Broadband Technology Opportunities Program
Authentication and Certifications**

1. I certify that I am the duly Authorized Organization Representative (AOR) of the applicant organization, and that I have been authorized to submit the attached application on its behalf.
2. I certify that I have examined this application, that all of the information and responses in this application, including certifications, and forms submitted, all of which are part of this grant application, are material representations of fact and true and correct to the best of my knowledge, that the entity(ies) that is requesting grant funding pursuant to this application and any subgrantees and subcontractors will comply with the terms, conditions, purposes, and federal requirements of the grant program; that no kickbacks were paid to anyone; and that a false, fictitious, or fraudulent statements or claims on this application are grounds for denial or termination of a grant award, and/or possible punishment by a fine or imprisonment as provided in 18 U.S.C. §1001 and civil violations of the False Claims Act.
3. I certify that the entity(ies) I represent have and will comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, rules, regulations, ordinances, codes, orders and programmatic rules and requirements relating to the project. I acknowledge that failure to do so may result in rejection or deobligation of the grant or loan award. I acknowledge that failure to comply with all federal and program rules could result in civil or criminal prosecution by the appropriate law enforcement authorities.
4. I certify that the entity(ies) I represent has and will comply with all applicable administrative and federal statutory, regulatory, and policy requirements set forth in the Department of Commerce Pre-Award Notification Requirements for Grants and Cooperative Agreements ("DOC Pre-Award Notification"), published in the Federal Register on February 11, 2008 (73 FR 7696), as amended; DOC Financial Assistance Standard Terms and Conditions (Mar. 8, 2009); the Department of Commerce American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Award Terms (Apr. 9, 2009); and any Special Award Terms and Conditions that are included by the Grants Officer in the award.
5. I certify that any funds awarded to the entity(ies) I represent as a result of this application will not result in any unjust enrichment of such entity(ies) or duplicate any funds such entity(ies) receive under federal universal service support programs administered by the Universal Service Administrative Corporation (USAC).
6. I certify that the entity(ies) I represent has secured access to pay the 20% of total project cost or has petitioned the Assistant Secretary of NTIA for a waiver of the matching requirement.

March 26, 2010
Date


Authorized Organization Representative Signature

Suzanne Alstadt, MPA, CRA
Print Name

Director, Office of Research Sponsored Programs, UAMS
Title

BUDGET INFORMATION - Construction Programs

OMB Approval No. 4040-0008
Expiration Date 07/30/2010

NOTE: Certain Federal assistance programs require additional computations to arrive at the Federal share of project costs eligible for participation. If such is the case, you will be notified.

COST CLASSIFICATION	a. Total Cost	b. Costs Not Allowable for Participation	c. Total Allowable Costs (Columns a-b)
1. Administrative and legal expenses	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>
2. Land, structures, rights-of-way, appraisals, etc.	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>
3. Relocation expenses and payments	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>
4. Architectural and engineering fees	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>
5. Other architectural and engineering fees	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>
6. Project inspection fees	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>
7. Site work	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>
8. Demolition and removal	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>
9. Construction	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>
10. Equipment	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>
11. Miscellaneous	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>
12. SUBTOTAL (sum of lines 1- 11)	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>
13. Contingencies	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>
14. SUBTOTAL	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>
15. Project (program) income	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>
16. TOTAL PROJECT COSTS (subtract #15 from #14)	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>
FEDERAL FUNDING			
17. Federal assistance requested, calculate as follows: (Consult Federal agency for Federal percentage share.) Enter eligible costs from line 16c Multiply X <input type="text"/> % Enter the resulting Federal share.			\$ <input type="text"/>

INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE SF-424C

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 180 minutes per response, including time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (0348-0041), Washington, DC 20503.

PLEASE DO NOT RETURN YOUR COMPLETED FORM TO THE OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET. SEND IT TO THE ADDRESS PROVIDED BY THE SPONSORING AGENCY.

This sheet is to be used for the following types of applications: (1) "New" (means a new [previously unfunded] assistance award); (2) "Continuation" (means funding in a succeeding budget period which stemmed from a prior agreement to fund); and (3) "Revised" (means any changes in the Federal Government's financial obligations or contingent liability from an existing obligation). If there is no change in the award amount, there is no need to complete this form. Certain Federal agencies may require only an explanatory letter to effect minor (no cost) changes. If you have questions, please contact the Federal agency.

Column a. - If this is an application for a "New" project, enter the total estimated cost of each of the items listed on lines 1 through 16 (as applicable) under "COST CLASSIFICATION."

If this application entails a change to an existing award, enter the eligible amounts *approved under the previous award* for the items under "COST CLASSIFICATION."

Column b. - If this is an application for a "New" project, enter that portion of the cost of each item in Column a. which is *not* allowable for Federal assistance. Contact the Federal agency for assistance in determining the allowability of specific costs.

If this application entails a change to an existing award, enter the adjustment [+ or (-)] to the previously approved costs (from column a.) reflected in this application.

Column. - This is the net of lines 1 through 16 in columns "a." and "b."

Line 1 - Enter estimated amounts needed to cover administrative expenses. Do not include costs which are related to the normal functions of government. Allowable legal costs are generally only those associated with the purchases of land which is allowable for Federal participation and certain services in support of construction of the project.

Line 2 - Enter estimated site and right(s)-of-way acquisition costs (this includes purchase, lease, and/or easements).

Line 3 - Enter estimated costs related to relocation advisory assistance, replacement housing, relocation payments to displaced persons and businesses, etc.

Line 4 - Enter estimated basic engineering fees related to construction (this includes start-up services and preparation of project performance work plan).

Line 5 - Enter estimated engineering costs, such as surveys, tests, soil borings, etc.

Line 6 - Enter estimated engineering inspection costs.

Line 7 - Enter estimated costs of site preparation and restoration which are not included in the basic construction contract.

Line 9 - Enter estimated cost of the construction contract.

Line 10 - Enter estimated cost of office, shop, laboratory, safety equipment, etc. to be used at the facility, if such costs are not included in the construction contract.

Line 11 - Enter estimated miscellaneous costs.

Line 12 - Total of items 1 through 11.

Line 13 - Enter estimated contingency costs. (Consult the Federal agency for the percentage of the estimated construction cost to use.)

Line 14 - Enter the total of lines 12 and 13.

Line 15 - Enter estimated program income to be earned during the grant period, e.g., salvaged materials, etc.

Line 16 - Subtract line 15 from line 14.

Line 17 - This block is for the computation of the Federal share. Multiply the total allowable project costs from line 16, column "c." by the Federal percentage share (this may be up to 100 percent; consult Federal agency for Federal percentage share) and enter the product on line 17.

ASSURANCES - CONSTRUCTION PROGRAMS

OMB Approval No. 4040-0009
Expiration Date 07/30/2010

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 15 minutes per response, including time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (0348-0042), Washington, DC 20503.

PLEASE DO NOT RETURN YOUR COMPLETED FORM TO THE OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET. SEND IT TO THE ADDRESS PROVIDED BY THE SPONSORING AGENCY.

NOTE: Certain of these assurances may not be applicable to your project or program. If you have questions, please contact the Awarding Agency. Further, certain Federal assistance awarding agencies may require applicants to certify to additional assurances. If such is the case, you will be notified.

As the duly authorized representative of the applicant, I certify that the applicant:

1. Has the legal authority to apply for Federal assistance, and the institutional, managerial and financial capability (including funds sufficient to pay the non-Federal share of project costs) to ensure proper planning, management and completion of the project described in this application.
2. Will give the awarding agency, the Comptroller General of the United States and, if appropriate, the State, the right to examine all records, books, papers, or documents related to the assistance; and will establish a proper accounting system in accordance with generally accepted accounting standards or agency directives.
3. Will not dispose of, modify the use of, or change the terms of the real property title, or other interest in the site and facilities without permission and instructions from the awarding agency. Will record the Federal awarding agency directives and will include a covenant in the title of real property acquired in whole or in part with Federal assistance funds to assure non-discrimination during the useful life of the project.
4. Will comply with the requirements of the assistance awarding agency with regard to the drafting, review and approval of construction plans and specifications.
5. Will provide and maintain competent and adequate engineering supervision at the construction site to ensure that the complete work conforms with the approved plans and specifications and will furnish progress reports and such other information as may be required by the assistance awarding agency or State.
6. Will initiate and complete the work within the applicable time frame after receipt of approval of the awarding agency.
7. Will establish safeguards to prohibit employees from using their positions for a purpose that constitutes or presents the appearance of personal or organizational conflict of interest, or personal gain.
8. Will comply with the Intergovernmental Personnel Act of 1970 (42 U.S.C. §§4728-4763) relating to prescribed standards for merit systems for programs funded under one of the 19 statutes or regulations specified in Appendix A of OPM's Standards for a Merit System of Personnel Administration (5 C.F.R. 900, Subpart F).
9. Will comply with the Lead-Based Paint Poisoning Prevention Act (42 U.S.C. §§4801 et seq.) which prohibits the use of lead-based paint in construction or rehabilitation of residence structures.
10. Will comply with all Federal statutes relating to non-discrimination. These include but are not limited to: (a) Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (P.L. 88-352) which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color or national origin; (b) Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, as amended (20 U.S.C. §§1681 1683, and 1685-1686), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex; (c) Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended (29 U.S.C. §794), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of handicaps; (d) the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended (42 U.S.C. §§6101-6107), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of age; (e) the Drug Abuse Office and Treatment Act of 1972 (P.L. 92-255), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination on the basis of drug abuse; (f) the Comprehensive Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism Prevention, Treatment and Rehabilitation Act of 1970 (P.L. 91-616), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination on the basis of alcohol abuse or alcoholism; (g) §§523 and 527 of the Public Health Service Act of 1912 (42 U.S.C. §§290 dd-3 and 290 ee 3), as amended, relating to confidentiality of alcohol and drug abuse patient records; (h) Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. §§3601 et seq.), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination in the sale, rental or financing of housing; (i) any other nondiscrimination provisions in the specific statute(s) under which application for Federal assistance is being made; and, (j) the requirements of any other nondiscrimination statute(s) which may apply to the application.

11. Will comply, or has already complied, with the requirements of Titles II and III of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970 (P.L. 91-646) which provide for fair and equitable treatment of persons displaced or whose property is acquired as a result of Federal and federally-assisted programs. These requirements apply to all interests in real property acquired for project purposes regardless of Federal participation in purchases.
12. Will comply with the provisions of the Hatch Act (5 U.S.C. §§1501-1508 and 7324-7328) which limit the political activities of employees whose principal employment activities are funded in whole or in part with Federal funds.
13. Will comply, as applicable, with the provisions of the Davis-Bacon Act (40 U.S.C. §§276a to 276a-7), the Copeland Act (40 U.S.C. §276c and 18 U.S.C. §874), and the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act (40 U.S.C. §§327-333) regarding labor standards for federally-assisted construction subagreements.
14. Will comply with flood insurance purchase requirements of Section 102(a) of the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 (P.L. 93-234) which requires recipients in a special flood hazard area to participate in the program and to purchase flood insurance if the total cost of insurable construction and acquisition is \$10,000 or more.
15. Will comply with environmental standards which may be prescribed pursuant to the following: (a) institution of environmental quality control measures under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (P.L. 91-190) and Executive Order (EO) 11514; (b) notification of violating facilities pursuant to EO 11738; (c) protection of wetlands pursuant to EO 11990; (d) evaluation of flood hazards in floodplains in accordance with EO 11988; (e) assurance of project consistency with the approved State management program developed under the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. §§1451 et seq.); (f) conformity of Federal actions to State (Clean Air) implementation Plans under Section 176(c) of the Clean Air Act of 1955, as amended (42 U.S.C. §§7401 et seq.); (g) protection of underground sources of drinking water under the Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974, as amended (P.L. 93-523); and, (h) protection of endangered species under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (P.L. 93-205).
16. Will comply with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968 (16 U.S.C. §§1271 et seq.) related to protecting components or potential components of the national wild and scenic rivers system.
17. Will assist the awarding agency in assuring compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (16 U.S.C. §470), EO 11593 (identification and protection of historic properties), and the Archaeological and Historic Preservation Act of 1974 (16 U.S.C. §§469a-1 et seq).
18. Will cause to be performed the required financial and compliance audits in accordance with the Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996 and OMB Circular No. A-1 33, "Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations."
19. Will comply with all applicable requirements of all other Federal laws, executive orders, regulations, and policies governing this program.

*SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED CERTIFYING OFFICIAL	*TITLE	
*APPLICANT ORGANIZATION		*DATE SUBMITTED

18.3 Buildout Timeline			
Name: ATOM Network			
Time Period	Quarter	List All Relevant Milestones	Support for Reasonableness/Data Points
Year 0		Define specs for Site Equipment - circuit type, computer, video conf unit, network equipment	Specs and quantities were determined as part of building budget for grant application
		Specify CDH Infrastructure - Video Conference Multipoint controll units (MCU), Video Communication Servers (VCS), Content Manger/Recording appliance, additional licenses for scheduling & call center software software, Network Management/monitoring software, etc.	Specs and quantities were determined as part of building budget for grant application
Year 1	Qtr 1	Issue request for bid for all leased circuits, award bids, and issue initial order (Telecommunication vendors that can provide services in the hub's region are expected to bid)	Procurement laws require bid, award, order process. Circuits for all locations will be included with payment beginning when the circuit is installed at a location.
		Issue request for bid for all CDH Infrastructure hardware and software, award bid, and order	CDH Infrastructure to support the added video confereneue units and video conference sessions must be purchased and in place prior to additional video units being installed
		Issue bid requests for all site equipment, award bids, and issue initial orders	Similar equipment will be bid as a whole to get best possible pricing and orders placed in quantities in line with implementation schedule
		Issue and award bid for ARE-ON Extension Engineering Services	Procurement laws require bid, award, order process. Engineering services will determine optimal routes to take to extend the ARE-ON optical network to 22 two-year colleges and Southern Ark Univ (SAU)
Year 1	Qtr 2	Installation of CDH Infrastructure Software and hardware	CDH infrastructure items must be installed and operational prior to the new sites' video equipment being added to the ATOM network - scheduling and management tools require per device licensing
		Begin negotiation with dark fiber providers with fiber in the vicinity (or capable of providing) of existing ARE-ON network and extending to the new ARE-ON location	Where possible IRUs will be negoitated (a standard method for being granted right to use dark fiber). When IRUs are not an option these alternatives will be explored 1) installation of conduit and fiber consistent with existing regulations 2) partnering with fiber provider to install new fiber or 3) long term lease with service provider for dark fiber
		Issue and award bid for ARE-ON Extension Construction Services	Procurement laws require bid, award, order process. Construction services install fiber based on engineering design to extend the ARE-ON optical network to 2 year colleges
		Begin installation of circuits & site equipment joining 8 hubs to 7 ARE-ON universities (2 hubs in Fayetteville go to ARE-ON UA Fayetteville)	Regional Hubs will first be connected to ARE-ON to create the main network transport, this requires routers & circuits be installed at both the AREON univ and the ATOM hub. Part of install includes site equipment - PCs, video equip, etc.

18.3 Buildout Timeline			
Name: ATOM Network			
Time Period	Quarter	List All Relevant Milestones	Support for Reasonableness/Data Points
Year 1	Qtr 3	Installation of circuits & site equipment joining the remaining 7 hubs to 4 ARE-ON universities (UAMS is both a hub and a AREON univ and included here, 3 hubs connected to UAMS)	Regional Hubs will first be connected to ARE-ON to create the main network transport, this requires routers & circuits be installed at both the AREON univ and the ATOM hub. Part of install includes site equipment - PCs, video equip, etc.
		Order Computers, equipment, and Video Equipment for Year 1 Qtr 4 spoke sites & equip for sites not getting new circuits	Equipment needed for next Qtr spoke installations must be ordered 2 months prior to installation date to ensure on-time delivery that coincides with circuit installation to ensure the project stays on schedule
		Test of video conference and data transfer between all hubs	To ensure the main network backbone transports both video and data, complete testing of simultaneous data and video transfer will be completed
Year 1	Qtr 4	Installation of circuits & site equipment joining 37 spokes to their hubs	Phase 2 is to connect spokes to hubs, this requires routers and circuits be installed and tested, plus site equipment be installed - PCs, Video Equip, etc.
		Installation of site equipment at 50 sites not getting new circuits	Phase 2 includes installation of site equipment
		Order Computers, equipment, and Video Equipment for Year 2 Qtr 1 spoke and equipment only sites	Equipment needed for next Qtr spoke installations must be ordered 2 months prior to installation date to ensure on-time delivery that coincides with circuit installation to ensure the project stays on schedule
Year 2	Qtr 1	Installation of circuits & site equip joining 37 spokes to their hubs	Phase 2 is to connect spokes to hubs, this requires routers and circuits be installed and tested plus site equipment be installed - PCs, Video Equip, etc.
		Installation of site equipment at 50 sites not getting new circuits	Phase 2 includes installation of site equipment
		Order Computers, equipment, and Video Equipment for Year 2 Qtr 2 spoke and equipment only sites	Equipment needed for next Qtr spoke installations must be ordered 2 months prior to installation date to ensure on-time delivery that coincides with circuit installation to ensure the project stays on schedule
Year 2	Qtr 2	Installation of circuits joining 35 spokes to their hubs	Phase 2 is to connect spokes to hubs, this requires routers and circuits be installed and tested plus site equipment be installed - PCs, Video Equip, etc.
		Installation of site equipment at 49 sites not getting new circuits	Phase 2 includes installation of site equipment
		Order Computers, equipment, and Video Equipment for Year 2 Qtr 3 spoke and equipment only sites	Equipment needed for next Qtr spoke installations must be ordered 2 months prior to installation date to ensure on-time delivery that coincides with circuit installation to ensure the project stays on schedule
Year 2	Qtr 3	Complete testing of video and data transfers for all spoke circuits	To ensure the main network backbone transports both video and data, complete testing of simultaneous data and video transfer will be completed

18.3 Buildout Timeline			
Name: ATOM Network			
Time Period	Quarter	List All Relevant Milestones	Support for Reasonableness/Data Points
		Install computers, equipment, and video conference units at 34 spoke, equipment only, sites	Computers and Video Equipment delivery and setup will be coordinated with circuit installation so new equipment can be tested over new circuit to ensure it works
		Installation of site equipment at 49 sites not getting new circuits	Phase 2 includes installation of site equipment
		Order Computers, equipment, and Video Equipment for Year 2 Qtr 4 spoke sites	Equipment needed for next Qtr spoke installations must be ordered 2 months prior to installation date to ensure on-time delivery that coincides with circuit installation to ensure the project stays on schedule
		Complete fiber construction & connect SAU & 3 two-year colleges to ARE-ON	This step includes fiber install, install of equip at college, and lighting of fiber to college
Year 2	Qtr 4	Install computers, equipment, and video conference equipment at these 42 spoke, equipment only, sites	Computers and Video Equipment delivery and setup will be coordinated with circuit installation so new equipment can be tested over new circuit to ensure it works
		Order Computers, equipment, and Video Equipment for Year 3 Qtr 1 spoke sites	Equipment needed for next Qtr spoke installations must be ordered 2 months prior to installation date to ensure on-time delivery that coincides with circuit installation to ensure the project stays on schedule
		Complete fiber construction & connect 9 two-year colleges to ARE-ON	This step includes fiber install, install of equip at college, and lighting of fiber to college
Year 3	Qtr 1	Install computers, equipment, and video conference equipment at these 43 spoke, equipment only, sites	Computers and Video Equipment delivery and setup will be coordinated with circuit installation so new equipment can be tested over new circuit to ensure it works
		Complete fiber construction & connect 10 two-year colleges to ARE-ON	This step includes fiber install, install of equip at college, and lighting of fiber to college
		Complete testing of video and data transfers for all spoke, equipment only, sites	To ensure the main network backbone transports both video and data, complete testing of simultaneous data and video transfer will be completed

Attachment E (Continued) - Build-out Timeline

Name: ATOM Network															
	Year 0	Year 1		Year 2				Year 3				Total			
		Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4		
Infrastructure Funds															
Infrastructure Funds															
Advanced (estimate)	\$ -	\$ 306,483	\$ 15,404,670	\$ 8,718,740	\$ 11,310,283	\$ 9,244,066	\$ 5,793,011	\$ 19,424,428	\$ 16,127,915	\$ 16,134,640	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 102,464,236	
Percentage of Total Funds		0%	0%	15%	9%	11%	9%	6%	19%	16%	16%			100%	
Entities Passed & %															
Households			90,360	60,240	524,091	524,091	506,018	524,091	307,226	319,274				2,855,390	
Percentage of Total Households			3%	2%	18%	18%	18%	18%	11%	11%				100%	
Businesses															
Percentage of Total Businesses															
Strategic Institutions (Comm. Anchor, Public Safety, etc)															
			15	10	87	87	84	87	51	53				474	
Percentage of Total Institutions			3%	2%	18%	18%	18%	18%	11%	11%				100%	
Arkansas Census Population	2,855,390														