

## **Broadband USA Applications Database**

**Applicant Name:** Lakeview Cable TV, Inc.

**Project Title:** Southwest Oklahoma Distance Learning/Telemedicine Project

**Project Type:** Middle Mile

---

### **Executive Summary**

---

The Southwest Oklahoma Distance Learning/Telemedicine Project will greatly enhance the educational and economic opportunities for the area surrounding four small communities in Southwest Oklahoma on the perimeter of the Fort Sill Military Reservation near Lawton, Oklahoma. The project is a middle mile project to connect five communities by Lakeview Cable TV, Inc. a family owned and operated provider with over 30 years experience in providing service to the people in this region. The project is shovel ready and will be completed within 15 months of funding to produce immediate results to the citizens, especially the children, of these communities. Opportunity: The keystone of the project is a distance learning application that will interconnect the Cache, Indianoma, Snyder and Geronimo schools with state of the art distance learning platform. The Cisco Telepresence 1300 application and equipment will be used in the schools. This will provide a high definition video, quality audio and interactive element to create the feeling of being in person with participants in remote locations. The solution allows teachers and students in four locations to communicate naturally and effectively. Video on Demand will also be incorporated into the application thus allowing a student that is absent from school to view the class that he was absent from once returning to school. As noted in the letters of support, each of the school districts is struggling in these hard economic times and this application will allow them to pool resources, including teachers, to provide a more robust education, including the teaching of Native American languages to all students in the region. The schools each have a significant Native American population ranging from 10% for Snyder to 38% for Indianoma. The middle mile facility will have one interconnection point terminating in Indianoma which is currently unserved under the definitions provided in the Notice of Funds Availability. The middle mile facility will allow Lakeview Cable to connect its current last mile cable system to the internet and provide broadband services to the previously unserved population of Indianoma. There are approximately 150 low income supported housing units in the communities being served by the middle mile facilities. To help spur broadband adoption Lakeview Cable has committed to providing a 15% discount to these units on basic services if the grant is awarded. The middle mile facility will also allow the introduction of higher speeds thus making telemedicine more available. Comanche County Memorial Hospital Clinic will take advantage of the benefits by utilizing high speed internet for their physicians to communicate back and forth with this regional facility. The Ayer's Nursing Home in Snyder also plans to use the facilities for telemedicine purposes by not having to transport elderly patients. Description of Funded Service Area: This middle mile project will interconnect the Southwest Oklahoma towns of Cache, Indianoma, Snyder, Mountain Park and Geronimo. The towns are rural in nature with populations ranging from the largest Cache, with 2,360 people to the smallest Indianoma, with 339 people. One interconnection point terminates in

Indiahoma, an unserved area. The towns have all been hit by the hard economic times. The region is on the perimeter of the Fort Sill Military Reservation and has the possibility to gain in population with decisions by the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission (BRAC). Fort Sill is estimating that it will expand by 8,000 new troops and families into our area. Increased population can place an immediate stress on the public school system. Thus the distance learning application with the ability to teach joint classes and pool teacher resources is extremely significant to the school districts. In addition, the interconnection of these small towns by the middle mile facility will present a more attractive community for relocating families and for business.

**Number of Households and Businesses Passed:** The Cache has 1336 homes passed and 16 total businesses passed. The town of Snyder has 780 houses passed and a number of 20 businesses passed. Indiahoma has 192 homes passed along with a total of 5 businesses. Medicine Park has homes 175 passed and 2 businesses. Finally, Geronimo has 533 homes passed and 5 businesses .

**Number of Community Anchor Institutions:** The towns have 5 schools, 1 remote hospital clinic, 1 nursing home, the Kiowa County District 3 EMT and 4 low income housing projects with approximately 50 homes in Cache, 25 in Indiahoma, 50 in Snyder and 25 in Mountain Park. In addition we serve each of the police and fire departments.

**Proposed Services and Applications:** The distance learning application is an essential element for this project and brings immediate benefits for the schools. Likewise, immediate benefits will come to the residents of previously unserved town of Indiahoma through the availability of broadband. The middle mile facility will also allow Lakeview Cable to interconnect its service areas thus providing the ability to provide greater speeds in existing areas. The interconnection of these 5 communities through the fiber optic cable giga transmission, middle mile fiber presents dark fiber and other opportunities to providers.

**Non-Discrimination and Interconnection Obligations:** Lakeview Cable will comply with the Federal Communications Commission's Internet Policy statement, will publish network management policies on its website, and will offer interconnection consistent with the guidelines in the Notice of Availability of Funds. The compelling benefit of the middle mile facility is its ability to be technology neutral. The facility will have the capacity to leverage other essential telecommunications services on the same network enabling an array of services in a cost effective manner.

**Qualifications:** The applicant has operated cable systems for over 30 years and first launched cable modem services in 1990. Lakeview Cable relies on in-house experience as outlined on the resumes along with consultants in these types of projects. The work ethic and experience of the Company is demonstrated by the strong letters of support provided by the communities and school districts the company serves.

**Overall Costs of the System:** The overall cost of the project is \$3,052,380.00. Lakeview Cable initially intended to apply for only an 80% grant; however the assumed tax implications associated with accepting a grant eliminated that possibility. Accordingly, Lakeview Cable seeks a waiver of the 20% match requirement.

**Subscriber Projections:** In addition to the hundreds of students who will benefit from the distance learning application and availability of internet access in the schools, Lakeview Cable projects 105 subscriber additions in the previously unserved area of Indiahoma over the next 5 years.

**Job Creation:** The ability to create both short term and long term jobs in this economically challenged region is another strong benefit of the proposal. It is estimated that between 15 people will receive full time employment for the construction process. In addition, numerous man-hours will be outsourced to the engineering, manufacturing, and consulting organizations, which will assist with the roll-out of this project. Although the additional indirect job

creation in the region is not calculable, the potential for new business development and existing business expansion will be greatly enhanced by the availability of technology in these unserved areas.