ABOUT THE PROJECT

The Oklahoma Community Anchor Network (OCAN), led by the Oklahoma Office of State Finance, is a collaborative effort to extend and complete an existing state network, OneNet, to bring affordable broadband service to community anchor institutions in rural and underserved communities across the state. The 59 counties in the project’s proposed service area have been unable to attract sufficient investment in high-speed Internet infrastructure at affordable rates. This region encompasses some of the most economically distressed, underserved areas in the northwestern and southeastern portions of the state. OCAN plans to construct 1,000 miles of new fiber to almost double the existing fiber in the OneNet network, and provide direct connections to vital community organizations like Southeastern Oklahoma State University, Western Oklahoma State College, Lawton Indian Hospital’s Indian Health Services Unit, and the state’s Council on Law Enforcement Education and Training location. Improved broadband services for these organizations will greatly enhance education, public safety, and healthcare opportunities in the region.

The OCAN project also proposes to:

- Connect as many as 30 community anchor institutions with speeds between 10 Mbps and 1 Gbps, including three public safety entities, nine universities and 12 community colleges (totaling over 50,000 students), and seven healthcare facilities.

- Facilitate more affordable and accessible broadband service for up to approximately 940,000 households, 56,000 businesses, and an additional 1,100 community anchor institutions by enabling local Internet service providers to utilize the project’s open network.

- Enable improved broadband services for 17 federally-recognized tribes, including the Cheyenne and the Arapaho Tribes.

ORGANIZATION’S HISTORY

The Oklahoma Office of State Finance and its project partners, OneNet and the Oklahoma Department of Transportation, have over 100 years of experience in large-scale program management and engineering, installation and operational management of network infrastructure services in Oklahoma. OneNet and the Office of State Finance have worked together to provide broadband to state agencies, colleges, and universities since 1992 when the Oklahoma Government Telecommunication Network was created by the state legislature.

PROJECT PARTNERS

- Oklahoma Department of Transportation
- OneNet
- Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education