Organization: North Central New Mexico Economic Development District
Project Name: Regional Economic Development Initiative (REDI Net)
Project Type: Comprehensive Community Infrastructure
State: New Mexico
Federal Award: $10,565,792

ABOUT THE PROJECT

Areas of rural north central New Mexico rely significantly on dial-up service, and much of the region lacks affordable, high-bandwidth network services for community anchor institutions and small businesses. The North Central New Mexico Economic Development District’s REDI Net project plans to deploy a middle-mile fiber optic broadband network across the counties of Rio Arriba, Los Alamos, and northern Santa Fe, and to five Native American tribal communities. The project proposes to enable distance learning and advanced technology applications at schools and community colleges, and promote energy efficiency by enabling “smart grid” applications for regional rural electric cooperatives. REDI Net plans to utilize the network to provide support for locally based businesses, especially in the technology, media, and renewable energy industries. The project also intends to offer higher levels of security and reliability for public safety and telemedicine in the region.

REDI Net also proposes to:

- Construct 148 new miles of fiber to create a network capable of supporting a variety of high-bandwidth applications and services.
- Facilitate more affordable and accessible broadband service for up to approximately 19,200 households and 1,300 businesses by enabling local Internet service providers to utilize the project’s open network.
- Directly connect as many as 123 anchor institutions, including as many as 23 public safety entities, 21 K-12 schools, three community colleges, 44 government buildings, 11 healthcare providers, and five libraries, as well as five federally recognized tribes: the Pueblos of Ohkay Owingeh, Santa Clara, San Ildefonso, Pojoaque, and Tesuque.
- Leverage a $1.5M BTOP-funded Sustainable Broadband Adoption project awarded to the New Mexico State Library and offer high-speed connections to the last-mile construction award recently made by the U.S. Department of Agriculture to Tewa Communications in the San Ildefonso Pueblo.

ORGANIZATION’S HISTORY

North Central New Mexico Economic Development District (NCNMEDD), established in 1967, has a strong track record of federal funds management, a reputation for overseeing successful infrastructure projects in the region, and extensive experience with monitoring compliance. NCNMEDD plans to partner with Kit Carson Electric Telecom, which has billing, provisioning, and customer support systems already in place, and will provide managed services for REDI Net.

PROJECT PARTNERS

- Jemez Mountains Electric Cooperative
- Kit Carson Electric Cooperative
- City of Espanola
- Northern New Mexico College