

## Blandin Broadband Communities 2020-21 Projects

*Updated: June 2020*

Community	Project Owner	Project Name	Project Description
Chisago Lakes Area	Chisago Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce	Broadband Infrastructure Community Survey	Gather the data necessary to talk with providers, community leaders, and legislators about broadband infrastructure needs across the region by conducting a survey of residents and businesses on current internet satisfaction levels and unmet needs, and promote the Minnesota Speed Test.
Chisago Lakes Area	Chisago Lakes Area Community Ed. & Chisago Age Well	Access to Technology for All Ages	Reduce the digital divide by providing older adults with educational resources, classes, and support to use equipment, websites, and virtual platforms to stay involved and access activities and services in the community.
Chisago Lakes Area	Chisago Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce	New Chamber of Commerce Website	Showcase local businesses with a new website for the Chisago Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce. The new site will be much easier to use and include a data management system to provide higher value to the membership and community at large.
Chisago Lakes Area	Chisago County HRA-EDA	Virtual Manufacturing Tours	Expand students' exposure to technology and manufacturing as a career choice by producing eight video-tours of local manufacturing businesses. Students will view the tours in school and be able to follow up with the business via videoconference.
Chisago Lakes Area	Chisago Lakes School District	Mobile Hotspots for Community	Increase access to the internet by deploying cellular mobile hotspots for community members in need, focusing first on families with students in the school system.
Le Sueur County	Le Sueur County Broadband Initiative	Technology Enhancements	Improve the effectiveness of the Le Sueur County Broadband Initiative (LCBI) through the use of Google Suites for Business, including training for all team members.
Le Sueur County	Le Sueur County Broadband Initiative	Community Technology Assistance	Improve access to technology throughout the community by increasing the number of public access sites and training opportunities with an emphasis on Zoom and other applications for community connectivity.
Le Sueur County	Le Sueur County Broadband Initiative	LCBI Communications	Amplify the work of the LCBI through enhanced communication and marketing, including improving access to county-wide calendars and offering integrated community education classes.
Le Sueur County	Le Sueur County Broadband Initiative & Region Nine	Le Sueur County Economic Development Forum	Address the lack of economic development at the county-level by conducting a needs-assessment and holding a summer event for businesses across the county.
Le Sueur County	Tri City School District	Broadband Coalition Fellowship	Enhance and support broadband planning efforts and to support the creation of digital navigation projects that will support residents, businesses, and libraries through the hire of a two-year Lead for Minnesota Fellow.
Otter Tail County	Viking Library	Free Public Wi-Fi	Increase access to the internet by establishing at least four additional free Wi-Fi public access sites throughout the county.



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Otter Tail County	Otter Tail County	Smart Rooms	Increase access to and use of technology by equipping at least six indoor public meeting spaces with audiovisual equipment so individuals and groups can attend virtual meetings, distance learning, and job interviews.
Otter Tail County	Viking Library	Tech Packs	Improve access to technology for people experiencing economic impacts due to COVID-19 by providing free laptops and mobile hot-spots with 6 months prepaid service along with digital resources for jobseekers to 100 county residents, with emphasis on those seeking employment.
Otter Tail County	Greater Fergus Falls	Youth Exposure to Tech & Careers	Expand students' exposure to technology-related careers by holding a virtual career fair and increasing STEAM offerings, including coding and robotics, in kids' summer programming.
Otter Tail County	Fergus Falls Chamber of Commerce	Improving Business Resilience Through Technology	Increase the sophistication of use of technology by local businesses by conducting technology audits where the business's needs related to digital security, email, POS systems, and e-commerce needs are assessed, and training offered.
White Earth Nation	Reservation Business Committee	Community Wi-Fi Hotspots	Increase access to the internet by providing a safe and secure location for residents in each community within reservation boundaries to access the internet.
White Earth Nation	Reservation Business Committee	Elder Devices and Hotspots	Increase internet access and use among Elders in need by providing a device, mobile hotspot access, and digital navigation services to Elders for telemedicine, online classes or meetings, etc. Lending may be short- or long-term depending on the situation and need.
White Earth Nation	Reservation Business Committee	Cell Signal Boosters and Hotspots for Buses	Increase access to the internet by installing Wi-Fi and cell signal boosters on White Earth Public Transit Buses.
White Earth Nation	Reservation Business Committee	Hotspot Lending Program for Students/Families	Increase internet access and use, including access to schoolwork, among students and their families through the establishment of a hotspot lending program, with special emphasis on those living in tribally owned or operated housing units.
White Earth Nation	Reservation Business Committee	Cell Signal Boosters for Communities	Increase cellular internet access by installing cell signal boosters in each community within the reservation boundaries with poor cell service.
White Earth Nation	Reservation Business Committee	Televisions for Buses	Improve communications and marketing of community events and announcements, daily information, and area programming by installing televisions in White Earth Public Transit Buses.