Getting Down to Business

Grants and Reporting
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Semi Annual Visits
“Strut Your Stuff” tour
Strut Your Stuff…

March 2019 … September 2019 … April 2020

• Replaces BBC Program reporting
• (FUN) Two-hour gathering in your community
  – Welcome / conversation
  – Introductions
  – Project updates
  – Discussion

Strut Your Stuff…

• Steering Committee Activity Update
  – Who was involved
  – Planning process
  – PCs for People Update
• Status of your community’s grant projects
  – Significant accomplishments
  – Challenges
• How can the Blandin Team assist you?
  – What should we be aware of?
  – Significant learnings / most fun
Grants!
Funding for BBC Projects

Who Can Apply?

• All applicants must be:
  – IRS Status of 501(c)3
  – Tribal Government
  – Unit of Government
Application Review

• Grant applications will be reviewed by the Blandin Broadband Strategy Board.
• Project grant evaluation criteria:
  – Project meets an identified community need.
  – Community partnerships are evidenced in the proposal.
  – Project increases the technological vitality of the community.
  – Project uses appropriate technology for the stated purpose.
  – Project purpose is charitable.

Funds Available in 2018-2020

Blandin Broadband Grants: $450,000/year
IRRR, for new IRBCs: $277,500
• Blandin Broadband Communities
  – $75,000 per community for projects that address access, adoption and use
• Robust Network Feasibility Fund
  – Up to $25,000
  – open to any rural MN community
  – BBCs may apply
Application Process

- **Steering Team Meeting** (January)
  - Review and begin grant application process

- **Community Vision Meeting** (February)
  - Community technology goals set – these will be the goals of your project grant

- **Project Development Meeting** (March)
  - Finalize projects – submit final projects and budgets to Blandin Foundation for approval

Grant Application Deadlines

- January 4
  - January 30 decision
- March 9
  - April 11 decision
**Grant Matching Requirements**

- 25% of total project cost (1:3)
  - Projects with community-wide, cross-sector benefit (most projects)
- 50% of total project cost (1:1)
  - Equipment purchase
  - Robust Network Feasibility Fund grants
- Projects that demonstrate more than the minimum required match will be viewed favorably

**Grant Reporting**

- Final Grant Report: due one month after the end of the grant period.
  - Grant outcomes
  - Community improvement efforts
  - Healthy community indicators: Expand Opportunity
  - Lessons Learned
  - Budget