Let’s connect on your vision of a brighter future for your community.

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**For communities to thrive in a global economy, broadband must join electricity, water, and natural gas as required utilities. The stakes couldn’t be higher …**

**Between 2010 and 2016, overall population declined in rural U.S. counties for the first time in history. Lack of broadband is a contributing factor.**

**Only 32.6 percent of rural libraries report having a fiber broadband connection, compared to 62.3 percent of their urban counterparts.**

7 out of 10 teachers now assign homework that requires internet access, creating a homework divide where broadband is not present.  

*Between 2005 and 2016, output in the digital economy grew 5.6 percent per year. Annual growth in total U.S. GDP, by contrast, was just 1.5 percent.*

**66 percent of individuals age 35 and under living in MDUs get about half of their video content online.**

**If communities are to keep pace with evolving mobile wireless technology, or 5G, an extensive fiber-based backhaul network will be required.**

**Smart communities require robust broadband for applications like precision agriculture, e-government, next-generation public safety (FirstNet), smart grids, and smart connected homes.**

**FTTH-available communities enjoy 46 percent better new business formation compared to communities without fiber broadband services.**

**Fiber-based broadband correlates with higher property satisfaction.**

Thanks to a broadband grant from the U.S. Economic Development Agency, the Eastern Kentucky Concentrated Employment Program (EKCEP) saved 142 jobs and created 25 new ones.

**Between 2005 and 2016, FTTH-available communities enjoyed 46 percent better new business formation compared to communities without fiber broadband services.**

**Fiber-based broadband correlates with higher property satisfaction.**

**The average revenue from a home-based business using FTTH ($73,000) far exceeds, cable broadband ($43,000), DSL ($38,000), and wireless ($25,000).**

**When available, rural markets enjoy better average take rates (63 percent) for fiber broadband than urban (50 percent) or suburban (43 percent).**

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[1] Rural Economy and Population, USDA
[2] Rural Health Disparities, Rural Health Information Hub
[5] Fikku LLC
[9] Health Care Hubs: The Future of Telemedicine and Broadband

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