

COLLABORATIVE BROADBAND

A PROJECT OF THE NC RURAL CENTER

BROADBAND IN EVERY CORNER OF NORTH CAROLINA

Collaborative Broadband, a project of the NC Rural Center, works with local governments to coordinate regional broadband initiatives. We are committed to universal last-mile broadband service and through this project, we help rural governments get the resources and policy information they need to improve internet access. Inclusive action teams with the goal of accessible broadband in every corner of North Carolina drive our efforts.

Thanks to generous funding from the Dogwood Health Trust, the Rural Center's Collaborative Broadband initiative expanded in August 2023 to 18 counties plus the Qualla Boundary in Western North Carolina. Our effort will mirror work we've done in 15 counties in northeastern North Carolina. We will leverage the experience of local councils of governments; develop regional action committees; convene and collaborate with institutions; assist local governments in navigating federal and state broadband funding opportunities; and maintain transparent relationships with internet service providers.

Please contact Michael Kelly, Director of Collaborative Broadband Initiative, at mkelly@ncruralcenter.org. The NC Rural Center plans to expand this initiative into other regions and bring last-mile broadband access to every household, business, and community in rural North Carolina.

