

# COLLABORATIVE BROADBAND

A PROJECT OF THE NC RURAL CENTER

## BROADBAND IN EVERY CORNER OF NORTH CAROLINA

The Collaborative Broadband Initiative, a project of the NC Rural Center, works with local governments to coordinate regional broadband initiatives. To attain universal last-mile broadband service across every corner of North Carolina, we provide technical assistance, data and mapping services, advocacy, and assistance to rural governments to obtain resources and policy information.

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](mailto: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.

