

The Connected Texas mission to help unserved and underserved populations leverage the power of broadband would not be possible without the support of our public and private sponsors. We work in your communities to improve lives through innovative technology expansion programs for education, healthcare, government, and economic development. We are a subsidiary of Connected Nation, and are a non-profit actively supporting local, regional, and state technology programs. More can be done to deliver the social and economic benefits of broadband, but we need your support!

Our supporters include educational institutions, corporations, non-profits, trade and professional organizations, foundations, government agencies, and other organizations that share our commitment to united efforts to expand Broadband Access, Adoption, & Use.



ACCESS

Access – We are working to ensure all Texas communities have access to affordable broadband.

Today, 5.9% of Texas households do not have access to higher speeds of at least 3 Mbps downstream and 768 Kbps upstream. We work closely with providers and local leaders to address broadband access barriers.

- \$12,500 supports the public access needs of an entire rural community for one year, leveling the playing field for the unserved and allowing them to be part of the Internet world we take for granted.



ADOPTION

Adoption – Raising awareness of the benefits of broadband and helping more people get connected.

Our research shows that less than half (48%) of the state's rural residents subscribe to broadband, cutting them off from the economic, educational, and quality of life opportunities available through a broadband connection.

- \$50,000 provides hundreds of low-income families with training, discounted computers, and a year's subscription to broadband service, allowing these families access to educational tools, employment resources, health information, e-commerce, and more.



USE

Use – Helping communities leverage technology to improve quality of life. Whether it's a school, hospital, business, or local library, Connected Texas is in the community working to demonstrate the impact broadband technology has on the workforce, student graduation rate, and residential access to better services.

- \$100,000 enables the required technical assistance to assess a community's broadband strengths and deficiencies as it pertains to access, adoption, and use and deliver comprehensive solutions that will profoundly impact the community's ability to thrive in an increasingly digital economy.



Examples of how Connected Texas goes to work:

- **Community Engagement:** We want to help every community get online! Our unique “Connected” community-based assessment provides a step-by-step program for improved broadband access, adoption, and use.
- **Digital Literacy Training:** In collaboration with the Texas State Library and other social assistance entities, we provide digital literacy training that can be implemented as a self-paced online solution or through hands-on instruction delivering much needed basic computer essentials and web-browsing skills.
- **Computer Ownership:** Among Texas residents without home broadband service, 27% indicate the lack of a computer as a barrier to adoption. Participants enrolled in our training programs are automatically eligible for low-cost computers and reduced-cost broadband services.
- **Broadband Mapping & Research:** We maintain the state’s most comprehensive set of broadband market data to help government officials and businesses make informed investments.
- **Increasing Broadband Adoption:** In Texas, nearly 1 million households with children still are not using the Internet, even though they have access. Our outreach programs are aimed at helping residents learn the benefits of using high-speed Internet in their daily lives as well as tackling the issues of affordability and access.
- **State Broadband Task Force:** In collaboration with the Texas PUC and Department of Agriculture, we provide consultation and support to the state’s broadband task force.
- **Texas Broadband Summit:** Every year we bring together local, state, and national stakeholders like YOU to address the state of Texas’ broadband landscape and collaborate on ideas and programs to expand broadband in both rural and urban Texas.

Life is Better with Broadband! Join the effort to close the digital divide.

Texas is a vast state with an expansive geography and a diverse and dispersed population. These factors present significant challenges to our state’s broadband development efforts, and they demand significant levels of investment to ensure broadband access, adoption, and use, especially among our disadvantaged residents and to unserved and underserved areas across the state.

We truly appreciate our generous supporters! With your company’s support, Connected Texas can continue these life-changing programs and amplify the impact to benefit all Texans. Your sponsorship will be recognized through a variety of publicity including our newsletter, website, outreach literature, and the Texas Broadband Summit as well as those Connected Texas activities and events of particular interest to your organization.

For more information please contact

Don Shirley, Executive Director

dshirley@connectedtx.org, (512) 660-2006

Sponsorship Agreement

As a 501(c)(3) public-private partnership, the success and sustainability of Connected Texas depends on the engagement and support of the public and private sector. Connected Texas is the most efficient means of contributing to improved access, adoption, and use of technology across Texas.

I hereby pledge an investment of _____ to Connected Texas. Payment is expected in full upon completion of the Letter of Intent. In the event that a payment plan is necessary, please contact Don Shirley to determine the best plan.

Name of Company _____

Signature _____

Printed Name _____

E-mail Address _____

For this commitment, please bill as indicated below:

Contact Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone () _____ Fax () _____

Primary E-mail address _____

Other E-mail addresses _____

(To receive periodic e-mail)

Annual dues must be paid by the date specified in this partnership agreement. Please make checks payable to Connected Texas.