



Rural BROADBAND

CLOSING THE RURAL DIGITAL DIVIDE

ABOUT RURALRISE

Three years ago, a small group of intrepid rural entrepreneurial ecosystem builders assembled in rural Appalachia to develop potential solutions to help rural communities and the rural entrepreneurs within them. From these humble beginnings, the RuralRISE community was born. Since that time, this grassroots effort has grown to become a national movement which now includes hundreds of executives, nonprofits and businesses from nearly every state. Convening regularly via an annual summit, monthly video calls and countless hours of mutual support for rural communities across the country, participants include governors, secretaries of state, and numerous other prominent rural advocates.

Recognizing that innovation and entrepreneurship are blind to location, RuralRISE seeks to increase opportunities for rural communities, increase accessibility to broadband, spotlight innovation, as well as entrepreneurial and start-up activities across the country.

With access to ubiquitous and affordable broadband, rural communities can help close the digital divide for all Americans.

ABOUT RURAL BROADBAND ISSUES

For rural communities, access to stable and affordable broadband and wireless connectivity continues to be a challenge including:



Funding.

There must be an investment in broadband for the future of rural economies, including in diverse rural areas.



Populations Impacted.

Rural, Tribal and minority populations are significantly impacted by the lack of broadband.



Entrepreneurship.

Rural America has an abundance of innovative entrepreneurs; available broadband is the lifeline for new and established small businesses to compete globally.



Education.

The pandemic has only underscored the need for solid, reliable broadband. Students and teachers must have access.



Healthcare.

Telehealth continues to be a path forward not only during the COVID crisis but also for rural Americans with long drives - telehealth must be addressed!



Agriculture.

Without access to broadband, farmers are hindered by their inability to utilize new technologies to increase profitability.



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