DHCD Broadband Resources

Virginia Telehealth Network Summit

November 13, 2017

Presentation Overview

- Community Development Block Grants (CDBG)
- Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC)
- Virginia Telecommunication Initiative (VATI)
- GO Virginia
- Future Considerations

Community Development Block Grants (CDBG)

- Eligible applicants: Non-entitlement communities

- Projects must meet one of three broad national objectives:
  - benefit low- and moderate-income persons
  - prevent or eliminate slums or blight
  - address an urgent community development need (public emergency or health threat)

- Up to $200,000 per project through **Local Innovation Fund**
  - Eligible projects include Telecommunications

- Up to $700,000 per project through **Community Improvement Grants: Community Service Facilities**
  - Eligible project types include but are not limited to: Specialty health services-*not general practice clinics or extensions of hospitals,* workforce development, day care facilities (associated with employment)

Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC)

- The Appalachian Regional Commission is an independent Federal agency created through the Appalachian Regional Development Act of 1965

- ARC's mission is to be an advocate for and partner with the people of Appalachia to create opportunities for self-sustaining economic development and improved quality of life

- Virginia is one of thirteen states in the ARC region and includes 25 counties and 8 independent cities

Virginia Telecommunications Initiative (VATI)

Provides financial assistance to supplement construction costs by private sector providers to extend services to areas that are presently unserved by any broadband provider

Virginia Telecommunications Initiative (VATI)

Eligible Applicants

- Units of local government (Towns, Cities, Counties, EDA/IDA, Broadband/Wireless Authorities, Planning District Commissions, etc.)

- Requires a co-application with both a unit of local government and a provider

Virginia Telecommunications Initiative (VATI)

Eligibility Criteria

- Area must meet **unserved** criteria (defined as speeds <10Mbps/1Mbps)
- Area **Not** designated to receive funds for construction through the federal Connect America Funding
- Area **Not** receiving state or federal funds for construction (at application)
- Project must leverage private and public resources. DHCD funding **may not** exceed eighty-percent (80%) of total project cost

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DHCD Investments in Healthcare

- Since 2000, DHCD has invested approximately **$8.1 million** in CDBG funds in Healthcare projects (new construction or expansion of healthcare facilities, and broadband/telemedicine)

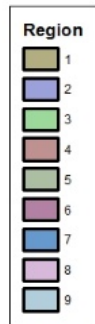- Since 2002, DHCD has invested $340,000 in ARC funds supporting health related projects
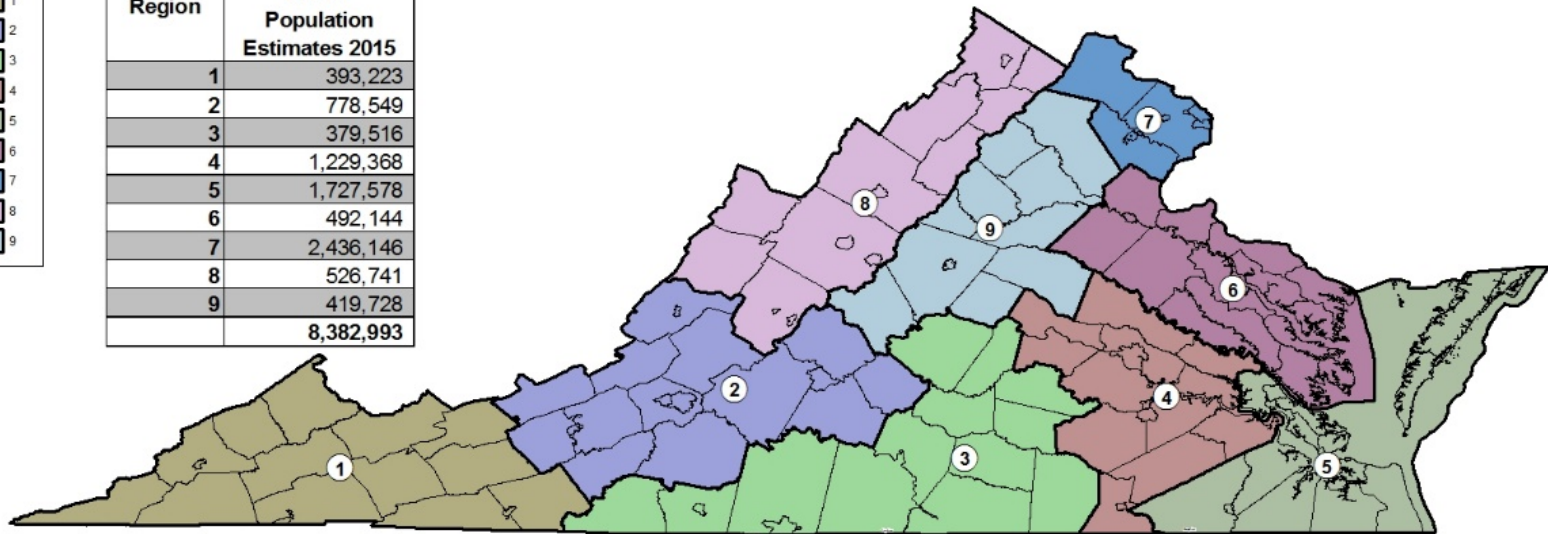
DHCD Telecommunication Investments in Healthcare

Locality	Grant Award	Project Description
Smyth County (2002 CDBG) Konnarock Family Health Center	$26,500	Installation of T-1 lines and telemedicine equipment
Highland County (2002 CDBG) Highland Medical Center	$33,700	Installation of T-1 lines and telemedicine equipment
Town of Haysi (2003 CDBG)	$95,000	Connect "dark fiber" to Haysi Clinic
Town of Troutdale (2004 CDBG)	$24,500	Purchase telemedicine equipment and training staff
City of Galax (2007 CDBG)	$200,000	Construct fiber network to connect Twin County Regional Healthcare
Northampton County (2009 CDBG-R)	$1 million	Construct a fiber network that included Shore Memorial Hospital, Shore Cancer Center, Eastern Shore Rural Health
Nelson County (2010 CDBG)	$200,000	Construct a fiber network that included connecting the Blue Ridge Health Center

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GO Virginia Regional Boundaries

Region	Weldon Cooper Center Population Estimates 2015
1	393,223
2	778,549
3	379,516
4	1,229,368
5	1,727,578
6	492,144
7	2,436,146
8	526,741
9	419,728
	8,382,993

Source: US Census, VA PDC

12/5/2016

GO Virginia and Broadband

Regional Focus on Broadband Activities

- Specifically identified as a common strategy or goal in the Growth & Diversification Plans by Regions 1, 3, 6, 8 and 9

- Not identified as a common strategy or goal in Regions 2 and 4, but is still emphasized as a critical need, especially as it relates to access in rural areas

- Regions 5 and 7 do not specifically address broadband but most of their identified priority clusters very much rely on a robust broadband infrastructure, especially in emerging technologies and cybersecurity

Future Considerations

- Increasing connections between housing outcomes and health care outcomes identified by housing policy researchers

- Increasing need for robust broadband in homes to assist ability for seniors to age in place

- Increasing significance of robust broadband and robust healthcare services to community