It is because of our unique community driven (public, private, nonprofit, philanthropic, citizen) partnership that we won the $2 Million grant to expand broadband in Crow Wing, Cass, and Morrison Counties!

Lt. Governor Tina Smith visited the Brainerd Lakes Chamber last week to announce a $2 million Border-to-Border Broadband Development Grant to CTC, which will match the funds to expand broadband service in Crow Wing, Cass, and Morrison Counties. We are so excited and want to thank all those who helped make this possible by working to prepare the proposal, testifying on the video produced https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2aGx572Juvc&feature=youtu.be and/or writing letters of support (see those listed below).

We also know that we still have 18,737 households and businesses in the region who are either unserved or underserved – therefore, we have a long way to go before we reach the goal set by 600 citizens during the Resilient Region Planning process that 95% of all households in the five-county region will have access to high-speed broadband.

Thank you!
National Joint Powers Alliance (NJPA) and USDA RCDI for your financial support and West Central Telephone Association (WTCA) for your in-kind staff support for this proposal!

Thank you ALSO to all who helped with the video or provided letters of support!

Elected Officials:
Robert Kangas, Chairman, Cass County Board of Commissioners
Rosemary Frazen, Chair, Crow Wing County Board of Commissioners
Jeffrey J. Jelinske, Board Chair, Morrison County Board of Commissioners
Mark Anderson, State Representative, District 9A
Joe Radinovich, former State Representative, District 10B
Ron Kresha, State Representative, District 9B
Dave Brown, State Senator, District 15
John Ward, former State Representative, District 10A
Paul Gazelka, State Senator, District District 9

Private, Public, Nonprofit, Philanthropic Partners:
120 citizens from Fairview Township
16 citizens of 371 Neighborhood
33 residents of Crow Wing Lake
Andrea Lauer, Mayor, City of Royalton
Anthony V. Mayer, General Manager/CEO, WTCA
Arlene M Jones, Owner and Operator, The Farm at St. Mathias
Bernadine R. Joselyn, Director, Public Policy & Engagement, Blandin Foundation
Bob Heaton
Brenda Thomes, City Administrator, City of Long Prairie
Brent, Jenny, Claire, and Connor Gunsbury
Bruce and Sandy Narr
Carol Anderson, Community Development Morrison County
Chris Hadfield, Dean of Career and Technical Education and the Staples Campus, Central Lakes College
Christine Maxsom
Corky T. McQuiston, Chief of Police, Brainerd Police Department
Dale Bosch, Executive Director, Mt. Ski Gull
Dan Carter, Faculty Member, Minnesota State Community and Technical College
Darryl and Jamie Stout
Deanna Hemmesch, Executive Director, Central Minnesota Housing Partnership
Don Hickman, Vice President of Community and Economic Development, Initiative Foundation
Dr. Brian T. Briggs
Dr. Chad Coauette, Executive Director/CEO, National Joint Powers Alliance
Dr. Jennifer Mahling-Stadum, Essentia Health, Brainerd Clinic
Dr. Klint Willert, Superintendent, Brainerd Schools
Dr. Larry Lundblad, President, Central Lakes College
Dr. Peggy Kennedy, President, Minnedsota State Community and Technical College
Dr. Timothy S. Yeh, Brainerd Hematology Oncology, PC
Duane Luithle
Greg Bergman, Regional Director, Small Business Development Center (SBDC)
Jacob J. Wert
James Weizenegger, Fairview Township Chair
Janelle R. Riley, President, Syvantis Technologies
Janet Johnson, Faculty, Minnesota State Community and Technical College
Janie Weston, CEO, Greater Lakes Association of Realtors
Jason Edens, Director, Rural Renewable Energy Alliance (RREAL)
Jim Sabas, Mayor, City of Pine River
Justin, Sherry and Alex Pape
Kevin Wroolie, Township Supervisor, Fort Ripley
Lynn Hunt, CEO/Founder Hunt Utilities Group
Mark Schmitz, Superintendent, Staples Motley Schools
Marla Yoho, Clerk, Fairview Township
Mary Gottsch, Director, Briedges Workspace Connection, Brainerd Lakes Chamber
Matt Killan, President, Brainerd Lakes Chamber
Maureen Ideker, Rn, BSN, MBA, Director of Telehealth, Essentia Health
Mick Qualer, Nisswa, MN
Pat and Gary Bluth
Philip and Coni Trusty, Owners/Operators, Crow Wing Lake Campground
Randy Lee, Chief, Pillager Area Fire Protection Assn.
Rick Utech, Executive Director, Todd County Development Corporation
Robert L. McLean, Executive Director, Happy Dancing Turtle a member of the Resilient Living Council
Ron Noon, Commissioner, Wadena County
Sheila Haverkamp, Executive Director, Brainerd Lakes Area Economic Development Corporation
Stephen O. Jones, Superintendent, Little Falls Community Schools
Sue and Larry Friedrichs
Timothy J. Houle, Chair, Resilient Region Champions
Tom Burch, Sheriff, Cass County

Grant Writing and Video Production Support: All the staff at R5DC and CTC (especially Kevin Larson, Steve Gilbert, Jason Atwater, Mark Roach, Andy Isackson, and Daniel Rohr) as well as Anna Gruber, Paul Drange, Scott Wermter, Paul Anderson and student intern Abbi Hehner at NJPA; Pam Mahling, WTCA; Dr. Stacey Stockdill, EnSearch; and Erik Osberg, Dan Fitzpatrick, and Dean Vogtmann at Whiskey Creek Media.