



OPPORTUNITIES NEWSLETTER

Interested in applying?

Contact us to get started.

alewis@kerrtarcog.org

(252) 436-2040, ext. 2005



WI-FLY
LENDING LAUNCH KIT
Digital Inclusion Grant Program

DIGITAL INCLUSION GRANT OPPORTUNITY

Mobile Beacon aims to provide unlimited internet access to nonprofits, schools, healthcare organizations, and libraries driving change. They believe community organizations are vital for digital inclusion and seek to empower you with the necessary resources.

When you become one of their pilot sites, you'll have access to the full Wi-Fly Lending Launch Kit which includes:

- **25 donated laptops**
- **FREE unlimited Mobile Beacon service for each device during the pilot program (the grant period is 12 months from the award date)**

Pilot applications should have a clear focus on how mobile, high-speed internet will make a tangible change for the people you serve. Provide as much detail as you need to explain what you plan to do and how you will measure your impact

The application deadline is November 1, 2024 at 5 PM EST.



If your organization is in need of technical assistance in regard to the grant application, please contact Amanda Lewis at alewis@kerrtarcog.org

Wi-Fly Lending Launch Kit Application

Regional Project Manager's Notes:

If you are passionate about broadband, please fill-out the [Kerr-Tar Regional Broadband Planning Committee interest form](#) to support the Digital Inclusion project efforts starting in as soon as we have sixteen interested applicants that fill the designated seats. Moving the first meeting date out to accept additional applications!

Thank you,
Amanda Lewis

Meeting
Scheduler

The Great Trails State Program



The **Great Trails State Program** provides funding for new trail development and extension of existing trails anywhere in the state of North Carolina.

This includes paved trails or greenways, natural surface trails, biking trails, equestrian trails, and any other type of trail recognized by the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources.

There will be one grant cycle distributing the full \$25 million dollars in non-recurring funding. The Great Trails State Coalition ([Join Here](#)) successfully advocated for the Great Trails State Program for all types of trails. Our goal is to make this one-time funding recurring. Thanks to our members who have made this success possible. If you aren't on the list, consider joining, to help advance trails across North Carolina.

Project Minimums:

- \$100,000 minimum for planning and design, acquisition (all types), construction of natural surface trails, and maintenance of natural surface trails
- \$250,000 minimum for maintenance of paved trails
- \$300,000 minimum for construction of paved trails

Match Requirements:

Eligible applicants receiving a grant under this program shall provide matching funds based on the tier ranking of the county where the project is located. If trail projects is located in more than one county, the match is based on lowest county tier. The match may include:

- cash,
- fee waivers,
- in-kind services,
- donation of assets,
- provision of infrastructure, or
- any combination of the above.

Non-cash matches must be quantifiable and documented.

- Tier 1 Counties: \$1 non-state matching funds for every \$4 of state funds
- Tier 2 Counties: \$1 non-state matching funds for every \$2 of state funds
- Tier 3 Counties: \$1 non-state matching funds for every \$1 of state funds

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Environmental and Climate Justice Community Change Grants Program

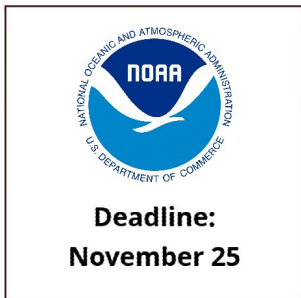
The **Environmental and Climate Justice Community Change Grant program (Community Change Grants)**, created by the Inflation Reduction Act, offers an unprecedented \$2 billion in grants under this Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO). The Community Change

Grants will fund community-driven projects that address climate challenges and reduce pollution while strengthening communities through thoughtful implementation. This historic level of support will enable communities and their partners to overcome longstanding environmental challenges and implement meaningful solutions to meet community needs now and for generations to come. There will be two tracks of funding under this opportunity. Track I will fund approximately 150 large, transformational community-driven investment grants of \$10 million - \$20 million. Track II will fund approximately 20 meaningful engagement grants of \$1 million - \$3 million. Grants cannot exceed 3-years in duration. Please review the NOFO for further information about the exciting opportunities under the Community Change Grants program and details about the application process.



[Learn More](#)

FY25 Saltonstall-Kennedy Full Proposal Competition



The Saltonstall-Kennedy Act established a fund (known as the S-K fund) used by the Secretary of Commerce to provide grants or cooperative agreements for fisheries research and development projects addressing aspects of U.S. fisheries, including, but not limited to, harvesting, processing, marketing, and associated business infrastructures (see section IV, F; Funding Restrictions). The term "U.S. fisheries" refers to any marine fishery (including the Great Lakes) that encompasses commercial, recreational, charter,

subsistence, wild capture, and aquaculture that is, or may be, engaged in by citizens or nationals of the United States or other eligible applicants. The objective of the S-K Research and Development Program, referred to throughout this document as the S-K Competitive Grant Program, is to promote U.S. fisheries by assisting the fishing community to address marketing and research needs.

The term "fishing community" means harvesters, marketers, growers, processors, recreational fishermen, charter fishermen, fishermen, and persons providing them with goods and services. Proposals submitted to this competition must address at least one of the following priorities: Promotion, and Marketing; Development, Infrastructure and Capacity Building; Science or Technology that Enhances Sustainable U.S. Fisheries. This **Notice of Funding Opportunity** (NOFO) includes information on application requirements and criteria for proposals requesting a **maximum of \$500,000** in Federal funding for up to a two-year period. **Matching funds are not required**, nor will they be considered during the evaluation process. Awards are anticipated to start no earlier than September 1, 2025

NOTE: This funding opportunity requires **eRA Commons** account creation for your organizational profile and two user accounts.

[Learn More](#)

Grants to Support New Investigators in Conducting Research Related to Preventing Interpersonal Violence Impacting Children and Youth

This Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), National Center for Injury Prevention and Control (NCIPC) Mentored Research Scientist Development Award (K01) supports an intensive, supervised (mentored) career development experience in violence prevention research leading to research independence. NCIPC supports K01 grants to help ensure the availability of an adequate number of trained scientists to address critical public health research questions to prevent violence and injury.



**Deadline:
December 2nd**

Applicants must propose a research project that addresses at least one of the research priorities in the interpersonal violence prevention section of the [NCIPC Research Priorities](#) as they relate to **violence impacting children or youth (from birth through age 17)**. These research priorities include: Cross-cutting violence prevention; Adverse childhood experiences; Child abuse and neglect; Youth violence; Intimate partner violence (including teen dating violence); and Sexual violence. Applicants are also encouraged to address the following: (1) Multiple forms of violence impacting children or youth; (2) Firearm-related behavior, crime, injuries, and deaths among children and youth; (3) The social or structural conditions that contribute to a greater risk for violence and health inequities across population groups; and (4) How the proposed research study has practical relevance to inform prevention and intervention activities. Applicants should explicitly state the research priorities their application addresses.

Award Max: \$150,000

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Research Grants for Preventing Violence and Violence Related Injury (R01)



**Deadline:
December 2nd**

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's National Center for Injury Prevention and Control (NCIPC) is soliciting investigator-initiated research that will help expand and advance understanding of approaches to prevent community violence and to eliminate racial and ethnic inequities in risk for community violence. This initiative is intended to support effectiveness research to evaluate innovative programs, practices, or policies to address risk for violence and inequities in risk for violence among groups experiencing a high burden of community violence. Please see the [NOFO](#) for additional information. Innovative approaches are those that have not been rigorously evaluated for effectiveness in reducing community violence. Consistent with CDC's commitment to achieving health equity, investigation of inequities in exposure to and uptake of the selected approaches, and/or stratified analyses examining the differential impacts of the approach across populations disproportionately impacted by violence is a priority. Funds are available to conduct studies focused on preventing

all forms of community violence involving youth or young adults (ages 10-34 years), including assaults, homicides, violence between groups, and threats/use of weapons.

Letter of Intent Due Date: 11/01/2024

On-time submission requires that electronic applications be error-free and made available to CDC for processing from the [NIH eRA system](#) on or before the deadline date. Applications must be submitted to and validated successfully by Grants.gov no later than 11:59 PM U.S. Eastern Time. Applicants will use a system or platform to submit their applications through Grants.gov and

eRA Commons to CDC. ASSIST, an institutional system to system (S2S) solution, or Grants.gov Workspace are options. ASSIST is a commonly used platform because it provides a validation of all requirements prior to submission and prevents errors. **Max Award: \$400,000**

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Field Initiated Projects Program (Development)

The purpose of the Field Initiated Projects program is to generate new knowledge through research or to develop methods, procedures, and technologies -- to maximize the full inclusion and integration into society, employment, independent living, family/caregiver support, and economic and self-sufficiency of people with disabilities, especially people with the greatest support needs. In carrying out a development project under a Field Initiated Projects development grant, a grantee must use knowledge and understanding gained from research to create materials, devices, systems, methods, measures, techniques, tools, prototypes, processes, or intervention protocols that are beneficial to the target population. Please note that this will be the funding opportunity for Field Initiated Projects development proposals. We will invite Field Initiated Projects research proposals under a separate announcement. NIDILRR plans to make 15 Field Initiated Projects awards. Grants will have a 36-month project period, with three 12-month budget periods. NIDILRR's Field Initiated Projects will include a combination of research applications and development applications, depending on the combined ranking of individual research and development applications by the peer review panel. For information on the application process with Administration for Community Living, visit the [ACL program website](#).

Award Max: \$250,000



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State Offices of Rural Health Coordination and Development Program (SORHCDP)

The purpose of the State Offices of Rural Health Coordination and Development Program (SORHCDP) is to develop and maintain activities that will build the capacity of the 50 SORH and rural stakeholders nationwide by strengthening leadership, increasing



**Deadline:
December 9th**

opportunities for collaboration, offering education on policy and emerging health issues, and supporting the core functions of the SORH. This in turn will improve health care in rural areas.

Funding Cycle details for the **SORHCDP FY2025**

Program Goals

- Goal 1: Leadership Development
 - Provide leadership development at national, regional, state, and local levels to increase the impact of SORH.
- Goal 2: Partnerships and Collaboration
 - Facilitate partnerships and collaboration at the national, regional, state, and local levels to improve the exchange of data, information, and best practices that support rural health.
- Goal 3: Addressing Emerging Rural Health Issues
 - Assist in the coordination of rural health care through education on policy and emerging health issues including HRSA priorities.
- Goal 4: SORH Capacity and Efficiency
 - Provide capacity building for SORH core functions to improve SORH efficiency

Application type: New, Competing Continuation

Expected total available FY 2025 funding: **\$950,000**

Expected number and type of awards: Up to 1 Cooperative Agreement

Funding range per award: Up to \$950,000 per budget period

We plan to fund awards in 12-month budget periods for a total 5-year period of performance of August 1, 2025, to July 31, 2030.

The program and awards depend on the appropriation of funds and are subject to

- change based on the availability and amount of appropriations.

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More**

Humanities Research Centers on Artificial Intelligence

The National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) Division of Research is accepting applications for the **Humanities Research Centers on Artificial Intelligence** program. The purpose of this program is to support the establishment of new collaborative humanities research centers focused on the legal, ethical, or societal implications of developing AI technologies. A Center is a sustained collaboration among multiple scholars focused on exploring the humanities implications of AI through two or more related scholarly activities. You may submit an optional prospectus. You must use the prospectus template found under Application Instructions, Step 1 Review your application package, "Program Resources." To receive feedback, you must submit the prospectus by Oct 2, 2024 to aicenters@neh.gov. Put "AI Center Prospectus" in the subject line of the message. NEH staff will only comment on one prospectus per institution per competition deadline.



Maximum award amount: Up to \$750,000 (\$500,000 in outright funds plus \$250,000 in Federal

Matching Funds)

Expected output Curriculum Project; Digital Infrastructure (Software, Website, etc.); Conference; Workshop; Other Scholarly Resource

Period of performance Up to three years

Expected notification date August 31, 2025

Project start date October 1, 2025 - September 1, 2026

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White-nose Syndrome Research for Conservation Grants



White-nose syndrome is a disease impacting multiple species of hibernating bats in North America. It is caused by the non-native fungus *Pseudogymnoascus destructans* (Pd), which was first observed in North America in 2006. As of April 2024, WNS is confirmed in bats in 40 states (**including North Carolina**) and eight Canadian provinces, and evidence of Pd has been detected in at least three additional states and two provinces without observed signs of the disease. Numerous North American and Eurasian species

of bats have been confirmed with WNS or detected carrying Pd. For information on WNS and previously funded projects, please see: <http://www.whitenosesyndrome.org>

Aware Range: \$20,000 - \$250,000 (Expected: \$150,000)

Match: 30%

White-nose Syndrome Research for Conservation Grants complement three additional funding opportunities from the Service in support of the WNS National Response in 2024: 1) WNS Grants to States and Tribes (www.Grants.gov, F24AS00295); 2) Bats for the Future Fund, managed by National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (www.nfwf.org/bats); and 3) White-nose Syndrome Small Grants, managed by Wildlife Management Institute. Contact the Service's WNS national assistant coordinator for more information about these funding opportunities. The use of grant funds requires adherence to established protocols and methodologies developed or espoused by the national WNS working groups for surveillance, diagnostics, population monitoring, conservation and recovery, and disease management (for more information contact the appropriate Service WNS coordinator), as well as the Endangered Species Act, National Historic Preservation Act, and the National Environmental Policy Act. All proposed actions must be in-line with the most current guidance, policies, and information related to the COVID-19 pandemic and SARS-CoV-2. The Service's WNS program is supported through the branches of Ecological Services and Science Applications, and grants will be administered through the Office of Conservation Investment (OCI). Grants will be competitively awarded based on merit review of proposed projects for their applicability and feasibility to address priorities identified in this notice and for their overall contribution to meeting the objectives of the WNS national plan ([White-Nose Syndrome Response Plans](#)).

[Learn More](#)

Walmart - Local Community Grants

Local Community grants range from a minimum of \$250 to a maximum of \$5,000. Eligible nonprofit organizations must operate on the local level (or be an affiliate/chapter of a larger organization that operates locally) and directly benefit the service area of the facility from which they are requesting funding.

There are eight (8) areas of funding for which an organization can apply. Please review the areas listed below to ensure your organization's goals fall within one of these areas.



- Community and Economic Development: Improving local communities for the benefit of low-income individuals and families in the local service area
- Diversity and Inclusion: Fostering the building of relationships and understanding among diverse groups in the local service area
- Education: Providing after-school enrichment, tutoring or vocational training for low-income individuals and families in the local service area
- Environmental Sustainability: Preventing waste, increasing recycling, or supporting other programs that work to improve the environment in the local service area
- Health and Human Service: Providing medical screening, treatment, social services, or shelters for low-income individuals and families in the local service area
- Hunger Relief and Healthy Eating: Providing Federal or charitable meals/snacks for low-income individuals and families in the local service area
- Public Safety: Supporting public safety programs through training programs or equipment in the local service area
- Quality of Life: Improving access to recreation, arts or cultural experiences for low-income individuals and families in the local service area

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National Fish Passage Program



The National Fish Passage Program (NFPP) is a voluntary program that provides direct technical and financial assistance to partners to remove instream barriers and restore aquatic organism passage and aquatic connectivity for the benefit of Federal trust resources. In doing so, NFPP aims to maintain or increase native fish populations to improve ecosystem resiliency and provide quality fishing experiences for the American people. Activities that restore fish passage often

provide ancillary benefits such as reducing flood risk, enhancing community resilience to impacts from climate change, and improving road infrastructure. NFPP funds a variety of project types including, but not limited to, dam removals, culvert replacements, floodplain restoration, and the

installation of fishways.

Award Range: \$500 - \$1,000,000

Match: None Check out the **NOFO** for more details

This funding is available through annual appropriations to the NFPP and is separate from NFPP funding provided through the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (also known as the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law).

Benefits to disadvantaged communities. The program strives to use federal funds to benefit underserved and disadvantaged communities. The program may consider the following variables to determine whether a project benefits a disadvantaged or underserved community, including but not limited to low income or high poverty, high unemployment, linguistic isolation, disproportionate impacts from climate change or other environmental stressors. Applicants should access the Council for Environmental Quality screening tool to help determine to what extent their project benefits disadvantaged communities. Check your area with the <https://screeningtool.geoplatform.gov/>

Benefits for community resilience to climate change. The program may give special consideration to projects demonstrating benefits for climate resiliency to the surrounding community as outlined in Executive Order 14008, Tackling the Climate Crisis at Home and Abroad.

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January 2025

Preservation Assistance Grants for Smaller Institutions

The National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) Division of Preservation and Access is accepting applications for the **Preservation Assistance Grants for Smaller Institutions program**. The program encourages applications from small and mid-sized institutions that have never received an NEH grant. Maximum award amount Up to \$10,000 for organizations in the contiguous U.S. Organizations located in a non-contiguous state or jurisdiction may request an additional \$5,000 for consultants' travel and shipping costs.



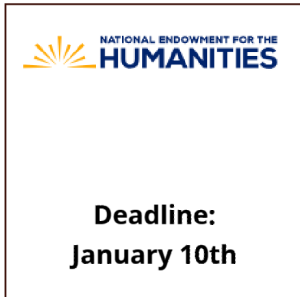
How may funds be used?

Preservation Assistance Grants help small and mid-sized organizations preserve and manage humanities collections, ensuring their significance for a variety of users, including source communities, humanities researchers, students, and the public, by building their capacity to identify and address physical and intellectual preservation risks. These collections may include special collections of books and journals, archives and manuscripts, prints and photographs, moving images, sound recordings, architectural and cartographic records, decorative and fine art objects, textiles, archaeological and ethnographic artifacts, furniture, historical objects, and digital materials.

There will be an information webinar on *October 29, 2024, 2:00 p.m. Eastern Time* Register [here](#).

[Learn More](#)

Sustaining Cultural Heritage Collections



The National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) Division of Preservation and Access is accepting applications for the **Sustaining Cultural Heritage Collections program**. A pre-recorded webinar will be published on their page by November 29, 2024. This program helps cultural institutions meet the complex challenge of preserving large and diverse holdings of humanities materials for future generations by supporting environmentally sustainable preventive care measures that mitigate deterioration, prolong the useful life of

collections, reduce energy consumption, and strengthen institutions' ability to anticipate and respond to disasters. *Option draft due December 5th.*

There are three levels of funding. **Planning (up to \$50,000)** provides funding for institutions to develop and assess environmentally sustainable preventive care strategies in collection spaces. **Implementation Level I (up to \$100,000)** provides funding for institutions to implement environmentally sustainable preventive care projects that address specific, discrete preservation challenges that have been identified through an assessment. **Implementation Level II (up to \$350,000)** provides funding for institutions to implement environmentally sustainable preventive care projects that address large or multifaceted preservation challenges that have been identified through assessments and planning conducted by a multidisciplinary collaborative professional team appropriate to the goals of the project.

How may funds be used?

Displayed expected output Improved conditions for collection storage and display; Improved systems and resilience for collections; Reduced energy usage and costs; In-depth preservation studies and plans.

Period of performance Up to two years for Planning and Implementation Level I; up to three years for Implementation Level II.

[Learn More](#)

Rural Energy for America Program Energy Audit & Renewable Energy Development Assistance Grants in North Carolina

This program assists rural small businesses and agricultural producers by conducting and promoting energy audits and providing Renewable Energy Development Assistance (REDA).

How may funds be used?

The assistance must be provided to agricultural producers and rural

small businesses. Rural small businesses must be located in **eligible rural areas**. This restriction does not apply to agricultural producers. Assistance provided must consist of:

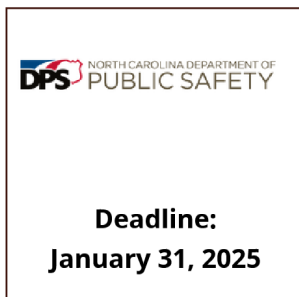
- Energy audits.
- Renewable energy technical assistance.
- Renewable energy site assessments.



Applicants must submit separate applications, limited to one energy audit and one Renewable Energy Development Assistance (REDA) per fiscal year. The maximum aggregate amount of an energy audit and REDA grant in a Federal fiscal year is \$100,000.

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State and Local Cybersecurity Grant Program (SLCGP)



DHS/FEMA currently estimates that they will publish the FY24 State and Local Cybersecurity Grant Program (SLCGP) Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) sometime in August 2024, all dates subject to change. We anticipate soliciting subrecipients for FY24 SLCGP funding in North Carolina sometime after the NOFO is published by DHS/FEMA, all dates subject to change. This website will be updated as more details become available. **Estimated match: 20%**

How may funds be used, looking at the 2023 NOFO?

1. Manage, monitor, and track information systems, applications, and user accounts owned or operated by, or on behalf of, the state or local governments within the state, and the information technology deployed on those information systems, including legacy information systems and information technology that are no longer supported by the manufacturer of the systems or technology.
2. Monitor, audit, and track network traffic and activity transiting or traveling to or from information systems, applications, and user accounts owned or operated by, or on behalf of, the state or local governments within the state.
3. Enhance the preparation, response, and resilience of information systems, applications, and user accounts owned or operated by, or on behalf of, the state or local governments within the state, against cybersecurity risks and cybersecurity threats.
4. Implement a process of continuous cybersecurity vulnerability assessments and threat mitigation practices prioritized by degree of risk to address cybersecurity risks and cybersecurity threats on information systems, applications, and user accounts owned or operated by, or on behalf of, the state or local governments within the state.
5. Ensure that the state or local governments within the state, adopt and use best practices and methodologies to enhance cybersecurity, discussed further below.
 - Implement multi-factor authentication
 - Implement enhanced logging
 - Data encryption for data at rest and in transit
 - End use of unsupported/end of life software and hardware that are accessible from the

internet

- Prohibit use of known/fixed/default passwords and credentials
- Ensure the ability to reconstitute systems (backups); and
- Migration to the .gov internet domain

Additional best practices that the Cybersecurity Plan can address include:

- The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Cybersecurity Framework
 - NIST's cyber chain supply chain risk management best practices; and
 - Knowledge bases of adversary tools and tactics
1. Promote the delivery of safe, recognizable, and trustworthy online services by the state or local governments within the state, including through the use of the .gov internet domain.
 2. Ensure continuity of operations of the state or local governments within the state, in the event of a cybersecurity incident, including by conducting exercises to practice responding to a cybersecurity incident.
 3. Use the National Initiative for Cybersecurity Education (NICE) Workforce Framework for Cybersecurity developed by NIST to identify and mitigate any gaps in the cybersecurity workforces of the state or local governments within the state, enhance recruitment and retention efforts for those workforces, and bolster the knowledge, skills, and abilities of personnel of the state or local governments within the state, to address cybersecurity risks and cybersecurity threats, such as through cybersecurity hygiene training.
 4. Ensures continuity of communication and data networks within the jurisdiction of the state between the state and local governments within the state in the event of an incident involving those communications or data networks.
 5. Assess and mitigate, to the greatest degree possible, cybersecurity risks and cybersecurity threats relating to critical infrastructure and key resources, the degradation of which may impact the performance of information systems within the jurisdiction of the state.
 6. Enhance capabilities to share cyber threat indicators and related information between the state, local governments within the state, and CISA.
 7. Leverage cybersecurity services offered by the Department (See Appendix G for additional information on CISA resources and required services and membership).
 8. Implement an information technology and operational technology modernization cybersecurity review process that ensures alignment between information technology and operational technology cybersecurity objectives.
 9. Develop and coordinate strategies to address cybersecurity risks and cybersecurity threats. Local governments and associations of local governments within the state should be consulted. Cybersecurity Planning Committees should also consider consulting neighboring entities, including adjacent states and countries.
 10. Ensure adequate access to, and participation in, the services and programs described in this subparagraph by rural areas within the state.
 11. Distribute funds, items, services, capabilities, or activities to local governments.

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Training & Resources



High-speed, affordable broadband is the infrastructure of opportunity. Our goal is to bring open, affordable, high-performance broadband to all people in the U.S. to ensure a thriving democracy. Benton believes that communications policy—rooted in the values of access, equity, and diversity—has the power to deliver new opportunities and strengthen communities.

[YouTube Channel: Benton Institute for Broadband](#)



CSEN: The Cyber Security Entertainment Network

The National Cybersecurity Alliance excited to partner with Greatest Training Ever to bring you CSEN: The Cyber Security Entertainment Network! Led by renown newsman and on-air personality Chet Barkley, CSEN features an an ensemble cast that delivers fun, relevant, and timely cyber security tips and advice.

[YouTube Playlist: The Cyber Security Entertainment Network](#)

StaySafeOnlineNCA is the official YouTube channel of the National Cybersecurity Alliance. NCA's mission is to educate and therefore empower a digital society to use the Internet safely and securely at home, work, and school, protecting the technology individuals use, the networks they connect to, and our shared digital assets. For more information, visit www.staysafeonline.org.

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