

Office of Community and Rural Affairs

IC 4-4-38-10 Annual Report

8/1/2018

Indiana Code 4-4-38-10 requires the Office of Community and Rural Affairs (OCRA) to submit an annual report to the Indiana General Assembly regarding activities associated with the Broadband Grants for Unserved Areas program. The following report includes information required under the statute.

(1) The number, amounts, and recipients of grants awarded under this chapter.

No grants have been awarded at this time.

(2) The status of any funded qualified broadband projects.

No qualified broadband projects have been funded.

(3) Expenses incurred and funds spent by the office in administering this chapter.

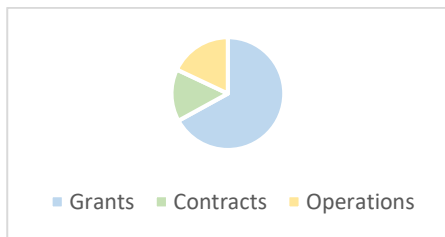
OCRA staff have dedicated a minimum of 67 hours of various staff members' time, including the Executive Director, Deputy Director, Operations Director and two Program Managers, totaling over \$2,500.00 in salary costs.

(4) A list of the entities, if any, that the office collaborated with in administering this chapter.

OCRA has consulted with other states that have similar broadband infrastructure grant programs on best practices, program development, administration and implementation. (Virginia, Colorado, Tennessee, Minnesota)

(5) An accounting of funds in the rural economic development fund established by IC 4-4-9.7-9, including funds awarded as grants under this chapter.

Approximately 67% of the rural economic development fund is used for grants, 18% on operations and 15% on contracts. Programs funded using rural economic development dollars include Quick Impact Placebased Grant, Stellar Communities Planning Grants, Youth Engagement Program, Impact Main Street, Connecting Communities, and Promise Indiana Planning Grants. All funds have been allocated to specific grant programs, operations and contracts for fiscal year 2019.



(6) The number of locations in Indiana to which broadband infrastructure has been deployed with the use of grant funds under this chapter, including address-level information for newly connected locations.

No broadband infrastructure has been deployed at the time this report was submitted.

(7) The overall progress of the deployment of broadband infrastructure for the provision of qualified broadband service in unserved areas in Indiana.

OCRA has been in the process of developing the rural broadband infrastructure grant program, as interpreted from HEA 1065-2018. Additionally, OCRA continues to gather research and information from other states and entities on best practices and lessons learned. The Indiana Broadband Map for the state of Indiana has been updated and a statewide broadband symposium is being planned for Fall 2018.