

Research and Education Networks: Building Communities



Panelists

- Carol Farnham, MIDnet
- Jen Leasure, The Quilt
- Mark Johnson, MCNC
- George Laskaris, NJEDGE
- Dave Reese, CENIC



What is The Quilt?

- Established in 2000
- 501(c)3
- A collaboration of leading advanced regional networking organizations with several affiliate participants
- Aim is to promote consistent, reliable, interoperable and efficient advanced networking services that extends to the broadest possible community
- Projects are volunteer led and self-supporting
- www.thequilt.net



2010 Quilt Executive Committee

Executive Committee

- Jen Leasure, The Quilt – President and CEO
- Dave Reese, CENIC – Chair
- James Deaton, OneNet – Vice Chair
- Ron Hutchins, SoX - Secretary
- Mike Phillips, LEARN - Treasurer
- Claude Garelik, Great Plains Network
- Wendy Huntoon, 3ROX
- Myron Lowe, Northern Lights
- Paul Schopis , OARnet
- Veronica Sarjeant, FLR

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Panel Background

- Since 2007, The Quilt and MIDnet have supported a joint effort to collect case studies and data for regional R&E networking organizations
- Effort has documented areas of where models differ as well as commonalities among organizations
- One key common trait among all the organizations is the significant efforts toward member outreach and community building
- Many of these organizations find themselves employing their successful outreach and community building techniques with new BTOP projects

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BTOP Overview

- American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) announced February 2009
- Two rounds of funding
- Broadband Technology Opportunities Program and Broadband Initiatives Program
 - U.S Government Set Aside \$6 billion for broadband and wireless services in underserved areas
 - Provide broadband education, awareness, training, access, equipment, and support to schools, libraries, medical and healthcare providers, community colleges and other institutions of higher education, and other community support organizations and
- Funded projects need to track and report economic stimulus results

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BTOP and R&E Networks

- Significant topic of interest for regional and state research and education networks
 - Serving community anchor institutions is the keystone of many of the regional R&E networks
 - One of the BTOP Statutory Purposes is stimulating broadband, economic growth, and job creation.
 - BTOP reporting requirements will provide a consistent way to measure the economic impact of our R&E networks on local communities

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BTOP Infrastructure R&E Projects

Round 1

- Funded: 14 R&E Involved Projects
- \$479M
- 5,000 Jobs
- 1,800 CAI's

Round 2

- Funded: 20 R&E Involved Projects
- \$1.2B
- 8,465 Jobs
- 6,065 CAI's

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RON Communities Served Today

Participant Segment	Direct + Indirect* (Current + BTOP)
Higher Ed - Public	100%
Higher Ed - Private	99%
Community Colleges	92%
K-12	104%
Community Development	69%
Local and State Government	81%
Healthcare	104%
Public Libraries	77%
Public Safety	42%
National Labs	50%

- Some segments are not served yet for a variety of reasons:
 - Efforts are underway
 - State policies
 - Organizational mission
- For healthcare, this high percentage is primarily the connections to university-related medical sites and other non-profit healthcare

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Building Communities

- BTOP: Provided funding for extending the reach to new communities and increasing the number of current communities.
- It's not enough to provide a network connection to a new community
- R&E networks provide training, consulting, support and services specific to the communities they serve

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Building Communities

- Community building activities are often specific to participant segment
- Take the form of:
 - Community workshops
 - Member meetings or community days
 - Showcase member projects in various forums
 - Website, wikis, newsletters

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