



BROADBAND INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM **Spectrum**

SUCCESS STORY

Charter Communications is a connectivity company providing broadband, video, mobile, and voice services to over 30 million customers in 41 states under the brand name Spectrum. Spectrum provides services to consumers across South Carolina.

With nine total projects, Spectrum received approximately \$340,000 in CARES Act funding to help expand broadband infrastructure in South Carolina.

Impact to Community

CARES Act funding assisted the company with its goal to expand to unserved areas in South Carolina where it might not have served or not have deployed service until a later date.

Receiving CARES Act funding allowed the company to install infrastructure that delivers high-speed broadband to customers. The CARES Act projects installed hybrid fiber-coax, providing customers with access to a maximum download/upload speed of 940 Mbps/25 Mbps.

AT A GLANCE

Number of Projects: 9

Total Project Cost: \$695,775

CARES Act Funding: \$342,875

Households Passed*: 441

Technology deployed:
Hybrid fiber-coax

Maximum download/upload speeds:
940 Mbps/25 Mbps

**The residence or business is eligible to subscribe to services.*



“ I’ve been thrilled with my broadband expansion. Before, it was awful. We had satellite, and it capped us at 100 gigs. I work from home, so working from home and trying to do Zoom calls, I would tap out by the 15th of the month. Then they throttle you, and you go all the way down to dial-up, and I couldn’t even check my email. We built our dream home on a farm in a rural area, and we never planned for not having internet. When they showed up, I thought I was going to cry. I can run everything I want to run. It is not an understatement to say that it’s been life changing for us. ”

Susan Minck
Resident in Darlington, SC



Helping Consumers During COVID-19

Spectrum's CARES Act projects allow residents the ability to perform virtual telehealth visits with health-care facilities and hospitals using high-speed internet, thereby reducing the risk of spreading the COVID-19 virus to others.

Employees are now able to complete work previously hindered by the lack of access to broadband.

Many students in Spectrum's territory are attending classes virtually. High-speed internet allows students to continue learning while at home.

Many companies have required employees to work from home. Employees are now able to complete work previously hindered by the lack of access to broadband. Additionally, these employees are able to share bandwidth with their children who may be attending school virtually.



Project Area

Spectrum's projects were completed in the following counties:

- Anderson
- Chesterfield
- Darlington
- Florence
- Greenville
- Kershaw
- Laurens
- Oconee
- Spartanburg



Average Cost

The average cost is determined by taking the total cost of the project and dividing by the number of locations. This is the average cost based on the amount of CARES Act funding received and not what a consumer would pay.

Per Location Passed: \$777.49

CARES Act

The South Carolina General Assembly passed Act 142 authorizing the ORS to expend up to \$50 million for broadband initiatives related to COVID-19. The expansion of broadband infrastructure emphasized services to rural communities and communities with a high prevalence of COVID-19 or with demographic characteristics consistent with risk factors for COVID-19.



About the Office of Regulatory Staff

The ORS represents consumers of investor-owned utilities in South Carolina before the PSC. The PSC is the state agency that sets utilities' rates. The ORS must look at the impact to the consumer and utilities' continued investment in reliable and high-quality services.

