



## BROADBAND INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM **TruVista Communications**

## SUCCESS STORY

TruVista Communications (TruVista) provides voice, internet, video television, security, long-distance, and wireless services to consumers in Chester, Fairfield, Kershaw and parts of Richland counties.

With three total projects, TruVista received over \$900,000 in CARES Act funding to help expand broadband infrastructure in South Carolina.

### Impact to Community

Receiving CARES Act funding allowed TruVista to install infrastructure that delivers high-speed fiber broadband to customers. With these CARES Act projects, previously unserved homes and businesses now have access to fiber to the premises, delivering download speeds of up to 1 Gbps.

Access to high-speed broadband can benefit economic development. Companies looking to locate to the area now have access to fiber broadband. Small businesses now also have broadband available.

### AT A GLANCE

**Number of Projects:** 3

**Total Project Cost:** \$1,875,399

**CARES Act Funding:** \$937,699

**Households Served:** 326

**Households Passed\*:** 554

**Businesses Passed:** 3

**Community Anchor Points Passed:** 3

**Technology deployed:**  
Fiber to the premises

**Minimum download/upload speeds:**  
25 Mbps/3 Mbps

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



“ As a parent of two virtual school students, one middle and one high school, I am grateful for the services that TruVista has provided us during this time. TruVista’s internet has provided my children with the ability to complete work and continue their education remotely without missing a class. We have had great service, and my students have not had any interruptions due to internet trouble so far this year. ”

*Rebecca Crouch  
Chester County School District parent*

## Helping Consumers During COVID-19

With limited access to health-care facilities and Fairfield County closing its only hospital, many residents previously had to travel out of their immediate area to health-care centers. TruVista'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.

**TruVista's CARES Act projects allow residents the ability to perform virtual telehealth visits.**

Many students in the Chester and Fairfield County School Districts are attending classes virtually. High-speed internet allows students to continue learning while at home.

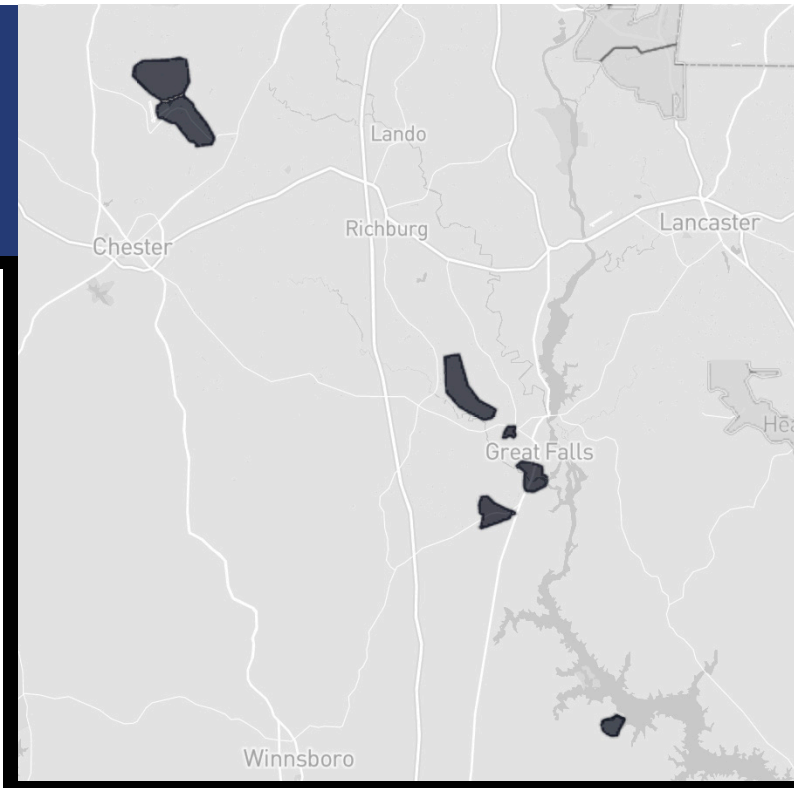
Many companies have required employees to work from home. Employees are now able to complete work previously hindered by the lack of access to broadband. Additionally, these employees are able to share bandwidth with their children who may be attending school virtually.



### Project Area

TruVista's projects were completed in the following counties:

- Chester
- Fairfield



### 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 Served: \$5,752.76**

### 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.

