Our Latest Effective Partnerships

Getting rural America quickly connected to high-speed internet is a top priority for Rural LISC and our partners. That’s why we’re pleased to work together with Truist, Microsoft, Wells Fargo and others to bridge the digital divide. Through our collaborations, we identify connectivity gaps and help underserved communities gain affordable internet and device access, leading to broad community and economic development.

The outcome? Our investors have a trusted and effective partner in Rural LISC’s 35-organization strong National Digital Equity Network, delivering access, adoption and opportunity across rural America.

Project Highlights

Rural LISC sees opportunities others might miss. Supported by Truist and working with The Cameron Foundation, Rural LISC led the formation of the Greater Petersburg Broadband Taskforce, successfully bringing in $14 million in Virginia Telecommunications Initiative (VATI) broadband infrastructure grants, and accelerating HBCU Virginia State University’s digital equity plan.

The outcome? Families in south central rural Virginia will have long-term, high-speed connectivity and the community gains the capacity needed to strengthen regional broadband infrastructure investments.

Partner with LISC to move digital infrastructure forward

Contact:
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Rural LISC Delivers Infrastructure Development at the Speed of Trust

As a U.S. Treasury-certified Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI), LISC serves as an intermediary by connecting trusted partners and private philanthropy to shape and deliver programs with impact. In the broadband space we do this by:

- Working with and through communities to identify the best connectivity and technology solutions
- Connecting individuals and families to a 1:1 digital coach
- Bringing local voices to internet providers to strengthen community investment
- Helping rural towns and counties build broadband development plans
- Building local community capacity

More than 2,000 individuals and families moved from digital poverty to digital opportunity last year.

Investing in Rural Areas

For more than 25 years, Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC) has been driving social and economic impact by investing in American communities that need it most. As a trusted intermediary, the Rural LISC team pools private and public dollars to drive broadband access and adoption to income-insecure families, with transformational results.

Success on the Ground

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With LISC as a partner, our response to the connectivity crisis meets the moment. It's accelerating our communities to deliver increased access and opportunity for a more equitable future.

LYNETTE BELL
PRESIDENT
TRUIST FOUNDATION

A Trusted Intermediary

$7.28 Billion
Grants, loans, and lines of credit invested in rural communities since Rural LISC began in 1995

$28 Million
Leveraged for rural broadband projects in 2022

120 Digital Coaches
Trained and deployed in community anchors in 20 states driving access and adoption

Early Catalytic Broadband Investors

Truist
Microsoft
Wells Fargo
Hearst Foundations
Schwab Charitable Trust
The Cameron Foundation
AT&T

“With LISC as a partner, our response to the connectivity crisis meets the moment. It's accelerating our communities to deliver increased access and opportunity for a more equitable future.”

LYNETTE BELL
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TRUIST FOUNDATION
We’re the Human Infrastructure
Moving Digital Infrastructure Forward

Institutional Leadership
Meets On-the-Ground Opportunity:
Partnering with Rural LISC

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Grass Roots. Big Impact.
Rural LISC has the human infrastructure needed to move digital infrastructure forward.

We invest in:
• Holistic, integrated practices to meet community digital equity needs
• Organizational capacity building
• Wrap-around services that increase technology adoption
• Private-sector match programs
• Equipment and skilling
• Leverage and access to resources

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