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ADVANCED COMMUNICATIONS SERVICES & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY WORK GROUP (ACS)

Lead Organization: Great Valley Center

ACTIONS	STATUS	2010 1st QUARTER (Jan 1 - Mar 31)
Goal 1: Expedite the provision of advanced communications services (ACS) access in all areas of the San Joaquin Valley.	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Objective A: Raise the profile of access to ACS as a fundamental and necessary service for all residents and businesses.		
Task 1- Convene stakeholders and experts group as the Advanced Communications Services Work Group.	IP	Quarterly Advanced Communications Services Work Group (ACS) meetings. Next meeting April 26, 2010.
Task 2- Work with state agencies to develop an action plan for implementing the Governor's Executive Order to include barriers, strategies, and indicators for progress.		Discontinued
Task 3- Vet the concept of a Regional Advanced Communication Office (RASCO) and come to Work Group consensus.	NP	Work group to determine feasibility
Task 4- Oversee state agencies and Work Group development of topic areas list for indicators report, which would be produced following the 30-month time line at the end of year three.		
Objective B: Inform local elected officials about the benefits of ubiquitous access to ACS and provide model policies and other tools to help facilitate deployment.		
Task 1- In conjunction with PUC, local government organizations, and state agencies, develop a primer document for elected officials by synthesizing and augmenting existing primers to be approved by the work group.	IP	
Task 2-Develop list of partner organizations for discussions of steps in years three and beyond.	IP	New partner organizations invited to next ACS meeting for discussion of next steps, three years and beyond
Objective C: Identify communities and neighborhoods without affordable connections to delivery of ACS.	C	Completed with California Broadband Report
Task 1- Work with the PUC and others to develop a directory of the ACS service providers in the Central Valley for the purpose of identifying underserved communities.	IP	Updating current ACS directory
Task 2- Work with the PUC to determine how to survey service providers to garner information on costs and service provision. Work with PUC to develop base map of available infrastructure and access costs.		
Objective D: Increase availability of affordable ACS in rural and other underserved areas.	C	Access rates over 95%
Task 1- Develop matrix showing the areas where coverage does not appear available per the coverage data supplied by the main providers.	C	Identified through California Broadband Report
Task 2- Work with appropriate state agencies and Work Group to identify incentives a Technology Opportunity Zone could provide and how it could be implemented.	IP	

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Task 3- Work with CPUC, CSAC, LCC, CSBA providers, stakeholders and Work Group, to develop action plan for increasing availability of affordable ACS in rural and underserved areas.	IP	Stimulus application pending
Objective E: Increase deployment of ACS by current and prospective service providers.		
Task 1- Invite representatives of CPUC, CSAC, LCC, CSBA, providers and stakeholders to determine initial strategies for implementation of ACS Action Plan referenced in Objective D.	IP	Representatives invited to next ACS meeting
Objective F: Increase deployment through wired, fixed wireless, wireless and other available technologies.		Discontinued
Task 1 Provide opportunities for presentations by affected parties on regulatory barriers to implementing emerging technologies. Work with CPUC to identify strategies for reducing these barriers.		Discontinued
Objective G: Eliminate installation barriers that discourage deployment.		Discontinued
Task 1 Initiate this work in conjunction with Objective F.		Discontinued
Objective H: Identify and seek all available funding for deployment of ACS.	IP	CETF and CENIC ARRA application pending
Task 1- Develop a list of potentially applicable funding sources and identify the most promising through the Work Group process.	IP	ARRA applications pending
Task 2- Utilizing Work Group and state agency resources, solicit legislative assistance for eliminating restrictions on the Rural Telecommunications Infrastructure grant program.		
Objective I: Leverage unused bandwidth for the benefit of the greatest number of users.		Discontinued
Task 1 Convene representatives of CENIC and Broadband Institute of California to discuss the feasibility of a best practices guidebook. Identify funding for such a guidebook.		Discontinued
Task 2 Convene this same group to meet with Federal Communications Commission staff to discuss unused bandwidth.		Discontinued
Objective J: Incorporate ACS infrastructure into all new residential and commercial construction.		Discontinued
Task 1 Begin discussions with California Building Industry Association in regard to incorporating ACS into new construction.		Discontinued
Task 2 Initiate Work Group draft model policies and ordinances based upon above discussions.		Discontinued
Task 3 Facilitate BTH and HUD meetings regarding integration ACS into affordable housing programs.		Discontinued
Goal 2: Promote accessibility and utilization of ACS in targeted underserved communities and populations.	<input type="checkbox"/>	

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Objective A: Increase utilization of ACS by all residents.	W	
Task 1- Work with CPUC, state agencies and the California Emerging Technology Fund (CETF) to explore opportunities for cooperation and joint ventures to expand accessibility to underserved communities.		
Task 2- Explore avenues and partnerships for funding solicitation and project implementation. Capture in Action Plan.		
Task 3- Evaluate Pixley Connect project as a model for other communities.	C	Program evaluation completed; model for expansion in place
Objective B: Inform local elected officials about the importance and benefit of access to ACS and IT for all residents and businesses.		
Task 1- Expand upon primer listed in Goal 1, Objective B.		
Task 2- Expand list of partner organizations for discussions of steps in years three and beyond.		
Objective C: Implement projects to provide access to ACS and IT for all residents and businesses to provide access to ACS and IT for all residents and businesses to eliminate the digital divide.		
In addition to activities listed in Goal 1, Objective D; incorporate discussions with CETF and other potential funders regarding a process to invite proposals.		
Objective D: Develop and implement a program to ensure all high school students graduate with basic computer literacy skills.		Discontinued
Engage PreK-12 Education Work Group in discussions leading to identification of task force to begin this work.		Discontinued
Work with PreK-12 Education Work Group to monitor progress on development of curriculum and implementation plan.		Discontinued
Objective E: Expand the number of public locations for access to ACS to help disadvantaged residents and businesses to bridge the digital divide.		Discontinued
Work with CPUC to identify needed amendments to existing statutes, regulations and funding programs to address obstacles. In conjunction with CPUC, develop report.		Discontinued
Identify appropriate routes and champions for seeking amendments		Discontinued
Goal 3: Expand and replicate successful model programs to increase access to ACS and IT to bridge the digital divide.	<input type="checkbox"/> IP	Looking to expand Pixley Connect to the North Valley, CENIC and CETF ARRA application pending

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Objective A: Develop and implement a plan to expand and replicate the most successful strategies and programs to bridge the digital divide.	IP	Replication of Pixley Connect program in Delano and Stockton; working with Stanislaus County T3 program to replicate their successful strategies
Refer to above related activities		
Objective B: Foster demand for ACS access in underserved and disadvantaged communities, such as encouraging economic development and growth of home-based businesses.	IP	Pixley Connect and Stanislaus T3 actively working to foster demand for ACS in underserved and disadvantaged communities
All activities above will be in support of this goal but outcomes will be outside of the 30-month timeframe.		
Goal 4: Accelerate deployment of ACS infrastructure through telemedicine and eHealth technology.		Discontinued
Objective A: Develop and implement a telemedicine and eHealth plan to connect health clinics with medical centers.		Discontinued
Work with Health and Human Services Work Group to Convene CA Telemedicine and eHealth Center, CETF, BTH, HHS and stakeholders to develop plan for model project		Discontinued
Work with Health and Human Services Work Group to engage partners above in developing plan for implementing Electronic Health records.		Discontinued
Objective B: Build upon ACS infrastructure for telemedicine and eHealth to promote other applications for education and economic development to increase access and affordability.		
Ensure opportunities are provided for CENIC and EDCs to participate in above activities.	IP	
Challenges/Problems/Bottlenecks/Feedback encountered during the quarter		Funding continues to be an issue.
New funds leveraged during the quarter.		