BroadbandUSA
Connecting America's Communities

Overview of Technical Assistance Program

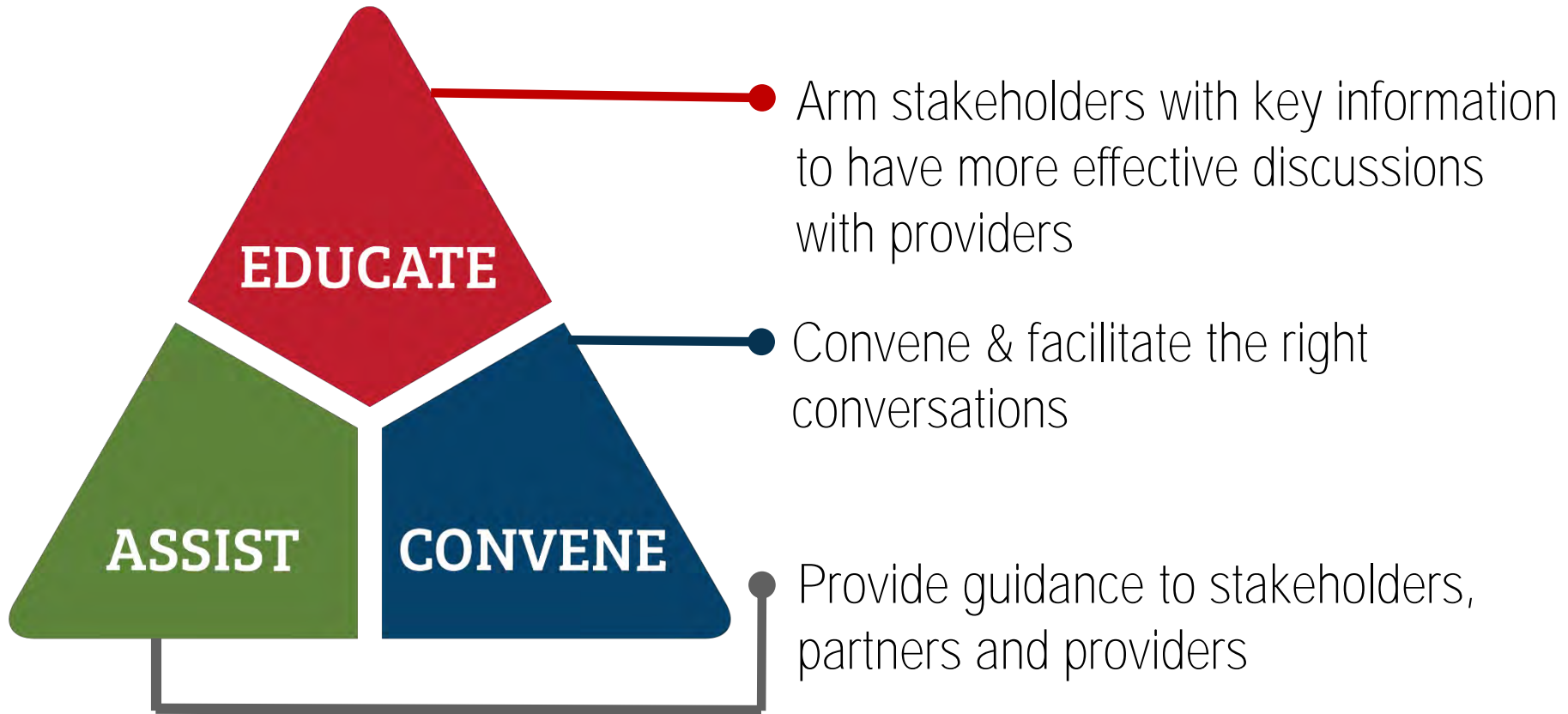## GMA Broadband Conference 2.0

Warner Robins, GA

October 2, 2019

The National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) advises on international and domestic telecom policy issues

- Expanding broadband access and adoption

- Expanding the use of spectrum by all users

- Ensuring that the Internet remains an engine for continued innovation and economic growth

- Supporting public safety communications

NTIA's BroadbandUSA program educates stakeholders, facilitates relationships, and provides helpful resources

EDUCATE — Arm stakeholders with key information to have more effective discussions with providers

CONVENE — Convene & facilitate the right conversations

ASSIST — Provide guidance to stakeholders, partners and providers

BroadbandUSA shares best practices for broadband infrastructure deployment

Support 71% of customers
with planning activities

Planning   Funding   Implementation

Market
Costs

Feasibility Study ($40-57k)   Business Planning/Funding Models ($43-135k)   Design/Build ($1-20M+) $20M+

Project leaders can use broadband deployment plans to secure funding for infrastructure projects
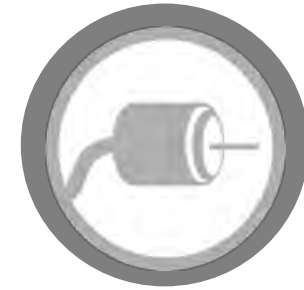
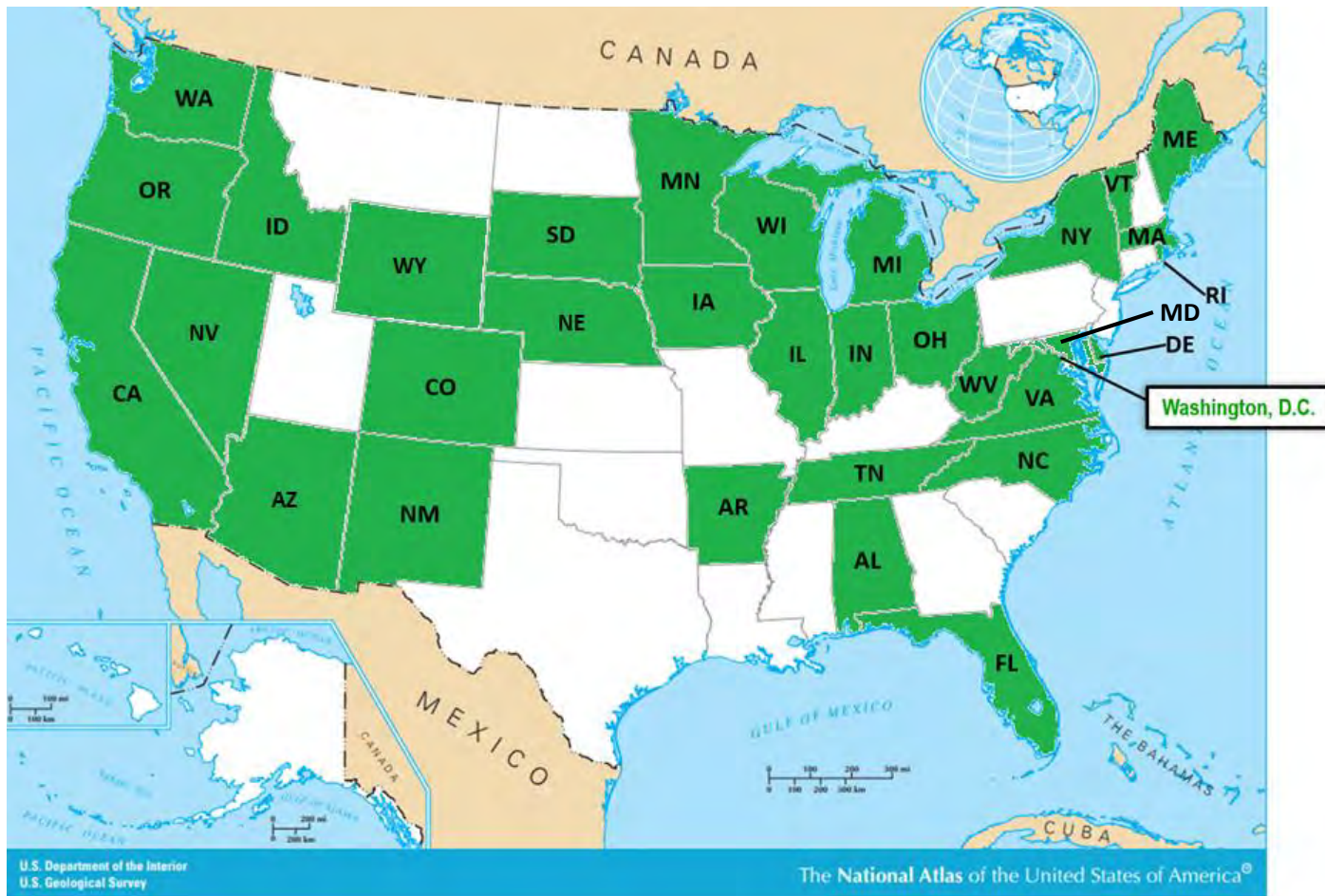Support 61% of customers
with funding activities

Planning

Funding

Implementation

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State Broadband Leaders Network

- SBLN: a community of practitioners who work on state broadband initiatives. Outgrowth of State Broadband Initiative Program under BTOP.

- SBLN participants share priorities and best practices and discuss emerging telecommunications policy issues.

- SBLN also provides a forum to strengthen policy and program connections among states, local jurisdictions and federal agencies

- Growth in state broadband initiatives:
  - Fifteen states in 2017
  - Forty-six states and territories in 2019

States with Broadband Funding Programs

NTIA's Federal Funding Guide Advises Communities On Accessing Federal Funding For Broadband Projects

The publication provides a list of key federal programs that offer funding for broadband-related projects and includes:

- *Information regarding the purpose of each program*

- *Potential restrictions on funding*

- *Rules for eligibility*

BroadbandUSA: Guide to Federal Funding of Broadband Projects

SEPTEMBER 2015

BROADBANDUSA
CONNECTING AMERICA'S COMMUNITIES

Several federal agencies have resources that can be used for broadband planning and deployment initiatives

HUD's *Community Development Block Grant Program* can be used for broadband deployment efforts in HUD supported housing programs

Housing & Urban Development (HUD)

EDA's *Economic Adjustment Assistance Program* can be used for broadband planning efforts as part of an economic development strategy

Economic Development Administration (EDA)

USDA's *ReConnect Rural Broadband Program* can be used for broadband infrastructure deployment efforts in rural communities

USDA Rural Utilities Service (RUS)

USDA's Rural Utilities Service provides loans and
loan guarantees to fund broadband in eligible areas

Telecommunications Infrastructure Loan Programs	• Targeted towards rural areas with a population of 5,000 or less • Partnerships with other federal, state, local, private and non-profit entities are encouraged
Farm Bill Broadband Loans Programs	• Targeted towards rural areas with population of 20,000 or less • Areas wherein at least 15 percent of households in the proposed funding area are unserved

BroadbandUSA is available to help with broadband access and digital inclusion efforts

Request Technical Assistance:

- Email: broadbandusa@ntia.doc.gov
- Submit Technical Assistance form: https://broadbandusa.ntia.doc.gov/ntia-common-content/how-we-can-help
- Direct Phone: 202-482-2048

Resources:

- Website: https://broadbandusa.ntia.doc.gov/

Our Contact Information:

Scott Woods - SWoods@ntia.gov