

Literature Review On Broadband

Feza Anaise Umutoni, Pravesh Agarwal, Zach Shunnarah



What is broadband?

- **FCC** --- “any technology capable of supporting the transfer of data exceeding 200 kbps in at least one direction (upstream or downstream)” (Flamm & Chaudhuri,

2007)



- **Verizon** --- “broadband provides high speed internet access via multiple types of technologies including fiber optics, wireless, cable, DSL and satellite”

(<https://www.verizon.com/info/definitions/broadband>)

External Factors & Disparities

- Broadband disparity is real --- unequal access to broadband
- San Antonio case study (Reddick et al., 2020)
 - + Disparity between rural and urban
 - + Disparity also between cities themselves
 - + Due to marginalized low income communities
- Local = 27% of TN residents lack access to internet connectivity (“Broadband by the Numbers,” n.d.)

Solutions --- Short vs Long Term



Short Term/band-aid solutions:

- 2013 fund by FCC = extend broadband access to rural areas with focus on health care (Federal Communications Commission, 2013)
- Last month federal program = Emergency Broadband Benefit (Knapp, 2021)
 - + \$3.2 billion
 - + Access to tech, especially if affected by pandemic
 - + \$50 overall discount, \$100 one-time discount to buy source
 - + Problem = funds will run out

Long Term Solutions:

- FCC restructured universal service to support health care (Federal Communications Commission, 2013)
 - + Save lives, lower health care costs

Other Institutions

- Libraries = most prominent places to offer access to internet (DeGuzman et al., 2020)
- Schools, Government offices
 - + Broadband hub
 - + Open to public



THRIVE



- Follow success based on their values
 - + stewardship, relationship-building, inclusiveness, results-oriented, and quality (Thrive Regional Partnership, n.d., p. 1)
- Tri-state area (TN, GA, AL)
- Specifically in TN
 - + “600,000+ Tennesseans who have no access to a wired connection capable of 25 MBPS” (“Broadband by the Numbers,” n.d.)

Ultimate Goal

Helping combat lack of broadband access has common goal:

“Broadband can be built to unite, equitably, and without prejudice. We can make our region a place where both innovation and investment in such infrastructure benefit everyone who lives here, no matter ethnicity, rural or urban, or sector.” (Thrive

Regional Partnership, n.d., p. 1)

- Geoff Millener, Senior programs and operations officer for the Enterprise Center

Thank you!!! Questions?