

NC Hearts Gigabit 2nd Annual Interactive

FRIDAY, APRIL 26TH FROM 9:30^{AM} – 4:00^{PM}

North Carolina Rural Economic Development Center, Raleigh



Agenda

9:30 – 10:00 AM

Welcome:

NC Broadband Matters

Commissioner Sig Hutchinson,
Vice Chair, Wake County, Board of Commissioners

John Coggin,
Director of Advocacy, NC Rural Economic Development Center

Representative Robert T. Reives II,
NC House of Representatives, Chatham/Durham Counties

10:00 – 11:00 AM

Broadband Access Matters

Access to modern broadband infrastructure matters for public health and safety, in education, and to farming. This session offers an opportunity for peer-to-peer sharing on the successful development of local applications for telehealth, disaster recovery, public safety, precision agriculture and e-learning.

Moderator:

Kenny Flowers, Assistant Secretary for Rural Economic Development, NC Commerce

Speakers:

Will Aycock, General Manager, Greenlight Community Broadband

Greg Coltrain, VP Business Development, RiverStreet Networks

Charles Laird, Program Specialist, NC FirstTech

John Graham, Chair, NC Telehealth Network Association

Keith Purvis, President, Greenville Produce Company

11:00 – 12:00 PM

Broadband Finance Matters

How can communities use their resources to finance alternative internet networks when bypassed by traditional providers? This session will highlight federal grants, loans, local bank programs and public/private partnerships structured around in-kind public facilities, with insights on how to attract providers.

Moderator:

Nate Denny, Chief of Staff and Legislative Liaison, NCDIT

Speakers:

Alan Fitzpatrick, CEO, Open Broadband

Eric Cramer, President & CEO, RiverStreet Networks

Jonathan Bullock, VP Corporate Development & Government, Hotwire Communications

Gloria Hancock, Managing Director, CoBank

12:00 – 12:15 PM

Keynote Welcome: Josh Stein, NC Attorney General

“Digital connectivity is the glue of the modern American economy. Yet for all of broadband’s economic benefits, the country continues to face a significant digital divide at the household level.”

– BROOKINGS INSTITUTION
REPORT NOV 2017

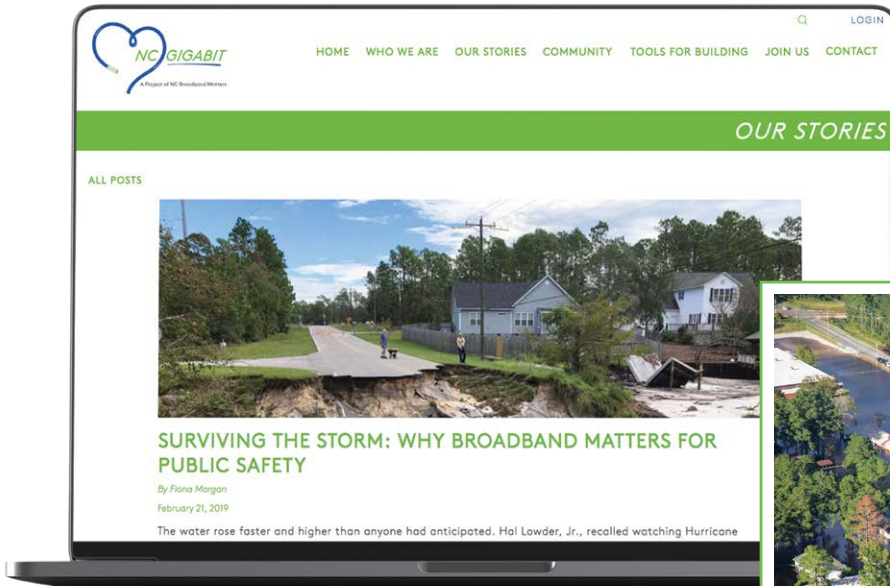
Let’s Do Something
About It

#NCBroadbandMatters

Connect with Us and Share your #NCBroadbandMatters Story

Surviving the Storm: Why Broadband Matters for Public Safety

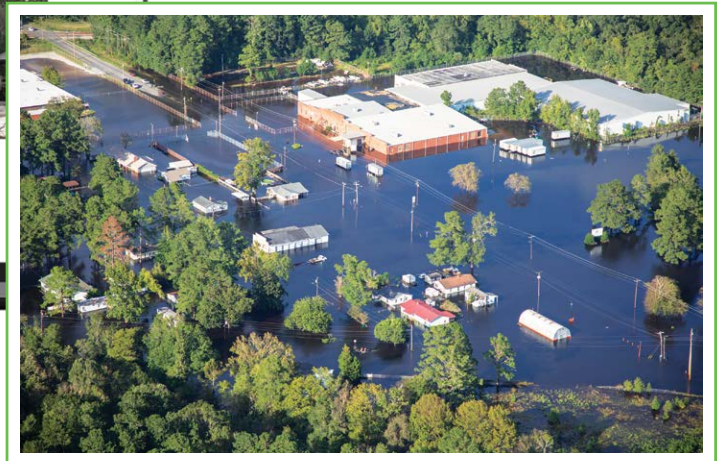
By Fiona Morgan | February 21, 2019



"For those tasked with informing the public about evacuation routes and emergency relief, access to modern internet-based communications is essential."

Read the full story:

<http://www.ncheartsgigabit.com/blog.html#!/posts/Surviving-the-Storm-Why-Broadband-Matters-for-Public-Safety/20>



We invite you to share your story with us at ncheartsgigabit.com and [@ncheartsgb](https://twitter.com/ncheartsgb).

Don't let your community be left behind! Talk to your local and state elected officials and tell them your story about why gaining access to modern broadband infrastructure is important to you, your small business, your healthcare, your education, your public safety and your community's future.

www.ncleg.net/representation/whorepresentsme.aspx



NC Broadband Matters Board of Directors

Eric Cramer
Alan Fitzpatrick
Dawn Melton

Jane Smith Patterson
Catharine Rice
Gene Scott

Christa Wagner Vinson
Deborah Watts