



3196 County Hwy 55 * Hamilton, AL 35570 * Phone: 205-921-6712 * Fax: 205-921-6738

2018 Alabama Broadband Accessibility Fund Grant Application

Project Name:	Whitehouse Community
Legal Name of Entity:	Tombigbee Communications, LLC
Mailing Address:	3196 County Hwy 55 Hamilton, AL 35570
Name and Title of CEO:	Steve Foshee, CEO
Name and Title of Contact:	Brenda Overton, CFO
Phone Number and Email of Contact:	205-921-6741 boverton@tombigbee.org

Will this project provide material broadband enhancements to local hospitals?

While there are no hospitals in the proposed funded service area, there are three rural hospitals being serviced by freedomFIBER, Northwest Mississippi Medical Center located in Hamilton, Northwest Medical Center located in Winfield, AL and Lakeland Community Hospital located in Haleyville, AL. All three hospitals support this project and know what a difference it is going to make to this region.

The administrator of North Mississippi Medical Center, William Buck, states the importance of high speed internet in his letter of support. For him, it is about providing the opportunity to telemedicine, faster and more reliable connectivity to their parent hospital located in Tupelo, MS and giving a better overall experience and support to the patients of the hospital (see Attachment C – Other Priorities Question 6 – Hamilton – North Mississippi Medical Center.pdf)

Susan Belue, the office manager of North Mississippi Medical Primary Care Center, stresses the need for reliable high speed internet services for their patients ability to access the Patient Portal offered by the clinic. This portal gives patients the ability to view the results of tests, make appointments and communicate with nursing staff (see Attachment C – Other Priorities Question 6 – Hamilton – NMMC Primary Care Clinic.pdf).

Debbie Pace, the CEO of Lakeland Community Hospital says the high speed internet that will be provided by Tombigbee will increase the access to quality health care. For this struggling hospital, it is critical they have affordable, reliable, high-speed internet allowing them to bring specialists to their hospital via telemedicine. These services will give patients access to



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specialists located at larger hospitals without having to endure the long travel (see Attachment C – Other Priorities Question 6 – Haleyville Hospital.pdf).

Tombigbee will provide the network necessary for the local hospitals and clinics to prosper and provide the best healthcare possible to the residents of the area. It is a mission of Tombigbee to bring the same quality of life to the residents of this region as those in the urban areas of the state take for granted.