

## Expanding High-Speed Internet to More in Robeson County

FOCUS Broadband began as a company to serve the unserved. In the 1950's that was bringing telephone service to rural areas, but for the last twenty years our focus has been to bring high-speed internet to unserved communities. While Brunswick County is fortunate to have access to fast internet, many in neighboring counties still do not. To help bring high-speed internet to those who need it, FOCUS Broadband has applied for and won more than \$45.5 million in state and federal grants to expand high-speed internet in southeastern North Carolina.

In December, FOCUS Broadband was awarded a \$2.9 million-dollar USDA Community Connect Grant that will be used to serve more than 1,200 residents and businesses in the Robeson County communities of Howellsville and Tolarsville.

FOCUS Broadband also recently began offering services to areas of Orrum and Proctorville in Robeson County through a NC GREAT Grant won in 2020. With these grants, FOCUS Broadband will deliver vital internet service that will provide life-changing educational and economic opportunities for thousands.

"High-speed internet is essential for online learning, telemedicine, remote work, and so many aspects of life today. With these grants FOCUS Broadband is able to provide connections to areas that desperately need them while adding new customers that strengthen

the cooperative," commented Keith Holden, FOCUS Broadband CEO.

For more information about FOCUS Broadband's grant expansion efforts, visit [focusbroadband.com](http://focusbroadband.com).



*Robeson County Commissioners, Senator Danny Britt, USDA State Director, Reginald Speight, FOCUS Broadband Board Members and CEO, Keith Holden*

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For new auto-draft enrollments only. A \$5 one-time credit will be applied following successful enrollment. Only one credit per account. Cannot have been enrolled in auto-draft payments within the last year.

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# Advertise Your Business in the 2022 FOCUS Broadband Telephone Directory

Don't miss out on the opportunity to showcase your business in the 2022 FOCUS Broadband Telephone Directory. When you purchase an ad in our telephone directory, you'll get a listing that can also be accessed online or on any mobile phone via our FOCUS Broadband Search App. Data Publishing is the only authorized Yellow Pages sales agent for FOCUS Broadband and one of their representatives will be contacting existing advertisers soon.

If you would like to find out more about how you can help expand your customer base and grow your business just by having your business included in the FOCUS Broadband Telephone Directory, please call 888-328-2782.

## The Best Way to Watch TV

With MergeTV, FOCUS Broadband's streaming TV service, you can watch your FOCUS Broadband channel lineup using your own streaming device. Get great TV with all the features you're used to like High Definition and Cloud DVR, plus exciting new features like Start Over and Look Back. You'll love this new way of watching TV!

To learn more about MergeTV, call 888-367-2862 or visit [focusbroadband.com/mergetv](http://focusbroadband.com/mergetv).

*Not available in all areas.*



## Follow Us on Facebook



With our recent name change, we also launched a new Facebook page! Follow @FOCUSBroadband for daily posts about our services,

information about our retail stores, customer testimonials, giveaways and more! You can also connect with FOCUS Broadband on Instagram, YouTube, Twitter, LinkedIn and NextDoor. We look forward to connecting with you!

## Deadline Approaching for Community and Education Grants

FOCUS Broadband is now accepting applications for community and education grants. Applications will be accepted from now until Friday, February 28th. FOCUS Broadband will award \$40,000 in Community Connections grant funds to nonprofit organizations and \$40,000 in Smart Connections funds to educators in any area served by FOCUS Broadband. Community grant funds will be awarded in the spring and education grant funds will be awarded in the fall. Applications must be received at FOCUS Broadband offices by 6:00 PM on February 28th. For more information, visit [focusbroadband.com/giving-back](http://focusbroadband.com/giving-back) or call 910-755-1677.

## FOCUS Broadband Employees Support United Way Campaign

FOCUS Broadband and its employees contributed more than \$9,500 at the end of 2021 to help local residents in need by supporting the cooperative's annual United Way campaign. "Our employees are so generous when giving back to their community," said Keith Holden, FOCUS Broadband CEO. "The United Way of Cape Fear helps many in our area. We are proud to support the Cape Fear Area United Way and thankful that we are able to do so each year." Over the years, FOCUS Broadband employees have given more than \$450,000 to support the Cape Fear Area United Way.



FOCUS Broadband CEO, Keith Holden, presents check to Tommy Taylor of Cape Fear Area United Way