

Connecting MHA

Providing Wi-Fi Access and Education to New Affordable Housing Projects

The Murfreesboro Housing Authority (MHA) and other parties are revitalizing three properties to offer critical housing to eligible residents. Providing Internet access for these limited-income residents improves their access to a fair livelihood and is a necessary step for future connected services.

BUDGET

\$850K

\$595K
TVA Connected
Communities

\$255K
Proposed
Match

Background



Lack of Internet for Limited-Income

Internet connectivity is a key determinant of health and is needed for many aspects of modern life, but it can pose a costly burden for limited-income residents, restricting access for many.

IMPACT

3
communities
receive Wi-Fi
connectivity in units.

THE OPPORTUNITY

A Necessary Fix

Supporting wireless internet infrastructure improves the quality of life for MHA residents and provides energy management education.

Scope



Wi-Fi Hotspots

are placed in centralized locations throughout communities.



Educational Content

is provided through a local internet access point, such as the Wi-Fi sign-in page.



Project Impacts

including adoption and behavior change are measured and reported.

QUANTITY

3
property
communities
are upgraded

300
residents in 270
units benefit from
the upgrades

THE GOAL

Far Reaching Impacts

Providing internet access not only improves quality of life for MHA residents, but the planned research provides insight with lasting impacts on the city of Murfreesboro and other communities.



Performance

Key Performance Indicators

- Usage by individual and household across properties
- Ease of access
- Behavior change
- Quality of life improvement
- Cost reductions

The Value

MHA Residents

- Eliminates cost burden for low-income residents
- Increased quality of life
- Opportunity for energy management

City of Murfreesboro

- A roadmap of connected opportunities for the city and local power company



Key Partners

PROJECT LEAD

SmartMark
Communication, LLC

ADDITIONAL PARTNERS

City of Murfreesboro

Constellation Energy

Middle Tennessee Electric

Murfreesboro Housing
Authority

Tennessee Valley Authority

United Communications

Timeline

Phase 1

Determine centralized locations for the hotspots.

Phase 2

Lay fiber for hotspots.

Phase 3

Develop joint training and education program for residents.

Phase 4

Design landing page for Wi-Fi sign-in.



Learn more about
this pilot project