**KIOWA COUNTY
Broadband Strategic Plan**

Kiowa County Economic Development Foundation (KCED) has established broadband access as an important tool for participation in the digital economy. To address development of broadband infrastructure within Kiowa County the following goals have been established as part of KCED’s strategic broadband plan:

1. Improve broadband access in underserved areas within the County.
2. Increase broadband usage and adoption rates among County residents.
3. Promote economic growth and development through enhanced broadband infrastructure.

To support these goals, KCED has established the Kiowa County broadband program (KCBP). The KCBP is a cost-share program between KCED and internet service providers (ISPs) to match costs on government infrastructure grants. ISPs must inform KCED of their intent to apply for grant funding and receive a letter of support for their grant application to qualify for the program. Under the program, KCED will provide financial support to ISPs for locations served by new fiber networks within Kiowa County.

KCED will provide a minimum of $250.00 per new location served with broadband service meeting quality standards. Total amount allocated per grant award will be determined by the Kiowa County Economic Development Board. ISPs are required to provide a minimum level of 100/20 service to eligible locations and offer affordable internet plans to low-income households within the county. ISPs must inform KCED of their intent to apply for grant funding and receive a letter of support for their grant application to qualify for the program.

The KCBP will be administered through KCED. KCED will monitor progress and ensure ISP is meeting its obligations under the Network Cost-Share Agreement.

*Questions about the Kiowa County Broadband Program can be directed to Kiowa County Economic Development at* *livekiowacountyks@gmail.com**.*.