



Directors Corner:

In this update, Director Schlegel provides insights into recent broadband conferences, OBAE office award winners, and new employees!



ICYMI: OBAE Releases New Mexico Broadband Knowledge and Digital Equity Analysis and Plan Report

The BKDEAP Report documents the extensive broadband and digital equity consultation, analysis, and planning underway and performed on the Council's behalf in 2022 and 2023 by OBAE and members of the Council and Working Groups.

Guided by the legislation, OBAE began collecting data and consulting with local governments, Tribal Nations, public educational institutions, State agencies, and community stakeholders to gather input and insights to develop a digital equity plan to address the three key topics identified in the Connect New Mexico Act.

Broadband BBQ

We had a blast and enjoyed delicious food at our Broadband BBQ on July 29th.





Oso Internet Solutions Groundbreaking ceremony at Ramah Navajo to Announce Fiber to the Home Project

Oso Internet Solutions (OIS), in collaboration with the Navajo Nation Broadband Office, has secured federal funding through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) for its transformative Fiber to the Home Project. This joint endeavor is set to connect 600 Ramah Navajo community households to Oso Internet Solutions' cutting-edge fiber optic network. The initiative stands as a beacon of progress, offering unparalleled connectivity to support education, health, safety, and economic development for Diné people.



Anthony Coho, a resident of the Ramah Band Land, and a parent to four children, expressed his gratitude for this groundbreaking initiative. With the fiber connection, Anthony Coho's children now have free access to Pine Hill School's remote learning platforms, enabling them to fully engage in home-based learning and receive essential homework support.



National Tribal Broadband Summit

Director Schlegel spoke on a panel regarding the BEAD plan and timeline.

NTIA has now made 60 awards totaling more than \$457 million in funding through the Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program.



Broadband Mountain Connect Pannel Aug 7-9

The mission of Mountain Connect is to move communities forward by helping them make the most effective decisions as they build new or expand existing telecommunications infrastructure. Our own Ovidiu Viorica attended the Mountain connect conference this year. Below is a photo of the NM Women in Broadband Panel on Broadband Public Private Partnerships.

From left to right Melanie Goodman from Senator Lujan's office, Denise Barrera: Sierra County GM, Kimball Sekaquaptewa: CIO of Santa Fe Indian School, and Misti Willock VP of Sacred Wind.



NRECA, NTCA, NSAC Conference

NRECA, NTCA – the Rural Broadband Association, and the NSAC (National Society of Accountants for Cooperatives) hosted a conference in Portland, OR July 23-26. OBAE's Acting Director, Drew Lovelace attended this panel of state broadband officials discussing progress and challenges states are facing in preparing for the upcoming BEAD funding.



State Broadband Leaders Network 2023 Summit

Three OBAE team members (Director Kelly Schlegel, Drew Lovelace, Lee Gagnon and Annamia Mourning) had the opportunity to travel to Indianapolis and attend the SBLN 2023 summit. It is a great opportunity for collaboration with those from other Broadband officers.



Broadband Office Awards



Our semi-annual Broadband MVP award goes to someone who is always going the extra mile on any project-- Jennifer Nevarez. Thank you, Jennifer, for your unwavering dedication to the mission of



Aquiles "Alex" Trujillo is our Broadband Technical Fellow 2023. Alex has displayed exceptional knowledge and he plays a significant role in the success of broadband development in New Mexico.

New OBAE Team Members:

Shawna Rosales- Our new Administrative Specialist was born and raised in Santa Fe and comes to us from Homeland Security and Emergency management as Legal assistant. She is also attending NM Highlands University and will obtain her MBA with a minor in Human Resources.

Rosealie Trujillo- Our new Financial Coordinator comes to us from DOH she has over 17 years of State Governmental accounting. Her background includes Accounts payable, budgets, reconciliation, purchasing, travel reimbursements and contracts-- essential to our OBAE team.

In the News:

1. [Rio Rancho public schools receiving \\$2 million in broadband funding grants | New Mexico | thecentersquare.com](#)
2. [Albuquerque now has a broadband office | KRQE News 13](#)
3. [Nonprofit program would provide free Wi-Fi to apartments in New Mexico \(kunm.org\)](#)
4. [AT&T Offers Connectivity Solutions for New Mexico Schools \(thefastmode.com\)](#)
5. [Newsmakers 1524 - Broadband Access in Rural Borderland Communities - YouTube](#)
6. [Nearly \\$1B available for broadband expansion on Tribal lands | Local News | taosnews.com](#)

Take our
Survey

Sincerely,

Kelly Schlegel, Director of the New Mexico Office of Broadband Access and Expansion.



If you have questions about any of these opportunities, please contact us via email at Broadband@doit.nm.gov.

You are receiving this email due to your participation in a past broadband event, or your interest in the importance of connectivity for your organization or the communities you serve. You can unsubscribe below.

Office of Broadband Access and Expansion | 715 Alta Vista St, Santa Fe, NM 87505

[Unsubscribe broadband@doit.nm.gov](#)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by broadband@doit.nm.gov powered by



Try email marketing for free today!