



CARES Act Funding in Action
October 7th, 2020



Agenda: Panelist Section Name

1. St. Louis Housing Authority

Alana Green, Executive Director

2. Northern Ponca Housing Authority and the Ponca Tribe of Nebraska

Justine Knapp & Michelle Thelen, ROSS Program

Candace Schmidt, Tribal Council Secretary

3. The Housing Authority of the City of Goldsboro

Michele Wiggins, Director of Innovation and Strategy

4. San Felipe Pueblo Housing Authority

Isaac Perez, Executive Director

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Q&A

Alana Green
Executive Director
St. Louis Housing Authority



St. Louis Housing Authority (SLHA)

- \$80M Budget
- 2790 Public Housing Units
- 6800 HCV Units
- Approximately 60 Employees



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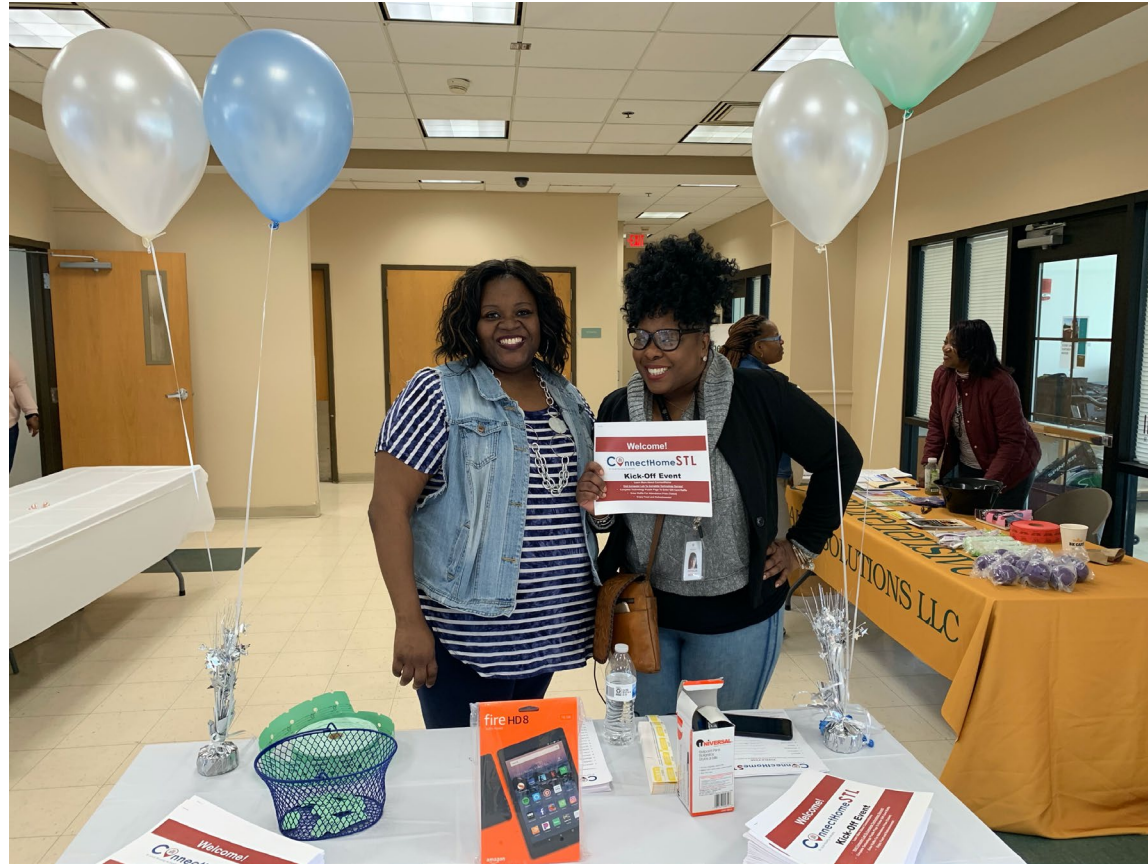
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Q&A

ConnectHome USA

- 2019 Cohort
- Year 1 Goal: Internet Access For Units Within Two SLHA Developments
- Kickoff Events at Clinton Peabody and Parkview Apartments



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Q&A

SLHA/GAIA Partnership Established (Pre-COVID)

- Initial partnership included providing access to a network of impact investors/private equity and fundraising in collaboration with SLHA to implement upgrades and technology network for SLHA's entire portfolio.
- Collaborate to develop and establish Private/Public LTE Network road map for SLHA housing developments that will provide access to WiFi service opportunities.

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Q&A

Need for Internet Access

- When public housing residents are able to connect to the Internet at home, they gain the tools to cross the digital divide and access 21st Century opportunities, significantly improving their educational, employment, health, and social outcomes.
- The COVID-19 pandemic has further highlighted the critical need for access to fast and affordable internet service.

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Q&A

Need For Internet Access During COVID

- Home Access Needed
- Remote School
- Remote Work
- Telehealth
- Communication with Family and Social Network
- Communication with SLHA and Partners
- Current Events



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Q&A

CARES ACT

- The CARES Act, passed in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, provides authority for PHAs to use Supplemental Operating Funds, Operating Funds, and Capital Funds for “expenses related to preventing, preparing for, and responding to coronavirus, including activities to support or maintain the health and safety of assisted individuals and families, and activities to support education and child care for impacted families.”
- HUD encourages PHAs to balance operational needs with the health, safety and educational needs of assisted families when prioritizing expenditures to combat coronavirus.

HUD Field Office Response

- Initial Conversation
- Approval of Sole Source Procurement



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Q&A

SLHA WiFi Demonstration Program

- Private LTE Network
- Digital Roadmap, Implementation, and Deployment
- 1,152 Residents
- Initial Investment: \$450,000
- Estimated Annual Cost: \$15,000
 - Costs can be offset by selling ad space and offering services to surrounding non-SLHA families

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Q&A

Why WiFi?

- Retrofitting Older Units Infeasible
- Pending Redevelopment
- Removable/Movable Equipment



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Q&A

Campus 1



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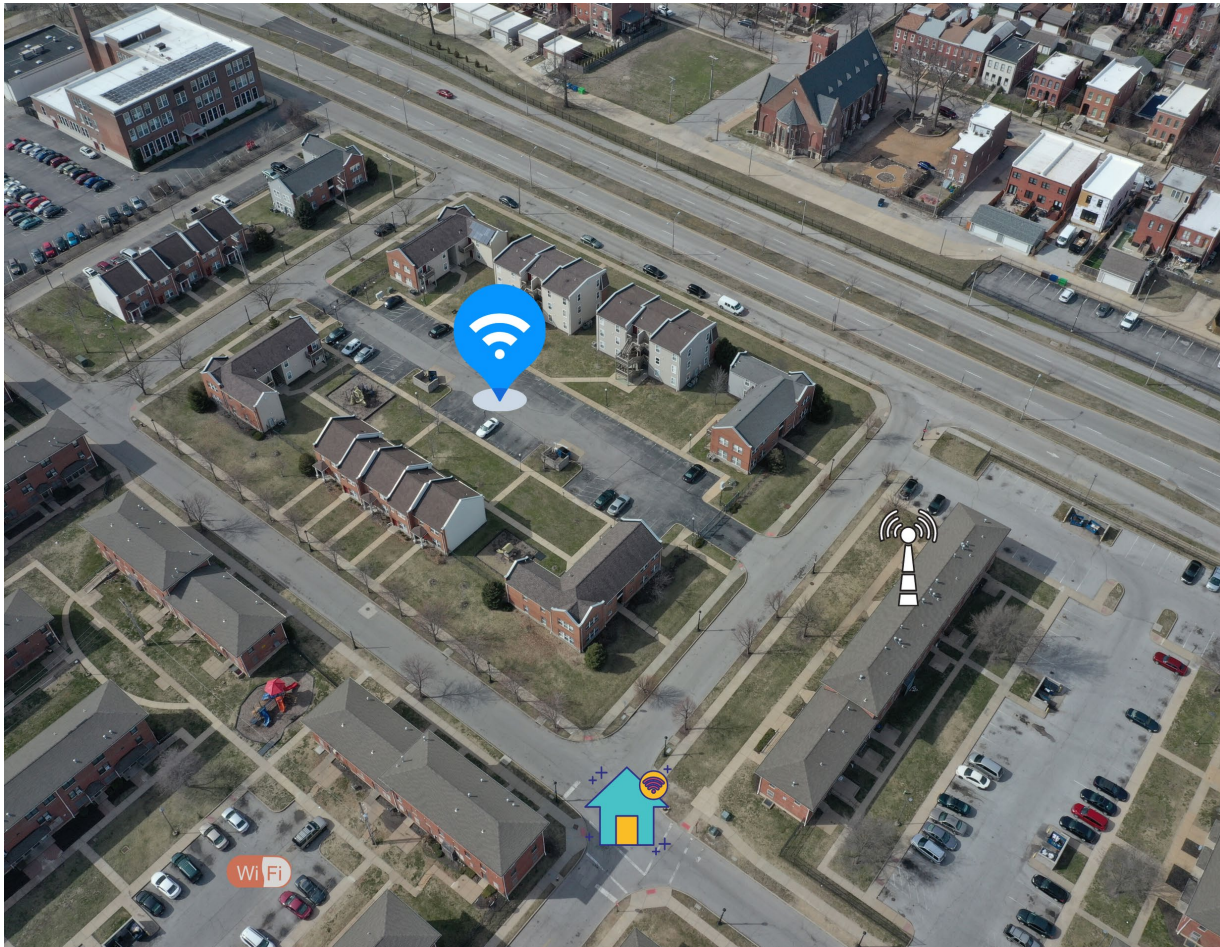
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Q&A

Clinton Peabody Apartments



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Q&A

LaSalle Park Apartments



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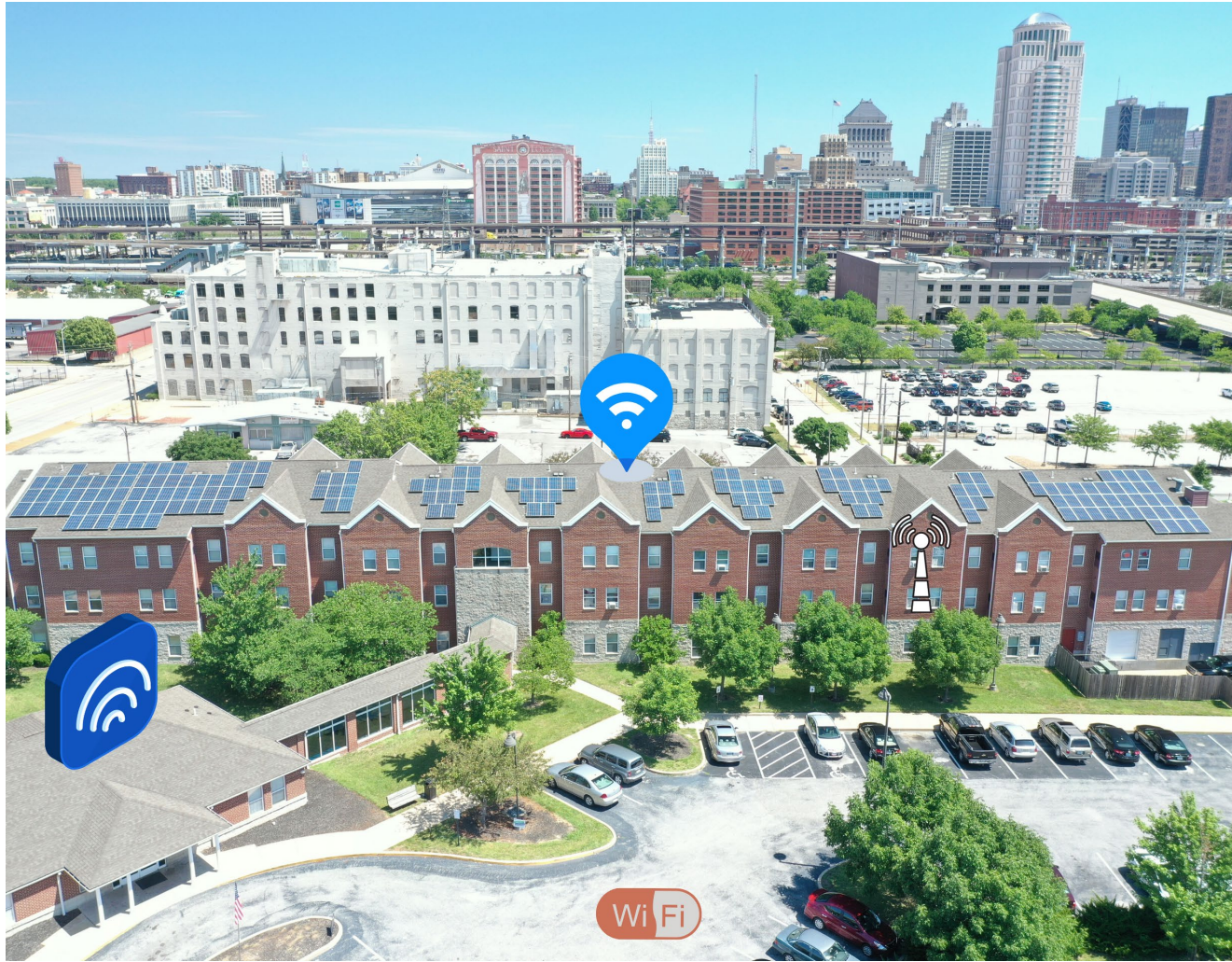
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Q&A

Les Chateaux Apartments and King Louis Apartments



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Q&A

Campus 2: Parkview Apartments



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Q&A

Campus 3: West Pine Apartments



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Q&A

Campus 4: Euclid Apartments



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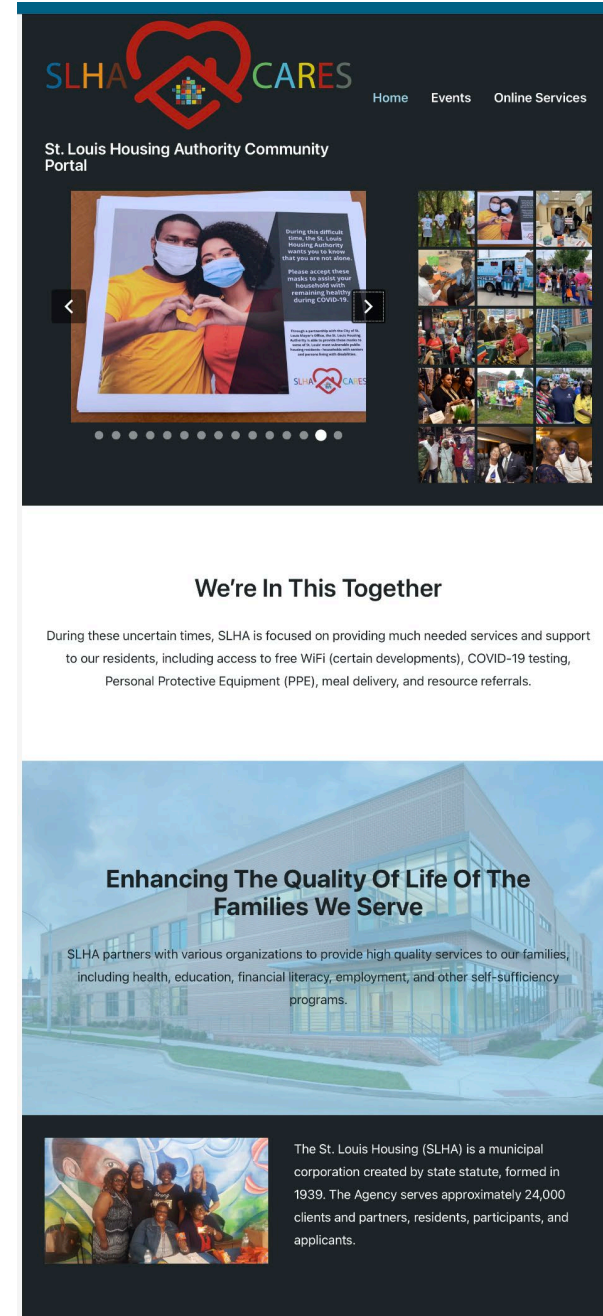
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Q&A

Resident WiFi Portal

- Fosters Better Communication
- Includes Events and Opportunities
- Links to Important Online Services
 - Property Management System
 - Partner Programs and Services



SLHA CARES Home Events Online Services

St. Louis Housing Authority Community Portal

During this difficult time, the St. Louis Housing Authority wants you to know that you are not alone. Please accept these needs to assist your household with maintaining stability during COVID-19.

SLHA CARES

We're In This Together

During these uncertain times, SLHA is focused on providing much needed services and support to our residents, including access to free WiFi (certain developments), COVID-19 testing, Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), meal delivery, and resource referrals.

Enhancing The Quality Of Life Of The Families We Serve

SLHA partners with various organizations to provide high quality services to our families, including health, education, financial literacy, employment, and other self-sufficiency programs.

The St. Louis Housing (SLHA) is a municipal corporation created by state statute, formed in 1939. The Agency serves approximately 24,000 clients and partners, residents, participants, and applicants.

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Northern Ponca Housing Authority and the Ponca Tribe of Nebraska

The Housing Authority of the City of Goldsboro

San Felipe Pueblo Housing Authority

Q&A

**Michelle Thelen & Justine Knapp,
ROSS Program
Northern Ponca Housing Authority**



Agenda (Cont'd)

1. **ConnectHomeUSA**
2. **Where we are today**
3. **Ponca Tribe of Nebraska Service Delivery Area**
4. **Lifesize**
5. **iPonca**

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Q&A

Topic #1: NPHA ConnectHomeUSA Program

- **ConnectHomeUSA**

- Financing was done with IHBG/ICDBG funds
- We partnered with T-Mobile for tablets that act as hot-spot wi-fi
- Tenants were educated on basic computer usage
- Surveys were done to gauge success

- **Where we are today:**

- Updating NPHA website to add PayPal for rent collection
- Plan to share and record our own training videos
- Added emergency devices to Indian Housing Plan with CARES Funding
- Surveying tenants on what other needs they may have with technology

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Q&A

Candace Schmidt
Tribal Council, Secretary
Ponca Tribe of Nebraska



Topic #2 Lifesize and iPonca

- **Ponca Tribe of Nebraska Service Delivery Area (SDA)**

Although the Ponca Tribe of Nebraska does not have a reservation, the Ponca Restoration Act established our Fifteen County SDA across Nebraska, Iowa and South Dakota

- **Lifesize System**

- What Lifesize has done for the tribe
- Meetings still taking place for our high risk tribal members
- Elders being taught to conduct online meetings

- **iPonca**

- Due to COVID-19 the Ponca Tribe of Nebraska offered iPads and Mac books to Ponca Tribal members to use for education and/or Telehealth

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Q&A

Michele Wiggins
Director of Strategy and Innovation
Housing Authority of the City of Goldsboro



HACG - PHA-wide Internet Infrastructure

OVERVIEW:

- Pre-solicitation
- Bidding/Sole Source
- Implementation
- Motivation/Lessons Learned

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Q&A

HACG – Agency and Properties



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Q&A

HACG – Pre-solicitation

- ConnectHomeUSA Community 2017
- Site Surveys
- Assess Resources
- Talk with Other Agencies
- Know Your Goals
- Budget



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Q&A

HACG – Bidding/Sole Source

- Advertising process
- Detailed specifications
- Encouraging competition
- Request for sole source



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Q&A

HACG – Implementation

- Currently in progress
- CARES Act/Capital Fund for funding
- Details of where and how many
- Prioritization
- Shipments and Quality of Equipment
- Electrical components

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Q&A

HACG – Motivation/Lessons Learned

- **Motivation**

- Resident Services
- Self-Sufficiency
- Educational Opportunities
- Bridging the Digital Divide

- **Lessons Learned**

- Advertise
- Make sure you know what your wants/needs are
- Consider what other components may be necessary to meet your goals
- What can you accomplish in the timeframe available?



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Q&A



**Isaac Perez, Executive Director
San Felipe Pueblo Housing Authority
(SFPHA)**



Where we are located



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Q&A

San Felipe Housing Authority Cares Act Funding

ICDBG CARES OUTCOMES

- Establish tribal communications plan.
- Increase dissemination of COVID-19 messaging.
- Increase internet services for entire community.
- Increase community awareness and knowledge of COVID-19 related communication.
- Enhance information sharing among tribal partners.
- Establish/enhance protocols for COVID-19 related communication between Pueblo and external partners.



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Q&A

Continued

- **Increase dissemination of COVID-19 information to high risk populations (e.g., elders, persons with chronic illness, etc.).**
- **Develop communications (internet based) materials that are accurate, current, and reach at-risk populations.**
- **Provide communication devices (laptops) to support Point to Point Wireless System.**
- **System provides a Wireless Signal Through 3 Towers, connected to an existing fiber line.**
- **Procure computer (vendor) vendors through the Tribal IT Department and Black Mesa Casino IT Department.**



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Q & A

