

# BUNCOMBE COUNTY COVID RECOVERY FUNDING

## Project Spotlight



To promote a strong and equitable recovery from COVID-19 and its negative economic impacts, Buncombe County invested federal funds into projects like this one.

### Project

### Connecting All Communities

### Lead Organization



### Award Amount

**\$445,000**

### Project Dates

**April 2022 – June 2023**




### Impact Area

**Household Assistance: Internet Access Programs**

### How the Funds Were Used

Land of Sky Regional Council (LOSRC) provided household assistance through its Connecting All Communities internet access & digital literacy assistance project. LOSRC partnered with Housing Authority of the City of Asheville (HACA) to increase internet access for low-income residents through WIFI installations in public housing communities. LOSRC also hired a Digital Navigation Coordinator to perform digital literacy community outreach. The project intended to provide affordable WIFI to 6 HACA public housing sites, serving roughly 700 residents and support digital literacy to 300 residents, to include mainly senior, homeless, BIPOC, low-income, and rural populations.

### Results

-  **808** households served
-  **90** individuals received WIFI at HACA
-  **1,123** individuals received digital literacy support



*“Bringing connectivity to citizens who need it directly works to address equity issues and elevate the citizens in Buncombe County. We’ve been engaged on this issue for several years, but the necessity for broadband during the pandemic escalated the importance of connectivity for all. This essential service improves education delivery, emergency management communications.”*

*-Sara Nichols, Regional Planner, Land of Sky Regional Council*

For a complete listing of Buncombe County’s American Rescue Plan Act Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund investments, visit [www.buncombecounty.org/recoveryfunding](http://www.buncombecounty.org/recoveryfunding)