

# Connecting You FOCUS BROADBAND

## \$40,000 Awarded in Community Connection Grants

FOCUS Broadband is committed to enriching the lives of those living in our local community. This year in support of that effort, we have awarded \$40,000 in Community Connection grant funds to 18 local non-profit organizations. "We have received outstanding feedback about the impact that supporting our grants have made for previous recipients," states Gene Ward, FOCUS Broadband Director and Board Liaison for the grants committee. "I am proud that we are able to continue to help these great organizations make a difference in the areas we serve."

FOCUS Broadband began awarding grants in 2006. Since then, FOCUS Broadband has awarded more than \$1 million in community and education grants to hundreds of programs.

#### **2024 Community Grant Winners**

Brunswick Community College Foundation Brunswick County Literacy Center Brunswick Search and Rescue, Inc. Building Bridges After School Program Camp4Heros Columbus County Beekeepers Association Foster Pantry, Inc. Going Beyond the Pink

Jack Helbig Memorial Foundation

Las Amigas Red Springs Chapter, Inc.
Lower Cape Fear LifeCare
Lumber River United Way
National Alliance for Father Friendly Schools
Saint Peter Evangelical Lutheran Church
Seaside Teaching & Reading Students (STARS)
St. James Fire and Rescue
Stop Soldier Suicide
Women's Life Center

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### More Cooperative Areas Upgraded to Fiber Optics



FOCUS Broadband is continuing its commitment to upgrade its entire cooperative service area to fiber optics. As part of this multi-year project, more than 5,000 Brunswick County members already have access to the newer fiber optic delivered technology. Areas recently receiving fiber optic upgrades include Smithfield Townhomes, Woodlands at Crow Creek, Highland Forest Townhomes, and areas near Winnabow, Holden Beach, and Town Creek.

Work is currently underway to make fiber optics available for Carolina Shores and The Village at Calabash. Customers in these communities will be contacted about establishing a conversion appointment once work has been completed.