



CONCLUSION

While this report has highlighted many successes under Connect Alaska's collaboration with DCCED, it is evident that a great amount of additional work remains in order to ensure that all Alaska communities and residents, particularly those off the road system, are connected to twenty-first century technology and have the skills and support to use it to its fullest. The broadband project's focus and commitment to bridging the digital divide in the state has moved Alaska one step closer to bringing high-speed broadband to even the most remote of locations, but the work is far from complete.

As previously discussed, the FCC recently revised the definition of "advanced broadband" from 4 Mbps download/1 Mbps upload to 25 Mbps download/3 Mbps upload. This change represents a shifting expectation for what is considered acceptable speeds for households, yet today, 99,075 Alaska households remain unserved at this level. While deployment of new services, increased speeds, and more reliable technologies are undoubtedly not without its challenges, the conversation about how to solve the state's connection problems has been started through the efforts of Connect Alaska, the Alaska Broadband Task Force, educators who participated in the Alaska Broadband Audit, and the number of other partners committed to improving the state of Alaska one connection at a time.