



Starry Announces Participation in the FCC's Emergency Broadband Benefit Program

The Emergency Broadband Benefit program was established by Congress to assist households struggling to afford the cost of connectivity during the COVID-19 pandemic;

Starry is an approved provider and will offer the EBB benefit to households qualified in Starry's Connect program.

Boston, Mass. (April 29, 2021) -- [Starry, Inc.](#), a hybrid fiber licensed gigabit wireless internet service provider, today announced it is participating in the Federal Communications Commission's (FCC) [Emergency Broadband Benefit](#) (EBB) program aimed at providing free or reduced cost broadband access and discounts for computing devices to consumers impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Last year, Congress appropriated \$3.2 billion to the EBB program to provide a short-term discount of up to \$50 per month towards broadband service for eligible households. The FCC qualified Starry's digital equity program, [Starry Connect](#), for participation in the program. Starry Connect provides low-cost broadband access to public and affordable housing communities without requiring credit checks or additional individual eligibility requirements. Today more than 30,000 units of public and affordable housing are covered under Starry's Connect program. The EBB program is set to begin on May 12, 2021.

The EBB is limited to one monthly service discount per household and is available to eligible new, prior and existing subscribers living in Starry Connect communities. Current and new paying subscribers in Starry Connect communities can opt-in to the EBB program and Starry will apply the discount directly to the subscriber's account. At the end of the EBB program, subscribers will be notified in advance when normal billing will resume and will be able to continue their service, change plans or cancel their service.

"Having reliable, high-quality broadband access at home is essential and yet, far too many American families continue to go without, due to high costs," said **Virginia Lam Abrams, Senior Vice President of Government Affairs and Strategic Advancement at Starry**. "The Emergency Broadband Benefit program is a necessary, short-term relief program that aims to get help where it's needed most. Americans are continuing to struggle with the economic impacts of COVID-19 and the EBB program, in the near-term, will help keep children learning and families working and connected during this challenging time. But we can't stop here. Investing in long-term solutions that promote and encourage affordable broadband access and competition must continue to be a priority for lawmakers, if we are to make affordable broadband access a reality for all Americans."

In March 2020, Starry was among the first internet service providers to take the FCC's "Keep Americans Connected" pledge to suspend termination of internet service to subscribers as a result of non-payment related to COVID-19 and to suspend certain punitive customer practices, such as data caps and additional fees. Starry's internet service has never had additional fees, late fees or data caps as a standard business practice. Starry also committed to providing its Starry Connect service free for all subscribers during the pledge period and voluntarily extended its pledge commitment through July 31, 2020. To further support its subscribers, in August 2020, the company launched its "Fresh Start" program to wipe away the debt of subscribers who were unable to pay their broadband subscription fee during the pledge period due to the impacts of COVID-19.

Starry Connect partners with owners of public and affordable housing to make high-quality, uncapped, true broadband access available to residents without requiring a long-term contract, pre-qualification, credit checks, or other individual eligibility criteria that are common requirements of other affordable access plans. Starry Connect is an official ConnectHomeUSA stakeholder with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and is helping to bridge the digital divide for HUD-assisted housing residents in the United States.

Starry Internet is available in Boston, New York City, Los Angeles, Washington, DC and Denver, with an expansion roadmap that will cover more than 40 million U.S. households. To see if your building is in coverage or to sign up, visit: <https://starry.com/internet>. To learn more about Starry Connect, become a Starry Connect partner or sign-up for Starry Connect service, visit <https://starry.com/starryconnect>.

###

ABOUT STARRY, INC.

At Starry, Inc., we believe the future is built on connectivity and that connecting people and communities to high-speed, broadband internet should be simple and affordable. Using our innovative, wideband hybrid-fiber fixed wireless technology, Starry is deploying gigabit-capable broadband to the home without bundles, data caps, or long-term contracts. Starry is a different kind of internet service provider. We're building a platform for the future by putting our customers first, protecting their privacy, ensuring access to an open and neutral net, and putting the customer experience at the heart of everything we do. Headquartered in Boston and backed by world-class investors, Starry is currently available in Boston, New York, Los Angeles, Washington, DC and Denver and is expanding nationwide. To learn more about Starry or to join our team and help us build a better internet, visit: <https://starry.com/>.

MEDIA CONTACTS

Mimi Ryals, Starry, Inc.

mryals@starry.com // press@starry.com

John Collins

Mercury for Starry

starry@mercuryllc.com