



## **Starry Partners with Huckleberry House to Help Bridge the Digital Divide for Central Ohio's At-Risk Youth**

*Huckleberry House is the first affordable housing partner in Columbus to join Starry's digital equity program, Starry Connect*

*Starry is also donating and installing a computer lab for Huckleberry House residents to enable greater access to educational, employment and social service resources*

**Columbus, OH (September 16, 2021)** -- [Starry, Inc.](#), a next-generation licensed fixed wireless provider, today announced its partnership with [Huckleberry House](#) to provide its Starry Connect service to all residents living within the community. Huckleberry House provides safe, stable housing for at-risk youth dealing with serious issues such as abuse, violence, addiction, and homelessness, and is Starry's first partner in Columbus to join Starry's Connect program. Starry Connect provides ultra-low-cost broadband service to public and affordable housing residents without requiring credit checks, long-term contracts, individual eligibility requirements or a lengthy application process.

Additionally, as part of Starry's digital inclusion efforts, the company has donated six computers, desks and chairs and will provide free WiFi to outfit an on-site computer lab at Huckleberry House's Kenmore Square apartment complex to benefit residents who may not have access to a computing device in their home. The computer lab is intended to provide a means to access online resources for schooling, employment and work training opportunities, educational enrichment and health and social service access. Starry and Huckleberry House celebrated the donation of the computer lab with a ribbon cutting ceremony and reception with residents and community leaders.

"Universal broadband connectivity, access to devices, and digital education are absolutely necessary if we want everyone to share in the benefits of our digital economy. For our at-risk youth, having access to these resources is critical to helping support their long-term success," said **Virginia Lam Abrams, Starry's Senior Vice President of Government Affairs and Strategic Advancement**. "Starry is proud to

support Huckleberry House and its residents with this computer lab. With access to reliable connectivity, computers, online education and other resources, the opportunities are boundless for Huck House residents and we hope this donation helps inspire a new generation of entrepreneurs and life-long learners."

"When we first met with the Starry team, we could tell they understood the value of access that reliable internet brings to the youth we serve," said **Sonya Thesing, Huckleberry House's Executive Director**. "The playing field is not level for youth who can't access education and employment online. Starry Connect and the computer lab donation open a world of access for the residents at Kenmore Square."

Since 1970, Huckleberry House has been dedicated to helping Central Ohio's youth and families overcome serious challenges like abuse, violence, addiction, and homelessness. Huckleberry House aims to provide a safe home environment, guidance and training needed for these young adults and families to reach a better life.

Huckleberry House joins Starry Connect's public and affordable housing partners across the country including the New York Housing Authority, the Housing Authority of the City of Los Angeles, the Denver Housing Authority, Innovative Housing Concepts (Englewood, CO Housing Authority), Related Affordable, Beacon Communities, Spring Creek Towers and others. Starry Connect provides a \$15 per month option for 30 Mbps symmetrical speeds with no data caps, no long-term contracts, no credit checks, no extra fees for equipment and includes free installation and 24/7 world-class customer support. Huckleberry House will be covering the monthly cost for Starry Connect for all residents in the community who sign up for service.

Starry Connect's innovative approach to partnering directly with public and affordable housing communities to remove individual eligibility requirements and barriers to adoption earned Starry its designation as a [ConnectHomeUSA](#) stakeholder through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development in 2019. Since March 2020, Starry has more than tripled the size of its Starry Connect program and today it is available in more than 40,000 units of public and affordable housing across New York City, Los Angeles, Boston, Denver, Columbus, DC and Northern Virginia.

Starry Internet is available in Columbus, Boston, Denver, Los Angeles, New York City, and Washington, DC, 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>.

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### **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 and ensuring access to an open and neutral net. 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 to Columbus, Ohio and nationwide. To learn more about Starry or to join our team and help us build a better internet, visit: <https://starry.com>.

### **ABOUT HUCKLEBERRY HOUSE**

Huckleberry House provides comprehensive support and safe housing to empower our community's most vulnerable youth to achieve the future they see for themselves. Founded in 1970 as a shelter for runaway teens, Huck House works to prevent and end youth homelessness with a teen crisis shelter, a range of housing options for 18-24 year olds, a youth outreach team, and strengths-based counseling services for youth and families. Learn more at [www.huckhouse.org](http://www.huckhouse.org).

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