



Resilient Residents Resilient City Affordable WIFI

Stakeholder & Community Briefing Slides

The Core Mission

Digital Equity

Deliver free and affordable Wi-Fi to 17,000+ residents, bridging the affordability gap for Healthy Homes initiatives.

Essential Connectivity

Provide the foundational infrastructure for education, employment, and health programs to thrive.



Partnership and Grant Story

- **Key Partners** Walnut Way, Wisconsin Public Service Commission (PSC), & supporting organizations.
- **Grant Success** Secured a major capital grant, formalized by the WPSC partnership.
- **Funding Use** Covers bulk purchase of digital devices and buildout of city-wide affordable Wi-Fi infrastructure.
- **Device Access** Healthy Homes initiative bridged the device affordability gap and secured shared-access equipment.



Public Service Commission
of **WISCONSIN**

Why Affordable WI-FI Matters?

People in Milwaukee need affordable WiFi to help close the digital divide and make sure everyone can access learning, jobs, healthcare, and essential services at home—especially in neighborhoods hit hardest by poverty, segregation, and systemic disinvestment.

Need	Impact	Why It Matters
Education	Students fall behind without reliable home internet	Digital equity for all children
Employment	Job seekers/workers need fast, reliable connection	Builds community wealth
Healthcare	Telehealth access, info, and support	Health equity for vulnerable groups
Civic Access	News, services, community engagement	Full participation in society
Social Life	Connection with family/friends near and far	Fights isolation and exclusion

Three Ways to Connect

1



Public Area Wi-Fi

Open access in public spaces located near the primary backbone antennas.

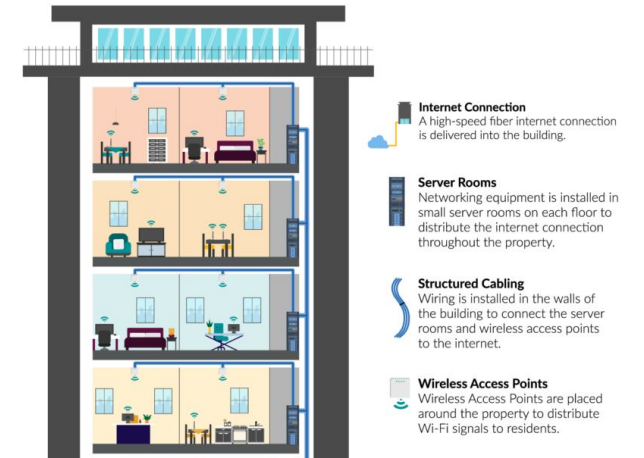
2



Dedicated Home Router

A secure, private router placed *inside* an eligible resident's home.

3



Common Area Access

A shared access point in a multi-family or commercial building's common area.

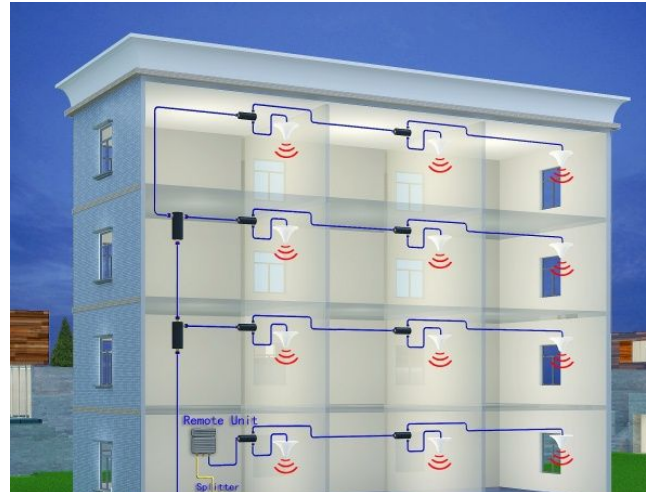
Three Ways to Join



Antenna Host

Hosts WiFi equipment on their building, like the rooftop or facade, enabling the network to deliver strong, reliable internet coverage to the surrounding neighborhood.

1



Antenna + Dedicated Service

As part of the partnership, the building itself can receive dedicated connectivity via the installed antenna.

2



Residential Mount/Direct Connection

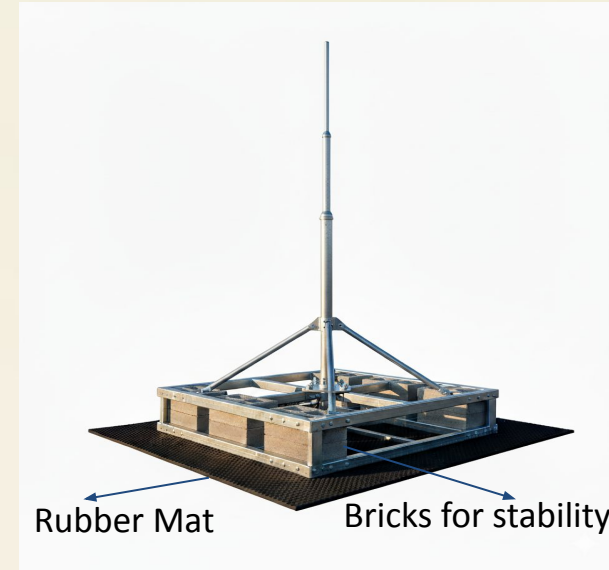
Individual units connect via small outdoor antenna/dish mount

3

Deployment & Low-Impact Installation

Multi-unit Apartments, Commercial and Residential Property

- > **Rapid Implementation** Brief site assessment; typical install-to-service timeline is two weeks.
- > **Non-Intrusive Mounting** Antennas use non-penetrating platforms, ideal for flat roofs, ensuring no building disruption.
- > ***Simple Power** Low-power wiring connects to existing infrastructure access or utility outlet points, avoiding complex electrical work.
- > **Scalable Architecture** Decentralized design is resilient and allows for easy expansion to new neighborhoods.



User Experience

Affordable Service Tiers

No Contracts Commitments for Service



Baseline (Free)

Free access for eligible residents, perfect for email, web browsing, and homework. Supports Healthy Homes goals with speeds at 100 Mbps Upload & Download.

100 Mbps	10–25 users	Email, web, homework, HD streaming
----------	-------------	------------------------------------



Symmetrical 200

200 Mbps Upload & Download. Ideal for video calls, remote work, and streaming. (e.g., \$25/month)

200 Mbps	20–50 users	HD/4K video, video calls, small office
----------	-------------	--



Pro / Business

Speeds above 300 Mbps Up & 300 Mbps Down. Our highest tier for businesses and high-demand users. (Capped at \$50/month)

300 Mbps	30–70 users	Many 4K streams, larger office, gaming
----------	-------------	--

Community Impact & Participation

Prioritized Impact

Enables communities to fully participate in a digital future (education, jobs, health).

The Outcome

A resilient, affordable internet infrastructure that directly supports Healthy Homes goals.

Community Engagement

Partners work directly with property owners and local organizations to identify deployment sites.

How to Participate

Residents and institutions join by agreeing to antenna placement and subscribing to service.

Questions?

Gwen Hodges (Main Contact)

- **Role:** IT Coordinator and WIFI Program Project Coordinator
- **Email:** ghodges@walnutway.org

Olamilekan Awoniyi

- **Email:** oawoniyi@walnutway.org

Thank you for your partnership

www.walnutway.org