



A Broadband Awareness Initiative from the [Iowa Communications Network](#)

We are hiring! The Facilities and Technical Assistance (TAC) Bureau Chief will manage new facilities and provide maintenance to existing. They are responsible for the Network Operations Center, and oversees TAC staff and insure that projects are prioritized in conjunction with other network activity. For more details: <http://ow.ly/A3rS50EBMkP>

The Statewide Youth Broadband Advisory Council (SYBAC) is accepting applications for the 2021-22 term. Apply today: <https://icn.iowa.gov/sybac>.

BROADBAND PUBLIC FORUMS



Greater Des Moines Partnership announces series of public forums on broadband access

Two more forums will be held to hear how broadband has impacted residents' lives in remote work and remote health care.

Source: Clay & Milk

Digital Divide

[Can't connect? Take the Central Iowa Broadband Survey](#)

The Survey will help create a clear picture of consumers' experience with broadband service across the region and help identify areas that do not currently meet needs and expectations.

Source: The Perry News

[FCC Announces Start Date of Emergency Broadband Benefit Program](#)

As of May 12, 2021, eligible households will be able to enroll in the Program to receive a monthly discount off the cost of broadband service from an approved provider.

Source: Connected Nation

Cybersecurity

[Phishing Campaign Abuses Contact Forms](#)

"Attackers used legal threats as a scare tactic while claiming that the recipients allegedly used their images or illustrations without their consent, and that legal action will be taken against them."

Source: KnowBe4

[What is the cost of a data breach?](#)

These are the factors that determine the cost of a breach, along with advice for minimizing their impact.

Source: CSO

[More US agencies potentially hacked, this time with Pulse Secure exploits](#)

The vulnerabilities in Pulse Connect Secure, a VPN that employees use to remotely connect to large networks, include one that hackers had been actively exploiting.

Source: Arstechnica

Education

[CYBER.ORG Launches K-12 HBCU Feeder Program to Grow and Diversify the National Cybersecurity Workforce](#)

Pilot program aims to strengthen the talent pipeline and increase number of students pursuing cybersecurity degrees.

Source: Cyber.org

[Tips for Starting a Drone Program for K-12](#)

As use cases for drones continue to multiply, and more businesses incorporate them into regular operations, there's a case to be made for teaching K-12 students how to use them.

Source: Government Technology

Government

[New app available for College Savings Iowa](#)

"It's called READYSAVE529... you can make a deposit or check your balances, you can do it right there."

Source: Radio Iowa

[Iowa Impact from National 988 Hotline and Transition to 10-Digit Telephone Dialing](#)

For 988 to work in Iowa, customers in the 515 and 319 area codes should start to use ten-digit dialing now to complete local calls.

Source: Iowa Utilities Board

[Governments, Take Note: Bad Internet Bots Are on the Rise](#)

New data suggests government websites may be at higher risk of being targeted by "bad bots" as the pandemic continues, but experts say there's plenty agencies can do to be prepared.

Source: Government Technology

Healthcare

[Another Benefit for Telehealth: It's Good for the Environment](#)

One of the nation's largest health systems has found its telehealth platform is not only helping patients & providers, but reducing greenhouse gas emissions & saving trees.

Source: mHealth Intelligence

[Bipartisan Group of 50 Senators Reintroducing Legislation To Make Permanent Telehealth Flexibilities Available During COVID-19](#)

Expanding coverage of telehealth services to make it easier for patients to safely connect with doctors.

Source: American Telemed

Public Safety

[AT&T touts biosensor that remotely tracks COVID-19 symptoms](#)

The advanced biosensor monitors a patient's vitals. The wearable device uses FirstNet® - the nationwide, high-speed broadband platform for first responders and public safety.

Source: Light Reading

[FirstNet & 5G: An experience unlike anything else for America's first responders](#)

Bringing public safety the only nationwide network with comprehensive, tower-to-core encryption;

FirstNet Health & Wellness Coalition launches.

Source: FirstNet

The Iowa Communications Network is a state-of-the-art fiber optic network providing high-speed Internet, data, voice, security, and consulting services to Iowa's healthcare, education, government, and public safety sectors.