The Kansas Office of Broadband Development was established in 2020 to help ensure that all Kansans have the opportunity to live, work, learn and compete in a global economy by improving universal access to quality, affordable and reliable broadband. The Office is housed within the Community Development Division of the Kansas Department of Commerce. As the state's lead economic development agency, Commerce strives to empower individuals, businesses and communities to achieve prosperity in Kansas.

### ABOUT THE NEED

S&A, with funding from the Broadband Acceleration Grant, will expand broadband to rural Lyon County and Americus, where residents are underserved and left behind when it comes to high speed connectivity. This expansion proposes connectivity to 54 households, with an upload and download speed of 1000/200 Mbps. The lack of adequate broadband service in Americus has many residents in the area struggling to adapt to the changes our country is facing due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. Many residents have been forced to work remotely from home. With higher broadband speeds, the people of Americus will have access to live their daily lives, provide for their families and stay connected to the world. Working adults will be able to sufficiently work from home and children will be able to continue their education.

### ABOUT S&A

S&A has been providing telecommunications services to customers in Scranton, Admire and Allen, KS since 1939 and broadband services since 2002. In an effort to provide customers with only the best broadband service, S&A consistently monitors and upgrades its network, every year. S&A Telephone Company was also awarded a Connectivity Emergency Response Grant to better expand broadband in their rural communities.

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### 2020/2021 BROADBAND ACCELERATION GRANT: S&A TELEPHONE – AMERICUS

**Total Project Investment:**
$201,780

**Award Amount:**
$100,890

**In Partnership With:**
Lyon County and Americus