
Karuk Community Health Clinic

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Karuk Tribe

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Karuk Dental Clinic

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25 March 2010

Sean McLaughlin
Executive Director, Access Humboldt
P.O. Box 157
Eureka, CA 95502

Ayukii (Hello) Mr. McLaughlin:

The Karuk Tribe hereby affirms our partnership with Access Humboldt's "Humboldt Community Access Network" ("HCAN") BTOP grant application.

The Karuk Tribe has members living on Tribal lands in multiple counties of California. In Humboldt County, our members live in the remote north-eastern town of Orleans, among other areas. Orleans is one of the least-served areas in all of California. Not only is no broadband available (either to residences or to our community anchors) but we frequently lose even basic phone service because of the fragility of the phone company's infrastructure to Orleans.

The Tribe's public and government offices in Orleans have a critical need for access to expanded middle-mile infrastructure to support such services as public computing, distance learning, and telemedicine. Earlier this month the FCC released a notice stating that broadband deployment on Tribal lands is less than 10 percent. If HCAN is funded and built, its facilities and services will help us achieve our core mission promoting the general welfare of all Karuk people by providing health care, educational, job training, and public safety services to our tribal members. In addition, we also have a strong interest in purchasing backhaul capacity on the network to support last-mile services that we envision providing to local residents and businesses in our underserved community.

If HCAN is funded, the scope of our intended partnership would include placing appropriate microwave hardware on our Tribal land, sufficient to serve our anchor institutions and backhaul our last mile wireless system, and taking ownership of that hardware.

Given the prohibitive expense and lack of availability of private sector service offerings in Orleans, we support the HCAN project to help us afford sufficient broadband media services. The Karuk Tribe strongly supports Access Humboldt's BTOP grant application for the HCAN project.

Yootva (Thank You),

Arch Super
Chairman, Karuk Tribe