







## "Broadband Access and Use in the Claremont/Upper Valley Region" October 18, 2017

Claremont Community Center, Claremont, NH 3:30pm – 5:00pm

Please join us for a <u>free</u> meeting/panel discussion to talk about access to and use of broadband technologies in the Claremont/Upper Valley Region in northern NH.

## The agenda includes:

- 1. Broadband Overview in Northern NH
  - A. **Current Broadband Availability** Fay Rubin, GRANIT Project Director, UNH, will provide an update on the status of broadband availability based on FCC mapping data, and will highlight ongoing New Hampshire Broadband Mapping & Planning Program (NHBMPP) initiatives in the region.
  - B. **Broadband Technologies** Brian Shepperd, Director of Broadband Services, UNH, will review fiber-based and wireless technologies necessary for building and connecting to high speed Internet networks and services. He will also provide a brief update on NH FirstNet and the NH School Connectivity Initiative (NHSCI) projects.
  - C. Broadband and Economic Development Dr. Charlie French, Extension Program Team Leader, Community and Economic Development, UNH, will talk about the importance of broadband for economic development, creating/retaining jobs, delivering services, etc.
- II. Panel Discussion: Improving Broadband Access in the Region Panelists will address a range of access issues including: What can municipalities do to enhance broadband access? What funding resources are available for broadband expansion? Are there wireless solutions available for expanding access in the region? Carol Miller, Director of Broadband Technology, NH DBEA; Ben Doyle, Community and Economic Development Director, NH & VT USDA; Brian Foucher, President, WiValley.
- III. Panel Discussion: Using Broadband to Improve Sales, Services, Communications, etc. Panelists will discuss how they are using high speed Internet applications to enhance sales and services, communicate with clientele, and support healthcare, education, public safety, and more. Hillary Halleck, HR Manager, Red River Corp.; Nancy Merrill, Planning and Development Director, City of Claremont; Andrew Solomon, Project Manager, Northeast Telehealth Resource Center.













