



## Investing in Chicago

Comcast NBCUniversal is imagining and creating a world that uses technology and media to improve lives and inspire each of us to achieve more. As one of the largest high-speed Internet, video, voice, mobile, home security and automation providers, Comcast is revolutionizing how our customers experience technology, helping businesses of all sizes meet their objectives and bringing the power of the Internet to people in locations across the country, regardless of income and background. Comcast has a longstanding commitment to its Greater Chicago Region (GCR) – which includes Central and Northern Illinois, Northwest Indiana and Southwest Michigan – and works to strengthen the economy, communities and neighborhoods.



## The Backbone of Chicago's Digital Economy

Chicago's digital economy demands a widespread reliable broadband network infrastructure that provides a smart backbone for today's and tomorrow's technology needs. Comcast maintains an extensive, state-of-the-art-network across the GCR:

- ❖ Maintain 50,000+ miles of broadband infrastructure, including 11,000+ miles of fiber, in the region.
- ❖ Deliver services to residents and businesses across every Chicago neighborhood.
- ❖ \$100 million in network expansions to bring fiber optic cable to thousands of businesses, industrial corridors and employment hubs in diverse locations across the region.
- ❖ Operate over 1.6 million WiFi hotspots in the GCR – and 17 million in locations across the nation – allowing customers to access the fastest and most extensive WiFi network on the go.
- ❖ Invested an annual average of \$300 million over the last 20 years in its network in the region.
- ❖ Regularly introduce or pilot innovative products locally, including Internet speeds up to 100 Gbps, MachineQ /IoT and high density WiFi in select public locations.

## A Foundation for Chicago's Technology Ecosystem

Comcast plays a key role fostering the region's vibrant technology ecosystem and creating a supportive environment for innovation. Comcast is committed to supporting aspiring and emerging Chicago startups through hands-on partnerships in an ecosystem that helps them advance ideas, build great products, and succeed.



1871, Chicago's center for technology and entrepreneurship, named Comcast its "2016 Corporate Champion," recognizing the company's commitment to youth engagement, leadership development and overall support for entrepreneurship.

First service provider to bring fiber-based speeds up to 100 Gbps and outdoor Wi-Fi to Goose Island, helping establish the growing tech-driven arts and culture, R&D and manufacturing center's reputation as a forward-leaning business location.

Comcast believes a collaborative environment is essential for entrepreneurs and businesses of all sizes to scale and grow. Comcast has been an embedded and consistent champion of Chicago's incubator community by providing it with critical services, financial support, networking, and insight:



Founding partner of Chicago's first innovation center (and winner of the region's first federal I6 grant) for product development and manufacturing.



First national corporate sponsor of Bunker Labs, an incubator founded in Chicago to launch and support veteran-owned businesses.



Partner for this Chicago-based health care technology incubator, which houses over 150 startups.



Partner and resource provider to this co-working and innovation center for tech and manufacturing startups, housed at Northern Illinois University in Naperville.



Partner to Chicago-based collaborative network aimed at instigating innovation and enabling collaboration in the construction industry.



Supporter of Coalition Energy, a coworking hub of professionals in the energy and clean tech sectors.



Partner in the Mayor's effort to expand digital access and training resources to low-income Chicagoans.

Partner and fund multiple Local Initiative Support Corporation (LISC) programs, including trainings, small business centers, and online portals.

Partner and sponsor of a CyberNavigator program that provides digital training to patrons.

Sponsor of a program that helps develop best practices for developing youth's technical and analytical skills.



Co-founder and sponsor of initiative providing all Boys & Girls Clubs members with technology educational programming in digital literacy, robotics, media making, coding and more.

Partner with 600 plus schools to educate about the importance of Internet access to academic success.

Sponsor of the Urban Sustainability Apps Competition, which brings coders and app developers together to create workable prototypes of apps that make our neighborhoods more sustainable.

## Other Regional Community Investments

In 2015, Comcast and the Comcast Foundation made nearly \$26 million in financial and in-kind donations to charitable organizations throughout the GCR. The company's investment in the community is to impact several important areas of focus: close the digital divide, increase digital literacy, promote youth development and academic success, and help residents in the region build modern work skills.

Organizations Comcast partner with are:



<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Anixter Center</li> <li>❖ Asian Americans Advancing Justice</li> <li>❖ Association House</li> <li>❖ Boys &amp; Girls Clubs of Chicago</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Center on Halsted</li> <li>❖ Chicago Urban League</li> <li>❖ El Valor</li> <li>❖ Erie Neighborhood House</li> <li>❖ Gads Hill Center</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Instituto del Progreso Latino</li> <li>❖ Korean American Community Services</li> <li>❖ Little Black Pearl</li> </ul>
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### Embedded in Chicago’s Civic Engagement Culture

Chicago is the largest metropolitan area Comcast Cable serves, and our nearly 7,000 employees here represent the diversity of our city. Our workforce is our greatest resource, and we draw on employees’ knowledge and community involvement to connect to the region and help make it an inclusive place for our employees, partners, and customers.

- ❖ Nearly 7,000 employees in the Greater Chicago Region
- ❖ Over 900 customer care representatives located in the Chicago area alone.
- ❖ 170 facilities, including more than 30 XFINITY Stores and service centers at which customers can order service, pick up and return equipment and get assistance.
- ❖ Opened the first-ever Studio XFINITY store in Chicago to showcase the latest XFINITY products and services and customer service technologies.
- ❖ With about 600 local employees, NBCUniversal produces more than 50 hours of local news and programming on WMAQ-TV and WSNS-TV, the local Telemundo affiliate. In 2016, the stations aired nearly 700 local “Making a Difference” stories and interviews, which focus on area residents who are helping to spur positive changes in their communities.

## HIRING OUR HEROES



- ❖ Participate in the “Hiring Our Heroes” program and committed to hiring 10,000 veterans across the company by 2017.
  - ❖ Launched a jobs and education portal for veterans and their families.
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- ❖ Held the largest single-day corporate volunteer event in the nation.
  - ❖ More than 6,700 Greater Chicago Region volunteers at nearly 80 projects in 2016.
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- ❖ Operates EveryBlock, a free interactive online tool that lets users in the Chicago area and several other cities learn and share up-to-date information about their communities.
    - EveryBlock is available across more than 750 neighborhoods and 500,000 zip codes, city blocks, police districts, wards and other types of geographic locations.
    - The site integrates information, ranging from 311 service requests and crime reports to new business licenses and construction permits by location. It also provides a platform for neighbors to discuss issues affecting their communities.

To learn more about Comcast's activities in the Greater Chicago Region,  
find Comcast on Facebook and on Twitter @ComcastILLINOIS.



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