



Keeping Illinois Connected

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 local economy, communities and neighborhoods.



The Backbone of the Regional Digital Economy

The region'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 53,000+ miles of broadband infrastructure, including 11,000+ miles of fiber, in the region.
- ❖ Deliver all of the company's services – including its gigabit-speed Internet – to residents and businesses across every neighborhood where the company provides service.
- ❖ Is the nation's largest provider of gigabit-speed Internet service.
- ❖ Increased Internet speeds 17 times in the last 17 years. In Illinois, more than 75% of local residential Xfinity Internet customers now have speeds of over 100 Mbps, compared to less than 20% just two years ago.
- ❖ Completed \$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 1.7 million WiFi hotspots in the GCR – and 19 million in locations across the nation –

allowing customers to access the fastest and most extensive WiFi network on the go.

- ❖ Invested \$3.2 billion in technology and infrastructure in Illinois from 2011 to 2017.
- ❖ 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 the Region'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 WiFi 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 city'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 the CPL CyberNavigator program, which provides digital training to patrons and sponsor of "Experience Labs" at three CPL locations.

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 2017, Comcast and the Comcast Foundation made around \$28 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:



- ❖ Anixter Center
- ❖ Asian Americans Advancing Justice
- ❖ Big Brothers Big Sisters
- ❖ Boys & Girls Clubs

- ❖ Center on Halsted
- ❖ Easter Seals
- ❖ El Valor
- ❖ Erie Neighborhood House
- ❖ Gads Hill Center

- ❖ Instituto del Progreso Latino
- ❖ Korean American Community Services
- ❖ Little Black Pearl
- ❖ Urban League

Embedded in the Region’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 and our region. 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 GCR
- ❖ Over 900 customer care representatives located in Illinois alone.
- ❖ More than 150 facilities, including nearly 40 Xfinity Stores and service centers at which customers can order service, pick up and return equipment and get assistance.
- ❖ 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 2018, the stations aired thousands of local “Making a Difference” stories and interviews, which focus on area residents who are helping to spur positive changes in their communities.



- ❖ Participate in the “Hiring Our Heroes” program and hired more than 10,000 veterans across the company from 2015 to 2017. Comcast recently committed to hiring another 11,000 by 2021.
- ❖ Launched a jobs and education portal for veterans and their families.



- ❖ Held the largest single-day corporate volunteer event in the nation, Comcast Cares Day – Saturday, April 21, 2018. Nearly 6,400 Greater Chicago Region volunteers participated in 75 projects this year.

To learn more about Comcast's activities in the Greater Chicago Region,
find Comcast on Facebook, on Twitter @ComcastILLINOIS
and online at <http://chicago.comcast.com>.



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