

Citizens Telephone Cooperative Taps CHR Solutions for Multi-Year FTTH Engineering Services Engagement

Houston, TX – June 22, 2017 – CHR Solutions, a communications industry leader in network infrastructure engineering was recently selected as the outside plant engineering partner for Citizens Telephone Cooperative of Floyd, Virginia.

The project consists of the deployment of approximately 650 route miles of fiber in Floyd County in the state of Virginia. Citizens will leverage the new fiber infrastructure to deliver leading edge broadband services to its customers in their ILEC territory while bolstering the company's fiber backbone routes.

"CHR's legacy of deploying successful FTTH projects and their reputation for efficient and effective project execution served as key decision criteria as we evaluated our partner options. We are excited to kick-off this project. This investment will bring next-generation communications services to our customers and help to futureproof the network they depend on to keep them connected," said Greg Sapp, Citizens Telephone Cooperative, General Manager.

The project is supported by the Alternative-Connect America Cost Model (A-CAM version 2.3). The model encourages and aids rural communications companies by infusing funding from the Universal Service Fund; enabling them to provide enhanced broadband services to customers in high-cost areas through the deployment of FTTH technology.

"We are thrilled to partner with Citizens on this initiative," said Mike Beecher, Executive Vice President for Engineering Services at CHR. "This is an outstanding project that will stimulate an economy and connect customers and communities. We appreciate the opportunity to lend our FTTH expertise to the Citizens team and see this project to success."

CHR was recently named by Broadband Communities Magazine as a Top 100 FTTH Leader and Innovator.

About CHR

CHR is a leading provider of Engineering Services, BSS/OSS software solutions and services, engineering, and managed IT services to communication service providers around the world. Our clients include: Telecom, Internet, Cable TV and City Municipalities. <u>www.chrsolutions.com</u>

About Citizens

Citizens Telephone Cooperative is a regional full-service communications and entertainment provider serving Southwest Virginia. Headquartered in Floyd, Virginia, Citizens is a membership cooperative with roots tracing back to 1914 when landline telephone was established in rural Floyd County. Thus credit is given to the lineage in the company name — Citizens. <u>https://citizens.coop/</u>

For more information, please contact: Kevin Kutcher, CHR Solutions | <u>kevin.kutcher@chrsolutions.com</u> |(503) 869-7207