

## Indiana Telehealth Network and FirstMile Technologies Partner to Provide Voice Services over Indiana Telehealth Network

The Indiana Rural Health Association has partnered with FirstMile Technologies, a Westfield, Indiana-based telecommunications provider, to provide voice services to its members across the Indiana Telehealth Network. By utilizing their current Fiber Optic Network, members of the Indiana Rural Health Association will now have access to greater consistency in their voice services by partnering with FirstMile Technologies.

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Linton, Indiana

The same state-of-the-art fiber optic network currently being utilized for data services can now be used by Indiana Rural Health Association (IRHA) member organizations for their voice services. FirstMile will use its current interconnection with the Indiana Telehealth Network (ITN) so all traffic will remain on the same fiber optic network. This will greatly increase reliability for health care providers across the state of Indiana.

Don Kelso, Executive Director of the Indiana Rural Health Association, discussed the new partnership, saying, "We are very excited about this opportunity. To be able to expand our offerings to voice services over the ITN and to partner with a company based right here in Indiana in providing those services is just a great match." Each member organization will have an opportunity to meet with a network engineer from FirstMile to discover where they may find inefficiencies in their current network structure, in addition to exploring several cost cutting strategies.

FirstMile Technologies has provided high quality voice service to Indianapolis area businesses since 1999. The recent acquisition by Louisville, Kentucky-based Inside Connect Cable gives FirstMile the ability to better serve large organizations such as the IRHA and its members. Clay Manley, Inside Connect Cable Managing Partner commented, "The ITN has proven to be a tremendous asset to rural hospitals across Indiana, and that is where Inside Connect and FirstMile have developed a real passion, whether in rural Kentucky by deploying fiber to the home, or in Indiana by serving participants of the ITN. We offer our customers stability and consistency in their

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voice and data products, while continually striving to bring industry leading customer service and technology to areas that may have been traditionally overlooked."

The Indiana Rural Health Association is based in Linton, Indiana and operates with a mission to enhance the health and well-being of rural populations in Indiana through leadership, education, advocacy, collaboration, and resource development. Represented by the Association are 43 member organizations and over 2,400 individuals. For more information please visit <a href="http://www.indianaruralhealth.org">http://www.indianaruralhealth.org</a>.

FirstMile Technologies is located in Westfield, Indiana with a local staff and office at 750 Liberty Drive. Indiana operations are supported by Inside Connect Cable's multiple Kentucky offices, including their headquarters at 11501 Plantside Drive in Louisville. For more information feel free to visit <a href="http://www.FirstMile.net">http://www.FirstMile.net</a> or call 317-569-2800.