



## Starry Partners with the Denver Housing Authority to Expand Affordable Broadband Access in Denver's Public Housing Communities

Starry will launch Starry Connect across all Denver Housing Authority communities, making its high-quality, low-cost internet service available to more than 26,000 residents

**Denver, Co (September 24, 2019)** – Starry, Inc., a vertically-integrated technology and internet service provider pioneering the deployment of next generation, high-capacity, point-to-multipoint, fixed wireless broadband, today announced a partnership with the Denver Housing Authority (DHA) to provide Starry Connect, Starry's high-quality, low-cost internet access program for affordable and public housing, across DHA's portfolio of communities. Starting this month, more than 600 households at VIDA in West Denver and Connole Apartments and Thomas Bean Towers in East Denver will have the option to subscribe to Starry's simple, no-long-term contract, no-data caps plan of 30mbps download/upload speed, with installation, 24/7 customer care and all equipment included for \$15 per month. Starry will also provide DHA free internet access in the common areas, computer labs, and administrative offices within these buildings.

DHA is one of the largest multi-dwelling unit property owners and managers in the city of Denver, providing affordable housing to more than 26,000 very low, low, and middle-income residents. Through this partnership, Starry and DHA are lowering barriers to broadband adoption by offering a low-cost solution without requiring residents to meet complex eligibility conditions. Starry Connect will be expanded throughout all DHA communities as Starry continues to expand its network footprint across metro Denver.

"Having a reliable high-speed internet connection in the home is essential to everything we do, but for many people, paying for quality broadband access is a financial strain or beyond their reach," said **Starry CEO and co-founder Chet Kanojia**. "We launched Starry Connect last year in an effort to put high-quality broadband within financial reach of more families and individuals. By partnering directly with owners of affordable and public housing, we can create tailored and innovative approaches to bridging digital inequalities across these communities. We are excited to partner with DHA on Starry Connect and look forward to expanding this program within the DHA portfolio."

"Through our ConnectHome Denver initiative, DHA is committed to a comprehensive digital inclusion strategy that ensures our residents are digitally educated; with access to digital technology; and connected to affordable internet service where they live," **stated Ismael Guerrero, DHA Executive Director.** "Starry has proven to be a great partner in bridging the digital divide with affordable connectivity."

The economic and social benefits of broadband access in the home are well known, yet according to the Federal Communications Commission, more than 20 million Americans still lack access to a high-speed internet broadband connection. And, nearly half of lower-income Americans do not have a broadband connection at home. In Colorado, the Colorado Broadband Office estimates that 150,000 households do not have access to

<sup>2</sup> Pew Research Foundation (March 2017) <a href="http://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2017/03/22/digital-divide-persists-even-as-lower-income-americans-make-gains-in-tech-adoption/">http://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2017/03/22/digital-divide-persists-even-as-lower-income-americans-make-gains-in-tech-adoption/</a>

 $<sup>^{1}\</sup>textit{FCC Broadband Progress Report.} \ \underline{\text{https://www.fcc.gov/reports-research/reports/broadband-progress-reports/2018-broadband-deployment-report}$ 

basic broadband.<sup>3</sup> Data collected by BROADBANDNOW finds that nearly 430,000 people in Colorado are without access to a wired connection capable of 25mbps download speeds.<sup>4</sup>

"Internet access is often viewed as an amenity or luxury. At Starry we believe internet access is a necessity that everyone should have access to, regardless of location or financial means," said **Starry's Denver General Manager Stephan Andrade**. "Starry Connect is a clear demonstration of our commitment to serving our local community and we look forward to continuing to grow and expand our footprint across the entire Denver metro area."

Starry officially launched its service in Denver in April 2019. For \$50 a month, consumers can get a simple, no-long-term contract, no-data caps plan with 200mbps download/upload speed, with installation, 24/7 customer care and all equipment included. Residents at Vida, Connole Apartments, and Thomas Bean Towers can also choose to upgrade to this plan. Starry is currently available in select areas in Denver. To see if your building is in coverage or to sign up, visit: <a href="https://starry.com/internet">https://starry.com/internet</a>.

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## About Starry, Inc.

At Starry, Inc., we believe the future is wireless and that connecting people to high-speed, broadband internet should be simple and affordable. Using our innovative, next generation fixed wireless technology, Starry is deploying gigabit-capable broadband to the home without bundles, data caps, or long-term contracts. Starry is a different kind of internet service provider. We put our customers first by protecting their privacy, ensuring access to an open and neutral net, and putting the customer experience at the heart of everything we do. Headquartered in Boston and backed by world-class investors, Starry is currently available in Boston, New York, Los Angeles, Washington, DC and Denver and is expanding nationwide. To learn more about Starry or to join our team and help us build a better internet, visit: starry.com.

## **About The Denver Housing Authority**

The Denver Housing Authority serves over 26,000 extremely low, low and middle-income Denver residents, managing over 12,000 units located throughout the city. The agency drives its mission by leveraging resources and partnerships while focusing on high quality and high standards, visit <a href="https://www.denverhousing.org">www.denverhousing.org</a>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> The Colorado Broadband Office, Why Broadband Matters: <a href="http://broadband.co.gov/why-broadband-matters/">http://broadband.co.gov/why-broadband-matters/</a>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> BROADBANDNOW, Internet Access in Colorado: <u>https://broadbandnow.com/Colorado</u>