



Starry Expands Access to Its Ultra-Low-Cost Broadband Program, Partnering with HCCI to Expand Affordable Broadband Access Across Harlem

Harlem Congregations for Community Improvement provides housing, economic development and empowerment opportunities for the holistic revitalization of Harlem

New York, NY (March 13, 2020) – [Starry, Inc.](#), a wideband hybrid fiber wireless internet service provider building a nationwide, high-capacity competitive broadband network, today announced that it is partnering with Harlem Congregations for Community Improvement (HCCI) to expand [Starry Connect](#), Starry’s high-quality, \$15/month true broadband access program, to 11 apartment communities reaching more than 600 households in Harlem. Starry is expanding its affordable broadband access program following calls by U.S. Senate leaders and the Federal Communications Commission for internet service providers nationwide to expand access to affordable broadband services to help those impacted by COVID-19.

“With regards to COVID-19, our communities are in uncharted territory and ensuring that everyone has access to affordable, reliable broadband is critical as more people transition to work and schooling from home,” **said Virginia Lam Abrams, Senior Vice President of Government Affairs and Strategic Advancement for Starry.** “The digital gap in our communities has never come into clearer focus as it has now, and it is imperative lawmakers and broadband providers work together to expand broadband access in underserved communities. According to the FCC, more than half of our low-income families do not have access to a fixed broadband in the home. At Starry, we’ve built an affordable broadband access program with no complex eligibility requirements that makes it easy and seamless for residents to sign up for service. We’re thrilled to partner with HCCI to offer their residents our world-class broadband service.”

Starry Connect is an official [ConnectHomeUSA stakeholder](#) with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and partners with public and affordable housing owners to make available a true broadband service plan for \$15 per month, without long-term contracts, data caps, credit checks or other complex eligibility requirements. Starry Connect subscribers experience a minimum of 30 Mbps symmetrical speeds and all equipment, installation and 24/7 customer care are included in the monthly cost. Starry Connect is unique in that it does not require individual subscriber qualification to participate. Starry ties eligibility directly to the public or affordable housing owner to relieve the paperwork and qualification burden from the resident.

“As a former resident and community organizer for HCCI, I have borne witness to the reality of tenants not being able to afford the high cost of a basic service like internet access,” **said Achisimach Yisrael, founder of ABY consulting services.** “I applaud and support the expansion of Starry’s affordable \$15 broadband plan throughout HCCI’s communities. Starry is providing much needed access for HCCI residents to fully participate in our digital economy and have access to all the opportunities that provides. It’s just one way we can continue to level the playing field and create more equity across all our communities.”

HCCI is a nonprofit organization that is enabling holistic revitalization of Harlem through economic development and empowerment opportunities. HCCI provides affordable rental housing and ownership opportunities for various income levels including, homeless, low to moderate income families and individuals and disabled persons. In addition, HCCI promotes economic development through job training, employment opportunities, referral services, and local commercial revitalization. HCCI has developed more than 4,000 units of low, moderate and middle-income housing since its founding in 1986.

Starry Connect will be immediately available at 2211 Frederick Douglass Boulevard, 1468 Fifth Avenue, 203 West 146th Street, 263 West 153rd Street, 254 West 154th Street and 262 West 154th Street. Five other communities including 15, 17, 19 and 21 West 137th Street and 2217 Eighth Avenue will have access to Starry Connect in April.

According to the Federal Communications Commission, more than 21 million Americans still lack access to a broadband connection in the home, and among low-income families, more than half do not have broadband at home. In New York City alone, the Mayor's office estimates that nearly 3.4 million residents go without home broadband access and 1.5 million residents lack access to both home and mobile broadband, excluding them entirely or in part, from the benefits of digital life.

Starry Internet is available in New York City, Boston, Los Angeles, Washington, DC and Denver. Starry Connect was officially launched in 2018 and counts the Denver Housing Authority, the Boston Housing Authority, Innovating Housing Concepts (Englewood, CO Housing Authority), Related Affordable and Beacon Communities as its largest public and affordable housing partners. Starry and Starry Connect are currently available in select areas in New York. To see if your building is in coverage or to sign up, visit: <https://starry.com/internet>.

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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.

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