

## STARRY EXPANDS ITS AFFORDABLE BROADBAND ACCESS PROGRAM TO BROOKLINE HOUSING AUTHORITY

The Brookline Housing Authority is Starry's seventh public housing partner to join the company's digital equity program, Starry Connect

**Boston, Mass. (November 3, 2021)** -- Starry, Inc., a next generation licensed fixed wireless technology developer and internet service provider, and the Brookline Housing Authority (BHA) announced a partnership to provide its ultra-low-cost Starry Connect broadband service to more than 900 units of public and affordable housing in Brookline, Massachusetts. BHA's residents will be able to sign up for Starry's high-speed, uncapped home broadband service without a credit check or signing a long-term contract. Additionally, BHA residents can opt-into the federal government's <a href="Emergency Broadband Benefit">Emergency Broadband Benefit</a> (EBB) program, which provides up to \$50 per month for broadband access to eligible households. For residents that sign up for Starry's service and opt-into the EBB program, that benefit will cover the entire cost of broadband service for the household while the program remains in effect. Starry's partnership with BHA will expand Starry Connect's reach to more than 5,100 households across metro Boston.

"Home broadband access is essential, but too many families go without it because it's too expensive or they can't pass a credit check or meet certain eligibility criteria required by other providers," said **Virginia Lam Abrams, Starry's Senior Vice President of Government Affairs and Strategic Advancement**. "We created Starry Connect in direct response to this problem. By partnering directly with public and affordable housing owners, Starry Connect strips away barriers - like credit checks, lengthy applications, and eligibility requirements - that keep families from getting the broadband access they need for work, school and connecting with loved ones. We're proud to expand Starry Connect to the Brookline Housing Authority and do our part to close the digital gap and bring reliable, affordable broadband to the families who need it most."

"The Brookline Housing Authority is thrilled to partner with Starry and bring an affordable broadband internet solution to all BHA residents. The pandemic made clear access to quality and affordable internet is a necessity for families and seniors to access social services, educational opportunities, and health providers," said Michael Alperin, the Brookline Housing Authority's Executive Director.

The Brookline Housing Authority provides low-income families, seniors, and people of all abilities with safe, decent, accessible, and affordable places to live. BHA takes part in several state and federally-funded housing and rental assistance programs as well as

partners with other government agencies and non-profit organizations to provide specialized housing to families or individuals.

Starry launched its <u>Starry Connect</u> program in 2018 in Boston to address the growing digital divide by providing an affordable and ultra-low-barrier broadband option to public and affordable housing communities. Starry Connect brings ultra-low-cost broadband service to public and affordable housing residents without requiring credit checks, long-term contracts, individual eligibility requirements (such as household participation in SNAP, WIC or Medicaid) or a lengthy application process. Starry Connect provides a \$15 per month option for 30 Mbps symmetrical speeds with no data caps, no long-term contracts, no credit checks, no extra fees for equipment and includes free installation and 24/7 world-class customer support. This innovative approach to removing broadband adoption barriers earned Starry designation as <u>ConnectHomeUSA</u> stakeholder through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development in 2019.

The Brookline Housing Authority represents Starry Connect's seventh public housing authority partner, joining the New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA), the Housing Authority of the City of Los Angeles, Denver Housing Authority, Boston Housing Authority, Innovative Housing Concepts (Englewood CO Housing Authority), and Metro West Housing Solutions (Lakewood CO Housing Authority). In addition to its public housing partners, Starry also works with nonprofit and privately-owned affordable housing owners such as Related Affordable, Beacon Communities, Schochet Properties, Neighborhood Developers, and many others. Since March 2020, Starry has more than tripled the size of its Starry Connect program and today it is available in more than 40,000 units of public and affordable housing across New York City, Los Angeles, Boston, Denver, Columbus, DC and Northern Virginia.

Starry Internet is available in Boston, New York City, Los Angeles, Washington, DC, Denver and Columbus, OH. To see if your building is in coverage or to sign up, visit: <a href="https://starry.com/internet">https://starry.com/internet</a>. To learn more about Starry Connect, become a Starry Connect partner or sign-up for Starry Connect service, visit <a href="https://starry.com/sta

## **ABOUT STARRY, INC.**

At Starry, Inc., we believe the future is built on connectivity and that connecting people and communities to high-speed, broadband internet should be simple and affordable. Using our innovative, wideband hybrid-fiber 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're building a platform for the future by putting our customers first, protecting their privacy and ensuring access to an open and neutral net. 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 to Columbus, Ohio and nationwide. To learn more about Starry or to join our team and help us build a better internet, visit: <a href="https://starry.com">https://starry.com</a>.

## ABOUT THE BROOKLINE HOUSING AUTHORITY

The Brookline Housing Authority provides low-income families, seniors, and people of all abilities with safe, decent, accessible, and affordable places to live in a community rich with

opportunities. The BHA works in collaboration with government and civic organizations to support and encourage the well-being and economic self-sufficiency of BHA residents and to sustain a diverse population in Brookline. The Brookline Housing Authority owns and manages 985 units of affordable housing in Brookline, Massachusetts. The BHA also administers housing voucher programs for approximately 1200 households. The Housing Authority is in the midst of a generational effort to redevelop all of its existing housing units and create new affordable housing where appropriate using Low Income Housing Tax Credits and the HUD RAD programs.

## **MEDIA CONTACTS**

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