



T-Mobile Hometown Grant Recipients Quote Sheet

Pine Bluff, Arkansas:

“We are honored that Pine Bluff has been selected as a recipient of a T-Mobile Hometown Grant from among nearly 900 applicants nationwide. This investment will help advance the Delta Rhythm & Bayous Cultural District in downtown Pine Bluff, which, upon completion, will be the largest outdoor gallery dedicated to Delta music and culture in the country. As a primary anchor along the Delta Rhythm & Bayous Highway connecting Pine Bluff, Arkansas, to Indianola, Mississippi, our city is proud to help tell a more complete story of the Delta’s extraordinary musical heritage. We are grateful to T-Mobile for investing in communities like ours.”

- **Vivian Flowers, Mayor, Pine Bluff**

“The Delta Rhythm & Bayous Cultural District is the Trail Head to the 1st Multi-state Music Highway (DRB Highway) which ends at the B.B. King Museum in Indianola, MS. Regional revitalization is a key tourism development strategy for our city and burgeoning cultural, arts and entertainment district. Thank you to T-Mobile for investing in the Arkansas Delta.”

- **Michael McCray, Public Relations & Cultural Development Specialist, Pine Bluff Advertising & Promotion Commission**

Texarkana, Arkansas:

“We are deeply grateful to T-Mobile for this generous grant, which will strengthen the interactive library at We Are Washington. This investment gives our young people access to hands-on learning tools and digital resources. With T-Mobile support, we’re creating opportunities that help students feel seen, supported, and empowered to imagine a bright future.”

- **Allen Brown, Mayor, Texarkana, Arkansas**

“T-Mobile’s investment in We Are Washington will help transform this space into a vibrant hub where students can engage with technology, learning tools, and hands-on experiences. Interactive learning spaces like this are a proven gateway to opportunity and help spark creativity for the next generation. The City of Texarkana would like to extend our sincere thanks to T-Mobile for their investment and to We Are Washington for their vision, passion, and dedication.”

- **Tyler Richards, City Manager, Texarkana, Arkansas**

“We are incredibly grateful to T-Mobile for investing in the future of our children - this grant will transform our library into an innovative, inspiring space where imagination, learning, and opportunity come to life at We Are Washington.”

- **Donnie Reid, Founder, We Are Washington**



"This investment allows us to create a library that will serve as a dynamic learning environment for the children and families we support every day. We're grateful to T-Mobile for partnering with us to expand access to resources that encourage creativity, curiosity, and growth."

- **Paige Godfrey, Treasurer, We Are Washington**

"We Are Washington means giving our kids a place to belong, grow, and believe in their future. I'm incredibly grateful for partners like T-Mobile who see the vision and invest in the next generation."

- **Destiny Thomas, Outreach Director, We Are Washington**

"There is something powerful happening at We Are Washington. The pride radiating from this space is unshakable, and its impact on youth and families is undeniable. T-Mobile is helping amplify what this community is building together."

- **Amanda Shavers, Founder & CEO, Arc & Root Funding Co. | Leadership Texarkana**

Chino Valley, Arizona:

"In a small town like Chino Valley, projects like this bring people together. Thanks to T-Mobile's support, we're creating a space where our community can gather, play, and make lasting memories."

- **Tom Armstrong, Mayor, City of Chino Valley**

Nogales, Arizona:

"The T-Mobile Hometown Grant awarded to the Santa Cruz County Justice Project (SCCJP) is a transformative investment in the heart of our downtown. No organization is more deserving — SCCJP brings the vision, professionalism, and values this community needs. Their justice education center will unite Nogales residents and open doors to brighter futures for all."

- **Evan Kory, President, La Linea Art Studio, Wittner Museum and Fellow, Economic Recovery Corps**

"The T-Mobile Hometown Grant is a crucial lifeline for the Santa Cruz County Justice Project (SCCJP), a new initiative that brings legal advocacy to an underserved population. As a retired judge from the Santa Cruz County Justice Court, I know firsthand how essential this project is for the people in our community. Those who come before the court seeking help with orders of protection, eviction actions, or debt collection cases are often unable to afford an attorney. SCCJP provides education, self-help tools, and legal guidance that create a fairer and more supportive community for all. The SCCJP internships have also offered meaningful learning opportunities for local youth who have helped develop the tools that assist residents. This grant allows SCCJP to continue helping people understand their rights and navigate legal challenges by transforming their downtown Nogales space into a welcoming community center for justice, learning, and connection."



- **Hon. Mary Helen Maley, Retired Santa Cruz County Justice of the Peace and Santa Cruz County Justice Project Board Member**

Needles, California:

“Needles is honored to be selected as a recipient of a T-Mobile Hometown Grant! As we celebrate the 100th Anniversary of Historic Route 66 this year, this investment from T-Mobile represents more than a monument — it represents momentum for our community. Located near our official Route 66 roadside rest stop at Train Park, the new arch will serve as a permanent gateway feature that strengthens our downtown corridor, enhances the visitor experience, and reinforces Needles’ identity as California’s eastern gateway to the Mother Road. We are grateful for T-Mobile’s partnership and continued commitment to Needles.”

- **Janet Jernigan, Mayor, City of Needles**

Henderson, Kentucky:

"Central Park is one of our most popular recreational areas, so I am thrilled that we are able to make it even better with needed safety upgrades. I extend my gratitude to the team who is spearheading this project and to T-Mobile for the grant that is making it happen. These enhancements help ensure that the park remains a welcoming community gathering space for years to come."

- **Brad Staton, Mayor, City of Henderson**

Scandia, Minnesota:

“As Mayor, I see firsthand how vital shared connections are to the health of our community. The T-Mobile Hometown Grant is helping Scandia build an amazing venue that will celebrate local talent, preserve our stories and heritage, and increase community pride. Thank you, T-Mobile! The Water Tower Barn project will activate an under-used public space, provide opportunities for local businesses and civic groups to engage, and offer young people and families enriching cultural experiences -- ultimately enhancing Scandia's quality of life.”

- **Steve Kronmiller, Mayor, City of Scandia**

“As a downtown business owner, I see how much Scandia needs visible, welcoming places where people naturally gather. The restoration of a working windmill and water system at Water Tower Barn will create a place people recognize, talk about, and return to — a shared point of pride that feels both historic and alive. I can easily imagine families stopping after the farmers market, grandparents explaining how the windmill works, and visitors lingering downtown longer because there is something meaningful to see and experience.”

- **Dawn Pivec, Business Owner in Scandia**



“The Water Tower Barn project isn't about nostalgia for the past. It's about rooting Scandia's future in a sense of place. By activating a central, walkable site with inclusive programming and a high-visibility windmill atop a historic barn, SHA is helping create reasons for residents to stay in town, support local businesses, and feel invested in Scandia.”

- **Dan Lindgren, Fast-Pitch Softball Tournament Organizer in Scandia**

“We are thrilled that T-Mobile is joining us at a pivotal moment of fundraising for WATER TOWER BARN SCANDIA arts and heritage center—helping us cross the finish line to create a vibrant community space that will bring people together through music, theater, history, visual arts, and environmental programs. T-Mobile's support is a powerful investment in rural placemaking—transforming a historic tankhouse barn into a welcoming destination where creativity, culture, and community life can thrive.”

- **Susan Rodsjo, Board Chair, Scandia Heritage Alliance**

Nettleton, Mississippi:

“Our city and Main Street Association have worked tirelessly with modest resources to strengthen our community, and today T-Mobile's support gives us fresh momentum and the freedom to bring new ideas to life—beginning with a new public tennis court that will benefit Nettleton for years to come.”

- **Phillip Baulch, Mayor, Town of Nettleton**

West Point, Mississippi:

"The Black Prairie Blues Museum is a vibrant part of our downtown that draws local residents and visitors from all over the world. Being chosen as a T-Mobile Hometown Grant recipient will elevate the museum's programs and events, promoting our culture, music and history in the Blues and bringing the community together. "

- **Lisa Klutts, Executive Director, The Growth Alliance**

Grants, New Mexico:

“We are incredibly grateful to T-Mobile for investing in the revitalization of the Grants Amphitheater. This funding will help transform the space into a vibrant community gathering place where residents and visitors can come together for music, events, and cultural celebrations. Projects like this strengthen our downtown, support local businesses, and create more opportunities for families and visitors to experience Grants. The amphitheater will play an important role in expanding community events, outdoor entertainment, and tourism in our historic Route 66 corridor. This investment is not just about improving a physical space—it's about building community pride and creating memorable experiences for generations to come.”

- **Grants MainStreet**

Lima, Ohio:



"This investment from T-Mobile's Hometown Grant program is a powerful vote of confidence in Lima's future and in the strength of inclusive growth. Renovating the Mizpah Community Center will transform this space into a renewed hub for learning, connection, and opportunity - ensuring more residents have access to the resources they need to thrive. When outside partners invest in the priorities our community identified, it allows us to open doors, remove barriers, and create pathways forward for everyone."

- **Sharetta Smith, Mayor, City of Lima**

Ashland, Oregon:

"This project is more than a mural; it's a living time capsule of Ashland's culture. It layers the Indigenous stories of this land with our town's cultural history. By bringing together John Pugh's place-based art with interactive AI, we are creating a space where our city's history meets its future. We are incredibly grateful to T-Mobile for recognizing the potential of this project and investing in Ashland's creative and scientific community."

- **Cynthia Salbato, Artnow and White Rabbit Creator Clubhouse**

"This installation is designed to be an artistic land acknowledgement," said John Pugh. "I am grateful to have worked closely with members of the Indigenous community, especially Russell Beebe and David West, to get these stories right. It is their stories, shared with such generosity, that allow this artwork to bridge the past with the future of Ashland. "

- **John Pugh, Muralist, Big Dog Studios**

"This collaboration not only creates a unique landmark for Ashland but provides an equally unique hands-on opportunity for SOU students to apply computer science to community creativity. An early iteration of the AI Guide won first place at the International Conference for Creative Computation last June in Brazil."

- **Daniel DeFreez, Professor, Computer Science, Southern Oregon University**

Stroudsburg, Pennsylvania:

"We are so grateful for the support of T-Mobile and the Hometown Grant, with every family we serve, a new story of hope begins."

- **Kristi Hammond, Executive Director, Pocono Service for Family and Children**

Bristol, Tennessee:

"Appalachian Literacy Initiative is thrilled to be a recipient of the T-Mobile Hometown Grant! Access to books shouldn't depend on geography. On the backroads of rural Appalachia, our future bookmobile will turn miles into moments - moments where curiosity is sparked, connections are made, confidence is built, and communities are strengthened."



- **Hannah Smith, Operations Manager, Appalachian Literacy Initiative**

Loudon, Tennessee:

“For nearly 40 years, the Public Library at Tellico Village has served residents of all ages, expanding their knowledge and fueling creativity. This investment will help protect and strengthen an important community resource while supporting the library’s continued growth. I’m grateful to everyone who helped make this possible and I look forward to seeing the library continue serving and inspiring the community for years to come.”

- **State Representative Lowell Russell, R-Vonore**

“The (T-Mobile Hometown Grant) will help finance the land recontouring for flood control for this most worthwhile and broad reaching community library....This library serves us countywide with their outreach programs.”

- **Rollen “Buddy” Bradshaw, Mayor, Loudon County**

“The Tellico Village Library has the largest book and e-book distribution in the county. T-Mobile could not put their money to better use than to help this library which was built with so much devotion.”

- **Henry Cullen, Commissioner, Loudon County**

“The proposed flood prevention and drainage improvements are critical to ensuring that this vital community resource can continue operating safely and sustainably. The library’s volunteers enrich lives daily by providing books, media, companionship and programs that uplift older adults and support lifelong learning. Our facility represents only a small portion of the far-reaching impact they have on our community.”

- **Katie Johnson, Business Manager, Morning Pointe Assisted Living Residence**

“Friends of the Tellico Village Library has done so much in our community to support others in need, I am hopeful (T-Mobile) will come to their aid in their time of need.”

- **Tony Gibbons, Executive Director, Loudon County Habitat for Humanity**

“The Public Library at Tellico Village is a library with a heart and outreach to match.”

- **Ruth Henderson, Chair of the Loudon County Library Board**

“Thank you so very much, T-Mobile, for this much-needed grant. We can now sleep at night and enjoy the pitter patter of rain on the roof instead of lying awake worrying about whether the library will flood. Your generosity for land recontouring will protect our library so we can continue our many community-based projects.”



- **Billie Whitney, Former President, Friends of the Tellico Village Library Board of Directors**

“T-Mobile, your grant will guarantee the physical longevity of our community built and maintained public library. We are a privately funded library operating as an information and social hub for a diverse population, and this grant strengthens our commitment to lifelong learning for the community.”

- **Phyllis Thompson, Former Grants Team Lead, Friends of the Tellico Village Library Board**

“Fourteen years ago, the dream of a few became “The Heart of the Village,” the beautiful Public Library at Tellico Village. That dream occasionally morphed into nightmare status when Mother Nature presented challenges to the building. Yet, the Library has remained “The Heart of the Village.” Thanks to the generosity of T-Mobile, the challenges may be mastered and the dream will continue to touch and enrich the lives of Villagers and those in the outlying communities.”

- **Sandi Jorgensen, Former President, Friends of the Tellico Village Library Board of Directors**

Rio Grande City, Texas:

“This grant is a meaningful and a Blessing investment for the Hope and Help Center of Starr.”

- **Eleazar Velasquez, Commissioner, Precinct 3, La Casita**

‘At the Hope and Help Center, we are committed to creating a safe and supportive space. This funding helps to continue providing essential resources that strengthen our community.’”

- **Lamar De La Cruz Justice of the Peace, Precinct 6**

“Thank you to all these wonderful ladies that are truly working for the community. Thank you the T-mobile for your support.”

- **Jose “PapaJoe” Garza, Constable, Precinct 6**

“Excellent Hope and Help Center will be able to service many families.”

- **Rene Fuentes, Sheriff, Starr County**

“What a blessing and great news! The Hope and Help Center is a very essential assistance to Starr residents.”

- **Evangelina Valdez, Nurse Practitioner**

“Congratulations and Keep up the good work Hope and Help Center of Starr.”

- **Orlando Velasquez, District Clerk**



“Thank you, T-Mobile, for helping our community and The Hope and Help Center of Starr they are wonderful persons and excellent service.”

- **Fermin Orta, Constable, Precinct 8**

“Excellent Job Hope and Help Center of Starr. Thank you T-Mobile for this great opportunity for our community.”

- **Rose Benavides, The President of Starr County Industrial Foundation**

Charlotte, Vermont:

"We are incredibly grateful to Main Street America and T-Mobile for this Hometown Grant. This investment in our community will fund a generator for our library, ensuring it can continue to serve as a warming and cooling center — and a safe haven during power outages and other emergencies — for our most vulnerable residents. This kind of partnership is exactly what makes small towns resilient."

- **Natalie Kanner, Chair of the Charlotte Selectboard**

Rocky Mount, Virginia:

“This project reflects our commitment to keeping our parks not only active and vibrant, but safe. By placing AEDs at high-use facilities, we’re improving emergency readiness across our system.”

- **Paul Chapman, Director of Parks & Recreation, Franklin County**

“Youth sports participation continues to grow in Franklin County. Having AEDs readily available gives our coaches and families added confidence that we’re prepared when seconds matter.”

- **Nikki Custer, Youth Athletic Manager, Franklin County Parks & Recreation**

“We’re grateful to see this grant awarded to Franklin County. Having AEDs at our ballfields adds an extra layer of protection for our players, families, and volunteers.”

- **James Hunt, President, Franklin County Baseball Inc.**

“Our parks bring the community together. Adding AED access helps ensure those spaces remain safe and welcoming for everyone.”

- **Katie Waters, Franklin County Lacrosse Club**

“This investment strengthens the safety net around our athletes and supports the positive environment we work hard to create at our fields.”



- **Jamie Tuck, Franklin County Sandlot**

“Franklin County Department of Public Safety is proud to partner with Parks & Recreation on the installation of Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) in our public parks. This collaborative initiative strengthens community safety by ensuring that life-saving equipment is readily accessible in the places where our families gather and recreate. Sudden cardiac arrest can happen without warning, and rapid access to an AED dramatically improves survival outcomes. We are especially grateful to T-Mobile for their generous support of this program and their investment in the health and safety of our community. Through strong partnerships and shared commitment, we continue to build a safer, more resilient Franklin County.”

- **Chief Mike Fowler, Franklin County Fire & EMS**

Manitowoc, Wisconsin:

“The City of Manitowoc is so thankful for T-Mobile for playing a role in bringing Red Arrow Park’s upgrades to fruition. We can’t wait to welcome thousands of visitors and residents to enjoy the beach at our events and at their leisure later this summer.”

- **Courtney Hansen, Director of Tourism, City of Manitowoc**