Who are the People in Your Neighborhood?

Among the important early stage tasks in developing a Community Area Network is to identify your community. Where will you start? Who are your potential partners?

Local Partners
Below are people at the local community level that we typically find involved, or having interest in, the concept of Community Area Networks. Note: Not all Community Area Networks have, or necessarily need, involvement from all of these folks.

Activity: Take a few minutes to jot down names and titles of the individuals you know to be in these positions in your local community. After you have these folks listed, ask the question “Who else in these organizations?” may be a connection.

K12 School Leadership
City Leadership
County Leadership
Hospital and/or Hospital System Leadership
Technical College Leadership
University and/or Private College Leadership
Library and/or Library System Leadership
Legislators and Other Political Folks
Regional
Is there an existing Community Area Network down the road? What population centers between you and existing regional Community Area Networks exist?

Activity: Below a basic outline of Wisconsin. Draw a “bubble” that represents what you see as the geographic area represented by your Community Area Network. Discuss with the folks in your room where you see the “outer edges” of your Community Area Network being.
State
One of the huge advantages to this overall effort is that we’ll be connecting Community Area Networks directly to the national backbone of the Internet.

About BOREAS
About Northern Tier

These are examples of Community Area Networks that play out at the national level.

Higher Ed: UW-System, UW-Extension, WiscNet
Wisconsin: Wisconsin Department of Transportation
Private Vendors: CCI Systems, Enventis, Charter, AT&T
State Networks: MERIT Networks