

News Release

Brightspeed Sponsors 28 Little Free Libraries to Expand Book Access in Underserved Communities

Company rolling out fiber broadband across 20 states, invests further in the communities it serves during March's National Reading Month



ST. PAUL, Minn. & CHARLOTTE, N.C. — March 3, 2025 — Just in time for National Reading Month! Brightspeed, the nation's third-largest fiber builder focused on empowering more families with ultrafast, reliable internet, and the Little Free Library® (LFL) nonprofit organization team up to expand access to books in communities considered book deserts. Together, on this *National Read Across America Day*, they announced Brightspeed's sponsorship of 28 Little Free Library book-sharing boxes, which will be placed in markets across Brightspeed's footprint.

"At Brightspeed, we believe that connectivity goes beyond just fast internet," said Tali Kulbeda, head of local marketing and partnerships at Brightspeed. "We are proud to support our communities by sponsoring Little Free Library book-sharing boxes, providing access to knowledge and fostering a culture of learning for everyone. By expanding access to books and resources, we hope to empower individuals and enrich lives, one page at a time. Together, we're building stronger, more connected communities—online and offline."

The Little Free Library book-sharing boxes will be placed through LFL’s Impact Library Program, which grants Little Free Libraries and books to places where they are needed most. Anticipated locations, selected using Unite for Literacy’s book desert map, include:

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| Dothan, AL | Dunn, NC |
| Russellville, AR | Oxford, NC |
| Jacksonville, AR | Siler City, NC |
| Ville Platte, LA | Lorain, OH |
| Springfield, MO | Warren, OH |
| Columbia, MO | Mansfield, OH |
| Asheboro, NC | Columbia, PA |
| Rocky Mount, NC | Chambersburg, PA |
| Kinston, NC | Johnson City, TN |
| Roanoke Rapids, NC | Elizabethton, TN |
| Eden, NC | Kingsport, TN |
| Clinton, NC | Greeneville, TN |
| Henderson, NC | Killeen, TX |
| Tarboro, NC | Martinsville, VA |

The sunny yellow Little Free Libraries feature Brightspeed’s branding along with the messages “brighten your day with a good read” and “swap scrolling pages for turning them.”

“Brightspeed and Little Free Library might be on opposite ends of the digital spectrum, but we share a common goal of connectivity,” said LFL Executive Director Greig Metzger. “While Brightspeed connects people through high-speed internet, Little Free Library fosters connections through books. We are honored to be working with Brightspeed to bring book access to the under-resourced communities we jointly serve.”

Individuals and organizations in these select geographies are invited to apply to receive one of the 28 sponsored Little Free Libraries at <https://littlefreelibrary.tfaforms.net/28>.

About Brightspeed

Headquartered in Charlotte, N.C. and with assets and associated operations in 20 states, Brightspeed provides broadband and telecommunications services through a network platform capable of serving more than 7.3 million homes and businesses. Our 4,000 employees are committed to building a future where more communities benefit from a more connected life, deploying a state-of-the-art fiber network and a customer experience that makes being connected as simple as it should be. For more information, please visit www.brightspeed.com.

About Little Free Library

Little Free Library® (LFL) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that builds community, inspires readers and expands book access for all through a global network of volunteer-led Little Free Library book-sharing boxes. There are more than 180,000 registered Little Free Libraries worldwide in all 50 states, in 121 countries and on all seven continents. Through them, over 400 million books have been shared since 2009. LFL received the 2020 World Literacy Award as well as honors from the Library of Congress, National Book Foundation and others. The organization grants Little Free Libraries full of books to underserved areas through its Impact Library and Indigenous Library programs and champions diverse books through its Read in Color initiative. To learn more, visit LittleFreeLibrary.org.

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