



For Immediate Release

## **Mediacom Communications Launches Connect2Compete Broadband Adoption Program in Southern Illinois Markets**

*Affordable Internet Service Available to Low-Income School Students*

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**Carbondale, IL – June 14, 2017** – [Mediacom Communications](#) today took a major step towards closing the digital divide in Southern Illinois with the launch of the [Connect2Compete](#) broadband adoption program in partnership with national non-profit, [EveryoneOn](#).

As part of Connect2Compete, Mediacom will provide discounted high-speed internet services to students and families that qualify for the National School Lunch Program. The service will be provisioned at 10 Mbps down by 1 Mbps up and priced at \$9.95 per month which includes the lease of a Wi-Fi enabled modem at no additional charge.

“The internet has become an essential communications and learning tool for educators, students and parents,” said Todd Curtis, Group Vice President for Mediacom’s Lincoln Region. “By launching the Connect2Compete program in Southern Illinois, we hope to make internet access available to more families by lowering the cost of entry for those most at-risk of being left behind in today’s digital world.”

According to the Pew Research Center, nearly half of American households with incomes below \$30,000 a year lack access to broadband services at home. By comparison, 94% of American households earning \$100,000 or more a year have home broadband service. This disparity in online access has created what is commonly referred to as the “homework gap” between school age children with broadband access and those without.

“Addressing digital inclusion is a priority. We must ensure all residents have the capability to empower their lives through digital technology” said Steven Mitchell, Economic Development Director for Carbondale. “The Connect2Compete initiative launched by Mediacom in partnership with EveryoneOn attacks this issue head on by offering low-income families with school age children an affordable internet service option.”

For more information about Mediacom’s Connect2Compete program or to apply, visit <http://www.mediacomc2c.com/>.

### **About Connect2Compete**

EveryoneOn is a national nonprofit working to eliminate the digital divide by making high-speed, low-cost Internet service and computers, and free digital literacy courses accessible to all unconnected U.S. residents. Connect2Compete (C2C) is EveryoneOn’s flagship program with the nation's cable companies to provide affordable Internet and devices to students and families that qualify for the National School Lunch Program. For more information, please visit [www.everyoneon.org/c2c](http://www.everyoneon.org/c2c).

**About Mediacom Communications**

Mediacom Communications Corporation is the 5<sup>th</sup> largest cable operator in the U.S. serving almost 1.4 million customers in smaller markets primarily in the Midwest and Southeast. Mediacom offers a wide array of information, communications and entertainment services to households and businesses, including video, high-speed data, phone, and home security and automation. Through Mediacom Business, the company provides innovative broadband solutions to commercial and public sector customers of all sizes, and sells advertising and production services under the OnMedia brand. More information about Mediacom is available at [www.mediacomcable.com](http://www.mediacomcable.com).

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