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**Photos Provided**

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### **Byron Center, Michigan, Celebrates Fiber Internet Service Milestone with Surf Internet**

BYRON CENTER, Mich. (July 12, 2023) – The community of Byron Center, Mich., held a ribbon cutting ceremony on Tuesday, July 11, to celebrate a major fiber internet milestone. Surf Internet<sup>SM</sup> recently completed the first of 26 new fiber-optic internet service areas in Byron Center. By the end of the year, nearly 3,000 rural and urban addresses in the area will be able to connect to this transformational technology, with speeds up to 2 Gigs.

Surf has invested roughly \$7 million of its own private capital to fund the project, and expects its total investment in Byron Center to be greater than \$10 million after further expansion. Prior to the current project, Surf upgraded over 700 rural Byron Center residents from fixed wireless to fiber internet following the purchase of Byron Center-based FreedomNet in 2018.

Customers who subscribe to a 2 Gig plan will experience a noticeable increase in symmetrical speeds for even faster upload and download of data. This is especially important for consistent performance when using an internet connection across multiple devices for gaming, e-learning, video conferencing, work-from-home, entertainment, and so much more.

In addition to connecting residential areas, Surf is bringing fiber to the Byron Township Community Center, as well as municipal and public safety offices, to provide more stable service for critical functions.

“We have had an excellent working relationship with the local leadership,” said Surf CEO Gene Crusie. “From the beginning, Byron Township has recognized the importance of giving residents a choice in broadband service. Once a luxury for large markets, fiber technology is powering the future of rural life, connecting them to new opportunities and a better quality of life.”

Surf currently delivers fiber to nearby rural residents in Moline and Duncan Lake in Caledonia, and is in the engineering and pre-construction phases for Gaines Township, as well as the greater Cutlerville area. Fiber infrastructure expansion is expected near Caledonia and Middleville, allowing Surf to introduce multi-gig speeds for even faster options that suit residents’ connectivity needs.

“We have been working with Surf Internet for several years and have witnessed their professional installation and excellent customer service,” said Peggy Sattler, Byron Township Clerk. “We are excited to expand the reach of high-speed internet to our township residents, as Surf offers an internet product that will be a great benefit to our community.”

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The work in Byron Township is part of Surf’s overall commitment to build an advanced fiber-optic network serving communities of all sizes across the Great Lakes Region of Michigan, Indiana, and Illinois. Residents who would like to see if Surf Internet services are currently available for a specific address, can visit <https://surfinternet.com/> and click the “Check Availability” button.

**About Surf Internet**

Surf Internet is an innovative fiber-optic internet company that serves as the essential gateway to connectivity across the Great Lakes region of Michigan, Indiana, and Illinois. The company is building a bridge to the wide-open future by delivering high-speed, reliable internet to homes and businesses in underserved, rural communities. Surf’s 170-plus person team is local, giving them an edge when it comes to customer care and advocacy for the region. Headquartered in Elkhart, Ind., Surf also has offices in La Porte, Ind., Byron Center and Fowlerville, Mich., and Coal City and Rock Falls, Ill. Learn more at <https://surfinternet.com>.

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