

# School Connectivity Initiative Update

Joint Legislative Oversight Committee  
on Education

February 12, 2008

Phillip Emer

The Friday Institute

NC State University College of Education



# Thank You!

**North Carolina House Bill 1473 provides for \$12M in recurring funding that...**

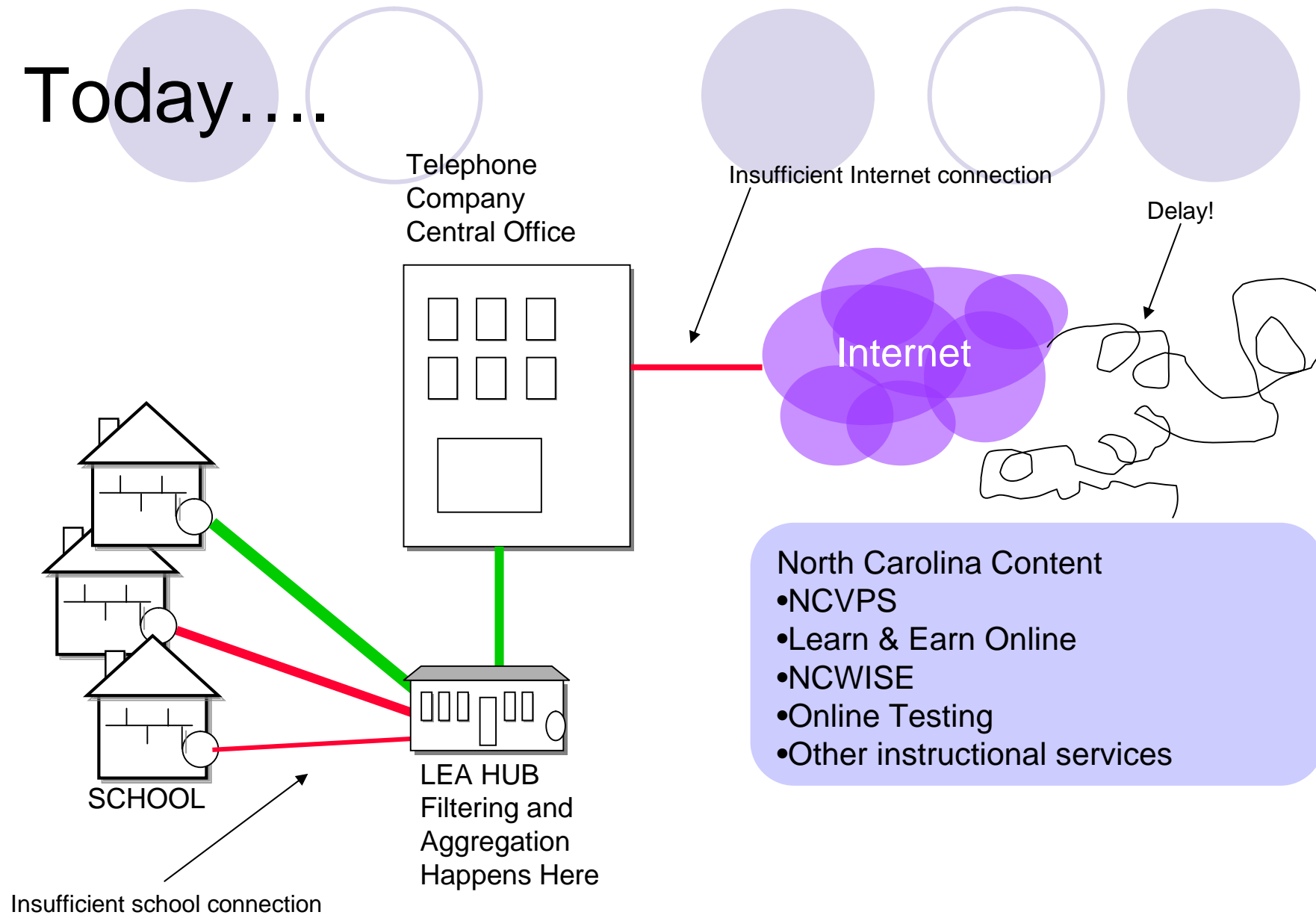
*“...shall be used for broadband access, equipment, and support services that create, improve, and sustain equity of access for instructional opportunities for public school students and educators...” [§§ 7.28.(a)].*



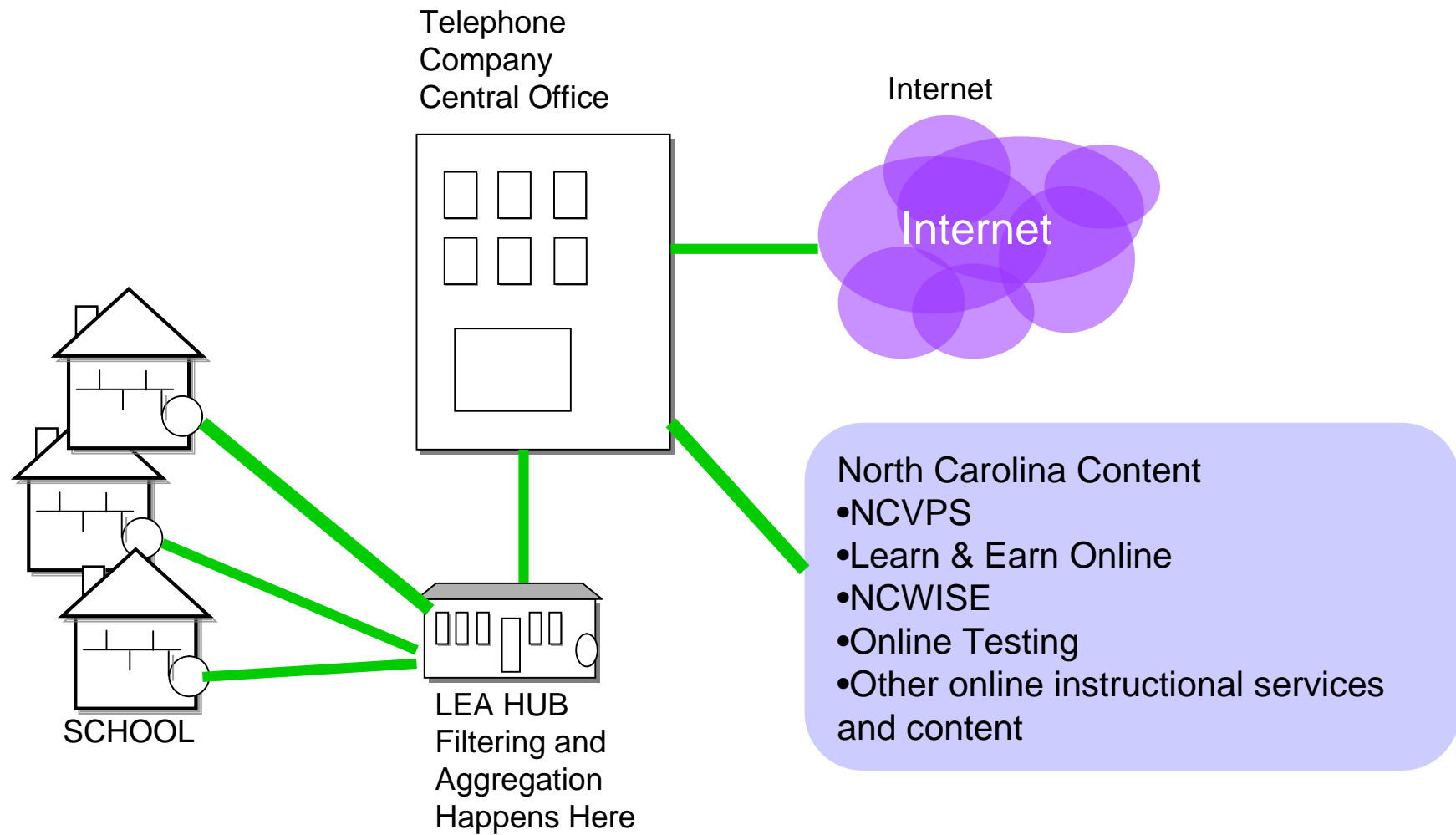
# What is Connectivity?

- Connecting schools
- Connecting LEAs
- Connecting educators and students to educational and instructional content and services available on the **Internet**
- Connecting educators and students to educational and instructional content and services **hosted in North Carolina for North Carolina**

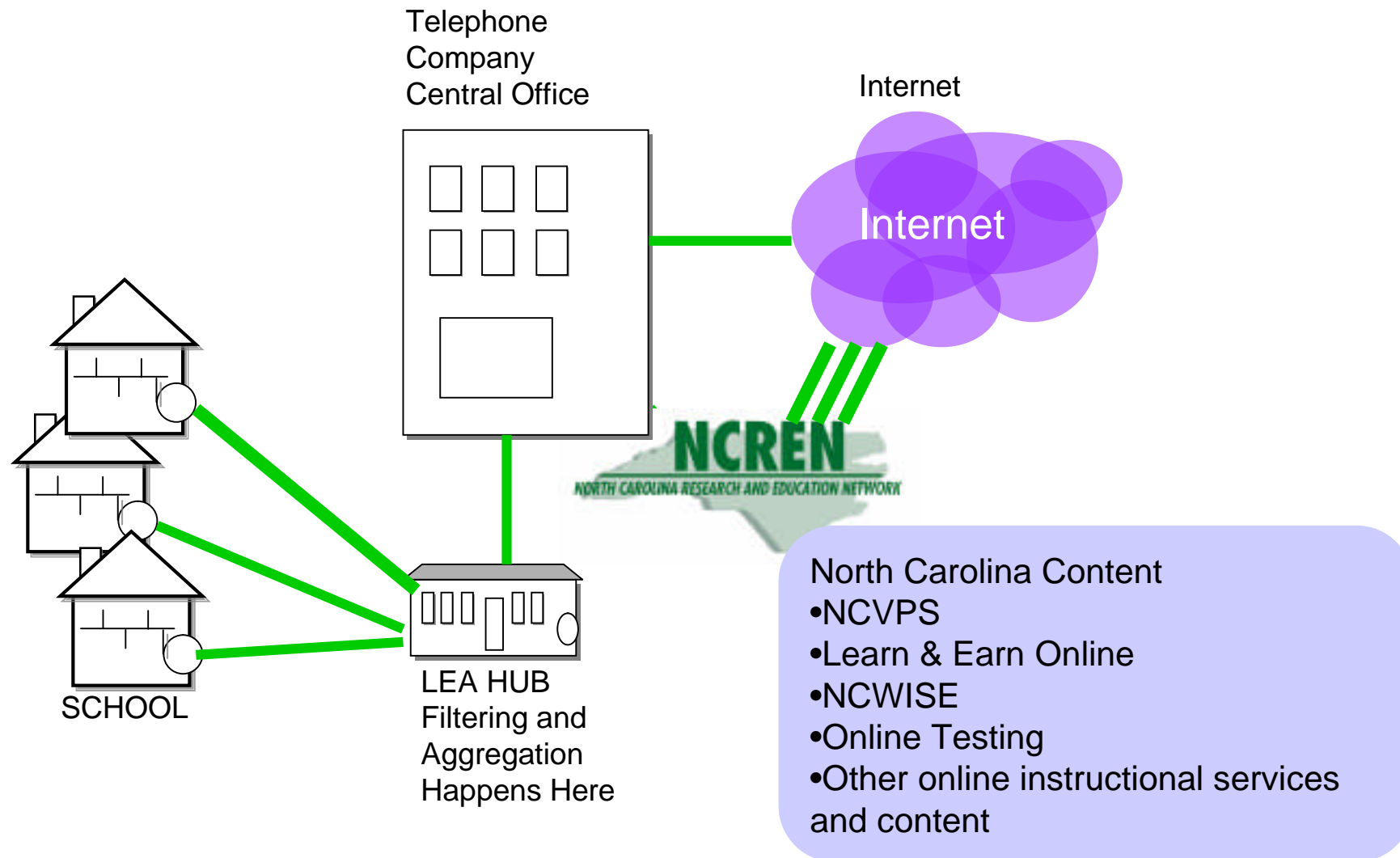
# Today....



# Towards Equity of Access



# The Education Network

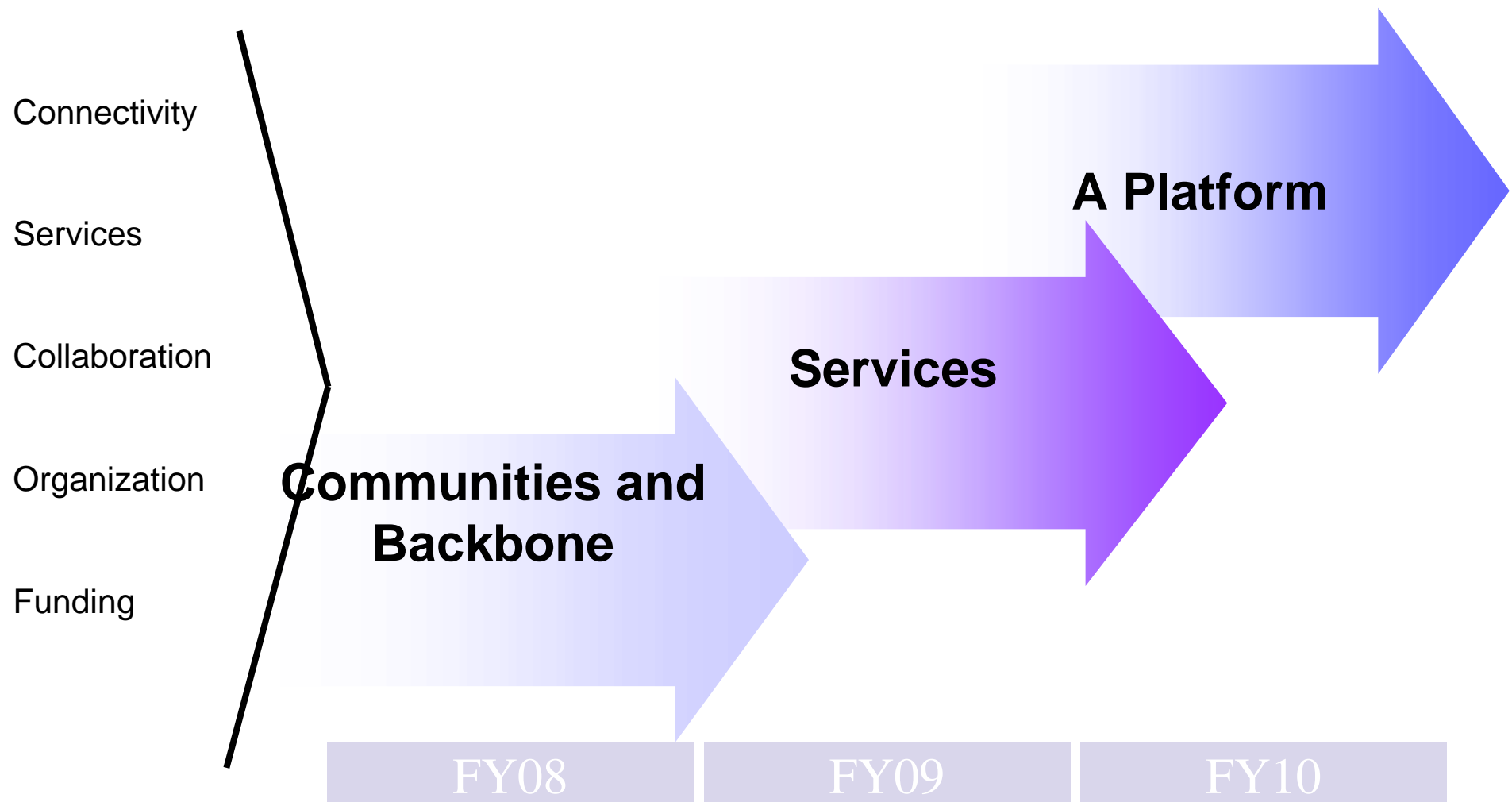




# Core Recommendations

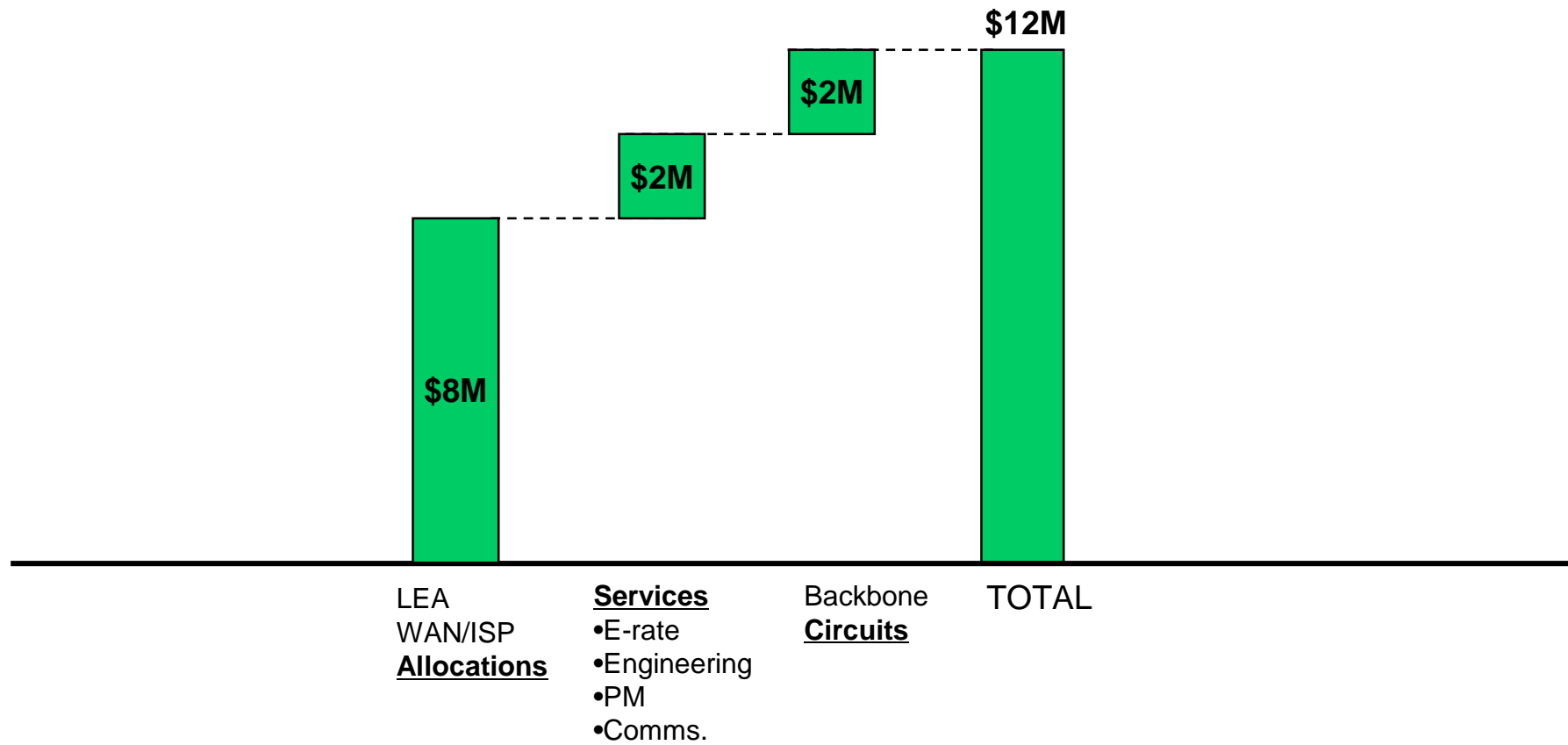
- Fund LEA connectivity costs
- Provide services for sustainability
  - Establish E-rate service center
  - Establish network engineering support center
- Implement a shared education backbone, connecting LEA networks

# Implementation Roadmap





# Funding at a Glance



# Accomplishments



- Signed Memoranda of Understanding
  - With all 115 LEAs
  - Between DPI and ITS
- Contracts
  - The Friday Institute - project management
  - E-rate Central - E-rate services
  - MCNC - backbone operations and engineering
  - AT&T, Embarq, Time Warner Cable, DukeNet, Broadplex - leveraging ITS-negotiated state-contracts

## Accomplishments [2]

- Initiated, funded, and deployed dozens of pilots and upgrades across the state
- Visited over 40 high priority LEAs since August
- Filed consortium E-rate documents for connecting all LEAs to the statewide backbone

# The SCI Team



- Don Smith and Ray Holland - Cisco Fellows
- Dave Furiness and Larry Creglow
- Richard Kelly and Charlie Pittman - **e-NC**
- Mark Sorrells and the **GLF**
- Mark Johnson and Tommy Jacobson, John Killebrew and the rest of the **MCNC** team
- Joe Freddoso - MCNC President and CEO
- Peter Asmar, Ed Chase, and the **DPI** staff
- George Bakolia, Billy Willis and the **ITS** staff
- Glenn Kleiman and the **Friday Institute** staff
- **LEA** technology directors



# School Connectivity Initiative

## Questions and Comments

See [connectivity.fi.ncsu.edu](http://connectivity.fi.ncsu.edu) for more information  
about the project