

# Connecting You

FEBRUARY 2025

**FOCUS**  
BROADBAND

## CELEBRATING 70 YEARS OF SERVICE

FOCUS Broadband is celebrating its 70th anniversary! On February 14, 1955, a group of farmers, fishermen, and everyday people came together to charter the Atlantic Telephone Membership Corporation, with a mission to bring telephone service to areas of Brunswick County that had been overlooked by the Bell Company. What began with just two employees serving 531 members has grown into a company of 375 team members serving over 75,000 customers across 10 counties.



From providing party-line telephone service in the 1950s and 60s, to expanding into cable TV in the 1980s and internet service in the 1990s, every step has been driven by our commitment to meet the evolving needs of the communities we serve.

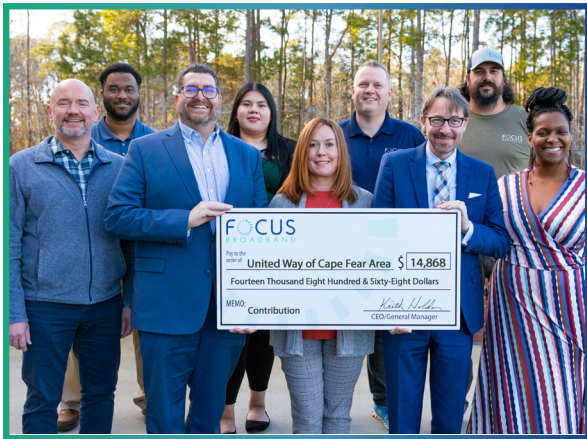
In 2005, as Brunswick County experienced unprecedented growth, we introduced a new name—ATMC—and moved into a new headquarters in Shallotte. Over the years, we've added convenience through new retail locations and expanded our call center to deliver award-winning, local customer support. To reflect our transformation from a telephone company to a provider of fast, reliable internet services, we rebranded as FOCUS Broadband in 2021.

As we celebrate this milestone, we thank everyone who has been part of our journey. Our mission today remains the same as it was in 1955: to provide our members and customers with world-class technology, supported by the care and attention to detail that only a local company can offer. Now and always, FOCUS Broadband is a local company with local priorities.



# FOCUS Broadband Supports Local United Way

FOCUS Broadband proudly supports the Cape Fear United Way, helping to fund vital programs that help local residents in need.



This year, our Board of Directors and employees came together to donate a total of \$14,868, continuing the company's tradition of supporting United Way.

"We believe in the power of community and the importance of giving back to those who need it most," comments Keith Holden, FOCUS Broadband CEO. "We're honored to work with organizations like the Cape Fear United Way to make a meaningful difference."

Over the years, FOCUS Broadband has donated more than \$479,000 to Cape Fear United Way, demonstrating our longstanding commitment to the communities we serve.

## Community & Education Grants Application Deadline is Approaching

FOCUS Broadband's Community Connection and Smart Connection grant programs are accepting applications through Friday, February 28th! We're awarding \$40,000 in community grants funds and another \$40,000 in education grants to local nonprofits and educators making a difference in the areas we serve.

Want to learn more or apply? Visit [focusbroadband.com/givingback](https://focusbroadband.com/givingback).



## Spot Scams & Protect Your Information

Scammers are becoming more persistent in their attempts to trick you into giving out your personal and financial information. They often use technology to change the phone number displayed on your caller ID and go so far as to claim to be a representative of a trusted company like FOCUS Broadband. Your security is our priority, so we want to provide you with tips to help you effectively navigate threats and protect yourself from potential scams or unauthorized access to your personal information.



### Here's how we'll interact with you to ensure your safety:

- We will never request personal information such as passwords or financial details through email, social media, text message or via an unsolicited call.
- Payments to FOCUS Broadband will always be transacted through a secure channel. We will never ask for payment in unusual forms, such as gift cards or wire transfers.

If you encounter suspicious activity or have doubts about the authenticity of communication from FOCUS Broadband, always reach out to us directly through our official contact information on the FOCUS Broadband website to verify legitimacy.