

News Release

Broadband and Books: Brightspeed and Little Free Library® Partner to Bridge the Digital and Literacy Divide in Springfield

Event marks the first of two book-sharing box installations in Missouri, bringing books and broadband to underserved communities

Springfield, MO – August 13, 2025 – Today, Brightspeed, one of the nation's largest fiber broadband builders focused on empowering more homes and businesses with ultrafast, reliable internet, was joined by Little Free Library (LFL) and community members in Springfield to celebrate a new book-sharing collaboration.

This installation of a book-sharing box is part of Brightspeed's national initiative to bridge both the digital and literacy divides by sponsoring Little Free Libraries in 28 underserved cities across 20 states. Together with Little Free Library, Brightspeed is working to bring books to communities known as "book deserts," where access to reading materials is limited.

"Our Little Free Library is more than just a box of books; it's a place where neighbors connect, readers of all ages discover new stories, and our community grows closer in sharing in their passion for literacy," says Kiley Garges, Springfield Little Free Library steward.

As Brightspeed continues expanding its fiber internet footprint in the region, connecting people to education, remote work and healthcare, this partnership with Little Free Library further underscores the company's investment in the communities it serves. Currently, Brightspeed's fiber network reaches more than 86,000 homes and businesses in Springfield, with plans to expand access to over 245,000 Missouri families and businesses by the end of the company's fiber network buildout.

Beyond Springfield, the book-sharing boxes will be placed through LFL's Impact Library Program, which grants book-sharing boxes and books to communities most in need. Brightspeed plans to sponsor an additional Little Free Library in Columbia. To become a local LFL steward and support this mission in your community, please visit [this link](#) for more information.

"Partnering with Little Free Library is a natural extension of our mission. We believe true connectivity goes beyond just providing fast internet; it's about fostering connections within our communities," said Brian Littleton, local marketing manager at Brightspeed. "These libraries empower people to learn, share and connect, building stronger communities both online and offline."

To learn more about Brightspeed and its partnership with Little Free Library, visit www.brightspeed.com.

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.

Media Contact

Shannon Pataky
Public Relations
pr@brightspeed.com