PROGRESS REPORT:
Wireless Network Upgrade for All Field Offices

Objective
Improve standardization, speed, and access to wireless Internet in county offices including common and public areas for visiting partners, clients, and guests.

Funding Awarded $123,336.51
The above amount encompasses only the VPEO Strategic Initiative request. Extension IT matched the expenditure with EIT staff time, travel, and network infrastructure upgrades.

Funds Expended to Date $123,336.51

Outcomes/Impact to Date
- From June 15, 2012, to November 1, 2012, 105 of 106* field locations serviced by Extension IT had their wireless network systems replaced. While onsite, staff also replaced old and failing wired network devices and installed racks for later technology expansion.
  - EIT staff performed just over 30 trips, and spent close to 350 man-hours in the field, driving to locations and installing this equipment.
  - Many offices now have a wireless network system that may outperform the initial network wiring installed two decades ago (or earlier).
  - Incidentally, this project also fixed a still-unresolved bug in iPads (second and third versions) that prevent the iPad from connecting to old wireless access points.
  - With the activation of the University’s NetReg system in these offices, Extension clients and guests can use ISU wireless Internet for up to 2 weeks.
  - The initial planned completion date was December 21, 2012.

Next Steps Project completed.

*A relocating office prevented installation until the move occurs, now scheduled for March 2013. The hardware is purchased and waiting.