Finding the Rimidi:
Why Rural Broadband Plays a Key Role in
Tackling the Diabetes Epidemic

Fast Facts

- Diabetes is the third leading cause of death in the United States.

- In Atlanta along, more than 1 million people have diabetes. 200,000 of these patients experience complications from their diabetes, while 820,000 are at risk for complications, like kidney disease, stroke, and glaucoma.

- Roughly 86 percent of Americans living with diabetes also have at least one other chronic disease.

- Treatment for diabetes can be incredibly expensive. Diabetes care drives roughly 20 percent of our country's healthcare costs and 1 in every 5 healthcare dollars is spent on diabetes treatment.

- A person with well-controlled diabetes can spend on average $7,000 in healthcare costs per year. Patients with severe diabetes or complications can spend upwards of $20,000 per year.

The Story

Based in Atlanta, Georgia, Rimidi is a group of medical and business professionals dedicated to providing solutions to America's most pressing healthcare problems. At the forefront of transforming diabetes care in a value-based industry, Rimidi empowers healthcare companies to deliver diabetes treatments more efficiently, improve patient quality of life, and reduce the financial burden of diabetes treatment on both patients and the healthcare system.

Rimidi is led by a team of physicians, bioengineers, and business professionals who have developed successful technologies and practices utilized throughout the modern healthcare ecosystem. The company's mission is to enhance the quality of life for Americans living with diabetes by improving the cycle of care and effectively linking healthcare providers and patients to manage diabetes together.

Here's How It Works

Rimidi's diabetes management platform, Diabetes+ME™, is a proprietary software that empowers patients and providers to manage and identify gaps in diabetes treatment. The platform allows users to close treatment gaps, helps patients meet glucose targets, and creates a more efficient cycle of care. Diabetes+ME ™ equips diabetes patients and their healthcare providers with actionable information based on patented treatment algorithms. The platform focuses on three key principles:

- Self-Management: The software enables individuals to create a comprehensive picture of their personal diabetes journey to identify the lifestyle and treatment solutions that best fit their lives. Diabetes patients have access to a dashboard and an app that allows them to track their meals, insulin, and activity, access new recipes, connect with other patients in their area, and more.

- Decision Support: This feature uses clinical decision support tools to supplement doctors' efforts to optimize patient outcomes. These tools also allow patients to engage and share in the decision-making process for their treatments.

- Population Management: Utilizing the big data gathered from the patients and physicians who use the platform, doctors can not only track individual patients' glucose levels, activity, diets, and care plans, but they can also review a broad overview of the trends and concerns facing all patients within the program.

Here's the Benefit

Programs like Rimidi's can have a huge positive benefit for diabetes communities. In Georgia alone, the program is expected to:

- Improve life expectancy gaps in 10 years and decrease healthcare spending by $1 billion per year;

- Reduce the cost of care delivery by half;

- Save patients $300 in healthcare spending;

- Secure $2 billion in savings for Georgia's safety net hospitals that provide care to low-income, uninsured, and at-risk communities

These are just the benefits for Georgia. Imagine the possibilities if programs like this were implemented across the country.

Why Connectivity Matters

It's simple. Without access to broadband, none of these benefits—the personalized care, expedited diagnoses and medical solutions, and reduced healthcare costs—would be possible. In states like Georgia, many communities of at-risk patients live in rural areas with limited internet connectivity to support these solutions. These communities contribute to the roughly 23.4 million rural Americans who do not have access to broadband connectivity. These are the same communities that are forced to drive to a community center or library to access the internet, travel long distances to visit a healthcare facility, or pay high medical bills for sporadic visits to a doctor or healthcare specialist. We support the programs that bring connectivity to community centers like libraries and schools, but Rimidi's Diabetes+ME™ platform illustrates the need for affordable broadband that services patients' homes and small, privately-owned physician practices.

To realize the benefits of programs like Rimidi's Diabetes+ME™ platform, it is imperative we secure reliable access to broadband for Americans in all pockets of the country.