



## **PRESS RELEASE**

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### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Foundation for Rural Service Announces 2022 Recipients**

**Lenora, Kan, 06.17.22** — Nex-Tech is pleased to announce Emerson Nichols as a national award recipient of the Foundation for Rural Service (FRS) scholarship program. Emerson received the \$7,000 Everett Kneece scholarship, which is awarded to the highest achieving applicant who demonstrates a strong interest in returning to a rural community.

Emerson is the daughter of Matthew and Beverly Nichols of Russell. She is a Russell High School graduate and will attend Kansas State University to major in Nutritional Sciences (Pre-Med). Her plan is to then attend medical school with the hope of becoming a pediatrician or dermatologist.

The FRS awarded \$120,000 to 40 students from rural communities served by members, like Nex-Tech, of NTCA—The Rural Broadband Association.

The FRS Scholarship Program awards one-time scholarships to students from across rural America for their first year of college, university, or vocational-technical school, and one scholarship to a student entering law school. Each student is sponsored by an NTCA member company. FRS had tremendous response to their scholarship program, receiving over 900 applications.

“Nex-Tech is pleased to be a part of national organizations like FRS that offer advancement opportunities to our youth,” said Jimmy Todd, CEO/General Manger. “We congratulate Emerson on her accomplishments thus far and wish her great success in the future.”

“It is a privilege for FRS to have a small role in supporting the continued education of these students through our scholarship program,” said FRS Executive Director, Pam Becker. “Every applicant was impressive and demonstrated a deep knowledge of and dedication to their rural communities. We thank all our donors for making this scholarship program possible year after year.”

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A full list of scholarship awardees and the NTCA member companies who are partnering with FRS to make the funding possible is available online.

-30-

### **About The Foundation for Rural Service**

*The Foundation for Rural Service (FRS), the philanthropic arm of NTCA–The Rural Broadband Association and its members, seeks to sustain and enhance the quality of life in rural America by advancing an understanding of rural issues. Through scholarships, grants, and a variety of educational programs, FRS focuses on educating rural youth, encouraging community development and introducing policymakers to challenges unique to rural communities. Visit us at [www.frs.org](http://www.frs.org).*

### **About NTCA – The Rural Broadband Association**

*NTCA–The Rural Broadband Association is the premier association representing nearly 850 independent, community-based telecommunications companies that are leading innovation in rural and small-town America. In an era of transformative technological advancements, regulatory challenges and marketplace competition, NTCA members are leading the technological evolution for rural consumers, delivering robust and high-quality services over future-proof networks that make rural communities vibrant places in which to live and do business. Because of their efforts, rural America is fertile ground for innovation in economic development, e-commerce, health care, agriculture and education, and it contributes billions of dollars to the U.S. economy each year. Visit us at [www.ntca.org](http://www.ntca.org).*

### **About Nex-Tech**

*Nex-Tech connects thousands of people and businesses through a robust broadband network with cutting-edge technology. Nex-Tech’s powerful network architectures, including fiber-to-the-premise (FTTP) and fiber-to-wireless technologies, deliver leading-edge enterprise solutions to clients nationwide including a 24x7x365 Network Operations Center (NOC), CALEA compliance, enterprise cloud services, security, managed IT and advertising solutions. Headquartered in Lenora, Kansas, Nex-Tech is more than 70 years into providing exceptional service to business and residential customers.*

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