



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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OpenCape Welcomes Sean Gonsalves, Community Broadband Senior Reporter, to its Board of Directors

Renowned journalist joins local technology nonprofit

Barnstable, MA, February 1, 2020 - OpenCape, the nonprofit organization that owns and operates Cape Cod's 100% fiber optic network, is pleased to announce the appointment of Sean Gonsalves to its Board of Directors. Gonsalves is a senior reporter, editor, and researcher for the Institute for Local Self Reliance's Community Broadband Networks Initiative. "I'm honored to join the OpenCape Board," said Gonsalves. "Building twenty-first century infrastructure is really important to the region and to be involved with a group of people who are working to make that happen is exciting."

John Campbell, Chairman of the OpenCape Board of Directors and CIO of Spaulding Rehabilitation Network At Partners Healthcare said, "We welcome Sean to the board. We are sure his expertise and knowledge of the issues surrounding community broadband are going to be extremely valuable in aiding us to meet OpenCape's mission to support economic development and quality of life by providing local, reliable, and affordable broadband."

Gonsalves reports for ILSR on municipal broadband networks and what communities nationwide are doing to close the digital divide. "I'm seeing and speaking to local officials and citizens across the country who are very serious about addressing these issues in their communities and stepping up to tackle the planning, technical, and financial challenges associated with building community networks," he said. "I believe this will be helpful for OpenCape, in terms of learning more about best practices to follow and pitfalls to avoid."

Throughout his years in journalism, OpenCape remained on Gonsalves' radar and he now finds it satisfying to be able help share awareness of the non-profit company's work. "I want people to realize who OpenCape is and why fiber connectivity is so important," he says. "We really have to help rally our communities to embrace future-proof fiber infrastructure, and I hope to play a role in talking to more folks and bringing more people in to get us to that last mile piece. I look forward to being a productive Board member and enthusiastic ambassador for OpenCape."

OpenCape's CEO and Executive Director Steven Johnston said not only has Gonsalves had his eye on OpenCape, but Johnston has also had his eye on him. "I've been reading his thoughts on broadband for years," said Johnston. "He is insightful and truly understands the challenges we and other community broadband providers face. I'm thrilled to be able to work with him directly on improving and growing OpenCape's network."

Gonsalves was previously a reporter, columnist, and news editor with the Cape Cod Times, and a former nationally syndicated columnist in 22 newspapers, including the Oakland Tribune, Kansas City Star and Seattle Post-Intelligencer. His work has also appeared in the Boston Globe, USA Today, the Washington Post and the International Herald-Tribune.

OpenCape Corporation is a 501c3 nonprofit technology company headquartered in Barnstable Village at the Barnstable County Complex. OpenCape owns and operates a state-of-the-art 100% fiber optic network built to serve local governments, businesses, and residents of Southeastern Massachusetts, the Cape & Islands. For more information please visit www.opencape.org

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