

Broadband USA Applications Database

Applicant Name: Springdale Public Library (City of Springdale)

Project Title: Springdale Public Library Internet Literacy Center

Project Type: Public Computer Center

Executive Summary

a) In order to address a demonstrated need for more public access computer units, the lack of physical space appropriate for hardwired public access computers, and the public's requests for Internet use training, this proposal introduces the creation of the Springdale Public Library Internet Literacy Center.

b) The Center will address the stated need by providing 31 laptop computers for public use and provide training and education programs on Internet literacy and job seeing skills. Wireless computing allows the library to provide increase public access without costly facility renovation.

c) The target area to be served is the city of Springdale (population 63,032) and Washington County (population 195,803), Arkansas. The median income for this area is \$36,729. The area's ethnic makeup includes Hispanics, Pacific Islanders, American Indians as well as non-Hispanic Whites. More than 21% of the population speaks a language other than English at home. Educational levels vary greatly with 73.6% of the population having a high school diploma and 17.7% having a bachelor's degree or higher. The above information was obtained from the 2000 Census.

d) Springdale Public Library staff is knowledgeable and experienced and highly motivated to be able to meet public demand for additional PACs and Internet instruction. Staff has consistently demonstrated the ability to meet or come in under budget for managing projects of substantial size and complexity, such as a recent RFID installation.

e) The Center's purpose is to increase Internet and computing access for the area's population and enhance the job seeking skills of the area's workforce.

f) The overall cost of the project is \$83,432.