

## **Broadband USA Applications Database**

**Applicant Name:** Ready for College, Inc.

**Project Title:** Fit for Life

**Project Type:** Public Computer Center

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### **Executive Summary**

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**Problem** - In Tallassee, many people in our target population live in homes without a computer, without Internet capability and without the economic means to purchase a computer. As a result, they fall behind others in relationship to economic sustainability, job attainment and access to vital information that is increasingly available only on the Internet.

**Geographic locations** - Public computer centers will be available in three locations that are within walking distance from the Tallassee Housing Authority and the St. Mark Church. These centers are located where a majority of low income citizens reside. For senior citizens and disabled residents, transportation services will allow them to be picked up and transported to the centers.

**Population** - The population of the area around the Tallassee Housing Authority is approximately 950 residents. Near the St. Mark Church, there are approximately 600 residents. However, senior citizens and the disabled residents make up an additional 450 residents. We estimate more than 2,000 residents are potential users of the computer centers.

**Qualifications** - Ready for College, Inc. is uniquely qualified to implement the project, assure the project success and sustain the project. Currently, Ready for College operates three after school and community-based programs. These projects are in partnership with the Tallassee Housing Authority, the Wall St. Community Center and God's Congregational Church. All three sites are located in economically depressed areas, serving seniors, children and community residents. The operating budget is \$200,000. More than 115 children, 75 seniors and approximately 350 family members are being served. Our goal is to significantly expand the number of participants in community-based programs through this project.

**Jobs to be saved or created** - Approximately 5 jobs will be saved. An estimated 6 jobs will be created.

Overall cost of the proposed project - The overall cost of the proposed project (including in-kind) is \$627,925 which includes three computer centers; 1 large and 2 small centers. Once center will require significant renovation to meet federal and state requirements for seniors and disabled citizens.