

Broadband USA Applications Database

Applicant Name: City of Spartanburg

Project Title: C.C. Woodson Public Computer Center

Project Type: Public Computer Center

Executive Summary

The City of Spartanburg, South Carolina, will be completing construction and opening in the spring of 2010, the CC Woodson Community Center. This is a full scale public center that will offer structured programs, activities and services for people of all ages and interests. In an effort to enhance these opportunities, the need for broadband access and related equipment is a crucial component. With the economy in crisis, the City of Spartanburg has been adversely affected in many areas thus affecting many people, and is therefore committed to providing to its residents relevant opportunities for education, job training and skill enhancement, particularly to low-income/unemployed, senior citizens and teen populations.

With the opening of the new Community Center and the introduction of broadband access and new technology and equipment, the City will be in a unique position to have a facility with on-site structured programming for public computer use in a non intimidating environment. A large scale Learning Center and Senior Center as well as a Community Room, will afford specific programs in job training and job search applications, GED and literacy education, computer literacy and other programs that would have a direct and positive effect on the economy and the overall quality of life for residents of this community.

In addition, with structured programming in place, we are also looking to provide a proactive component for our younger population in which we can make available much needed competitive skills in the area of technology and career planning.

The CC Woodson Community Center is strategically located directly outside the heart of down town Spartanburg, and while available to the entire populace of the City, has been a mainstay of the Southside area for many years. While the population of this area exceeds 6,000 residents, it remains very racially consistent; the majority being African American. While there are a handful of homeowners, the majority are renters, as this area encompasses many apartment complexes, three Public Housing projects, and two subsidized apartment complexes. Most of these residents fall within the lower end of the socioeconomic ladder with a relatively high correlation of drugs, violent crime, and gang related activities occurring. With structured programming and trained instructors providing educational

awareness opportunities, it is estimated that approximately 450- 550 individuals will utilize these services on a regular basis.

The City of Spartanburg is committed to sustainable communities and the future of its residents. To this end, they have made many strides in addressing the needs of the residents of this community and continue to do so in the form of revitalization and redevelopment through successful partnerships with the Housing Authority, Public Safety, Spartanburg School District 7, The Mary Black Foundation, Weed & Seed, and Regenesi, to name a few. The introduction of broadband access and additional computer technology for the Community Center will be programmed and taught by qualified, on-site instructors and will meet identified needs of the City's residents, in particular, those that are unemployed/low income, seniors and teens. As a result, this will not only broaden opportunities for this population, but will also afford them the chance to compete, succeed and sustain.

With the opening of the new Community Center, the number of jobs saved and/or created will be determined using the Federal EPA Recovery guidelines of calculating \$93,000 per job. Utilizing this formula, the rate would be two (3) jobs saved and/or created.

The overall cost of this proposed project is:

PCS – Fiber optics (product & installation)	\$66,380.
Extreme – Hardware and connectors	\$24,505.
Termination – Finishing & polishing	\$7,000.
Dell – Computers	\$33, 291.
Dell – Software	\$12,177.
Florida Micro – 2 printers	\$1,768.
Instructor (salary and fringe x 2 years)	\$82,550.
Microsoft E- Mail Server & Hardware	\$84,827.
TOTAL	\$312,498