

**Broadband Technology Opportunities Program  
Public Computer Centers Program – Sustainable Adoption Program**

<b>Submitted Date:</b> 8/20/2009 4:57:33 PM	<b>Easygrants ID:</b> 2539
<b>Funding Opportunity:</b> Public Computer Centers and Sustainable Broadband Adoption	<b>Applicant Organization:</b> HoffmanInternet.com
<b>Task:</b> Submit Application - Non-Infrastructure Programs	<b>Applicant Name:</b> Mr. David Hoffman Jr.

**7. Executive Summary of Overall Proposal:**

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] The proposed JOBFORCE Training & Public Computer Center will expand the existing public internet access offered by libraries, community centers, churches & other locations in the District of Columbia by promoting the availability of broadband access & [REDACTED].

The JOBFORCE Training & Public Computer Center will be fully a operational broadband job training and public computer center located in the heart of Washington, DC. The center proposes to offer broadband connectivity to the public internet at a rate of 5 Mbps downstream minimum and 2 Mbps upstream minimum with 99.9% network up time.

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

The JOBFORCE Training & Public Computer Center will serve all residents & vistors to the District of Columbia regardless of their race, religion, creed, social class, or educational background. Additional accommodations will be made to assist individuals with disabilities to be able to use the facilities as well.

The center will also serve as a training location for other federal & locally funded job training programs. For instance, the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) has several programs for groups such as those who are: 1) Dislocated Workers; 2) Economically Disadvantaged Adults; and 3) Youth between the ages of 14 to 21. Any or all of these groups would be ideal users of the



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Project Purpose: Recovery Act & BTOP Objectives

**8. Project Purpose**

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] Each week, HoffmanInternet.com thru it's proposed JOBFORCE Training & Public Computer Center will provide high speed access to the internet, job training software, and e-learning courses from a variety of high-quality providers.

For the location of the proposed JOBFORCE Training & Public Computer Center, HoffmanInternet.com has selected a 12,000 square foot facility located at 1006 6th Street NW, in the centrally located downtown section of Washington, DC. This location was chosen because it allows for the broadest reach into an area with the highest density of businesses, offices, and government facilities while being able to provide broadband, job training & education from a single site. It also brings these BTOP services to the most people while overcoming challenges to transportation as well as social barriers shared by many unserved or underserved targeted populations.

In addition to the targeted service recipients, the proposed JOBFORCE Training & PCC will be used by businesses, technology companies, colleges, and other content providers to distribute educational content, job training, or presentations to either the public, or specific niche groups using fiber optic broadband access or the wireless internet access within the facility. While service to the public on an individual basis will be free, businesses, or other specialty content providers will be charged a fee to reserve a portion of the facility for use with presentations to niche groups.

While there are some internet access workstations available locally in the Metro DC area such as libraries, or commercial facilities such as Fedex-Kinkos; these facilities do not have an environment which promotes long term use of pursuing an online college degree, or participating 'continuing education' or CE classes for example. Either the use of broadband enabled workstations is 'cost prohibitive', such as the case with Kinkos @ \$12-20 per hour; or there are simply not enough workstations with the right equipment and software. For a public computer center to best serve the community in meeting it's needs in promoting the availability

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and best uses of broadband technology in job training, education, health care or support; a public computer center must have the right technology, the right software, and the right environment.

One content provider, Western Governor's University (WGU) was established over 11 years ago by the governors of 19 states to provide coursework for it's four majors in education, IT, business and health care has achieved the goal of providing the best quality totally online education at a mere fraction of the cost of typical bricks & mortar colleges. Students seeking to take advantage of these new educational advancement opportunities offered by superior providers such as WGU are within reach by utilizing the broadband public computer centers.

Using the BTOP grants, public computer centers will be able to provide access to the high speed internet connectivity needed to access bandwidth intensive content emerging today such as that offered by WGU. HoffmanInternet.com maintains high speed OC12 connectivity on a 24/7 365 days a year basis with a 99.9% reliability up-time guarantee. Using it's \$200,000 matching contribution to the BTOP \$1,000,000 grant; the proposed JOBFORCE Training & Public Computer Center will open within 90 days of the grant award. HoffmanInternet will contribute all hardware, software, furniture, equipment & services to the public computer center allowing for an initial service capacity of approximately 88 Dell PC workstations, and 12 laptop stations up to a value of \$200,000.

Over the last 12 months, relationships have been cultivated with metro area employers who have expressed a strong desire in hiring competent staff to [REDACTED]. The barrier to hiring job seekers is ensuring these job seekers have the required training. Employers don't have the time or resources to 'hold the hand' of new hires. The employers expect the 'new hires' to be able to 'hit the ground running' and be ready for task assignments the first day if not a week at the latest. Ironically, employers need to hire people and have jobs available but, can't afford to have hundreds of people show up for a few jobs. Additionally, many do not have dedicated job training resources nor the time to invest in new hires. There is a gap between the job seekers and the employers which can be met by a public computer center serving the community as a strategic job-creation facility.

With this goal in mind - a license to operate an employment agency licensed was obtained from the District of Columbia in February 2009, and a lease was negotiated with Douglas Development for 12,000 square feet located at 1006 6th Street NW, Washington, DC. Several

Broadband USA

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community service organizations, as well as agencies in local government in DC & Maryland have expressed an interest in referring job seekers to the facility for job training & job placement. Each year, these agencies are faced with an overload of job seekers, with a shortage of jobs available for these job seekers.

Local government agencies are particularly interested in providing job training skills or job search assistance to target populations such as unserved as well as underserved youth, and adults. The proposed JOBFORCE Training & Public Computer Center will serve the metro DC area by providing broadband internet access for incentives to learn from bandwidth heavy content providers such as WGU and others. The JOBFORCE Training & PCC will also promote career exploration, in addition to e-learning tools and curricula for occupational enrichment.