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<b>Organization:</b>	School Board of Miami-Dade County, Miami, FL
<b>Project Name:</b>	Miami-Dade County Public Schools-Get Connected-Go Global-Sustainable Broadband Adoption Program
<b>Project Type:</b>	Sustainable Broadband Adoption
<b>State(s):</b>	Florida
<b>Federal Award:</b>	\$3,473,498

**ABOUT THE PROJECT**

The Miami-Dade County Public Schools-Get Connected-Go Global project proposes to increase broadband adoption among low-income middle school students and their families by providing training, discounted computers, Internet service, and awareness campaigns targeting vulnerable communities. Miami-Dade County recently introduced a student/parent portal to enable parents to monitor their children's academic progress and communicate more easily with their teachers and schools. To ensure all families can utilize the tool, in 35 schools with the highest need, the project plans to offer 60,000 hours of computer training to 30,000 students and their parents, provide low-cost refurbished laptops to 6,000 students and their families, and offer discounted Internet service to 10,000 families. A county-wide, bilingual print, broadcast, and online campaign intends to reach 700,000 residents and build awareness of the educational, job, and health benefits of being connected to broadband technology. The project expects to increase broadband adoption by an estimated 15,000 households, and plans to track adoption rates over time using focus groups, a teacher-parent online portal, surveys, and feedback from broadband providers.

The Miami-Dade County Public Schools project also proposes to:

- Target areas of the county with low broadband subscribership, high poverty rates, and low education levels, including immigrants and non-English speaking populations.
- Focus on the neediest students by targeting the project's training, discounted computers, and Internet service to the county's households that qualify for free or reduced-cost school lunches.
- Deploy online learning resources to enable students to supplement classwork, and allow parents to participate more closely in their child's learning.

**ORGANIZATION'S HISTORY**

Miami-Dade County Public Schools, the nation's fourth largest school district, serves more than 336,000 students, and the student population is one of the poorest nationally, with one out of three living at or below poverty level. The school district currently provides information systems and network infrastructure to more than 400 facilities and schools, 120,000 networked devices, and 45,000 employees, including more than 300 information technology employees, and manages an annual \$40 million technology budget.

**PROJECT PARTNERS**

- Accion USA
- Atlantic Broadband
- AT&T
- City of Hialeah
- City of Homestead
- City of Miami
- City of Miami Springs
- Clearwire
- Per Scholas, Inc.
- WLRN

Data provided in the project description is based on information supplied by the applicant.

For press-related inquiries, contact 202-482-7002 or [press@ntia.doc.gov](mailto:press@ntia.doc.gov).  
For the general public, contact [BTOP@ntia.doc.gov](mailto:BTOP@ntia.doc.gov).

