Hollywood West Tenant Action Committee (HWTAC) is a grass-roots non-profit organization, incorporated in 1995 under Title 501c3 of the IRS Code. The organization was established for the purpose of organizing the residents of Hollywood West Apartments to take ownership of their residence and community. HWTAC ensures the protection of tenant rights and promotes decent, safe and sanitary housing for all residents. The property is a tenant-owned property composed of 84 units divided into five scattered sites. The goal of Hollywood West Tenant Action Committee as set forth in this proposal is to open the Hollywood West Neighborhood Networks Learning Center (HWNNLC) that will introduce the power of technology to its residents as well as the surrounding community. The center will benefit the community by sponsoring the following programs: 'Setting up a network center with connection between the center and the five scattered site buildings. This will provide the low income residents of the 84 residential units with very low cost internet service and free technical support with hardware and software to help them gain computer skills, gain education and empower themselves for better jobs in this new industry.' 'Free computer classes to familiarize and educate residents about new technology and help them to gain skills that will qualify them for industry work.' 'Free internet access will be provided to tenants and the surrounding community which lack funds to support the monthly cost of an internet connection which is becoming a daily necessity.' 'Workshops/programs to teach health and life-skills.' 'Parent and family counseling.' 'Program tailored to meet the needs of 1st generation immigrants, including instruction about the school system, how to keep track of their children’s school progress via computer and how to help their children be successful in school.' 'Computerized adult classes to teach English as second language.' 'Computerized adult classes to teach Spanish as second language.' 'Computerized Citizenship classes to prepare the legal residents to become American Citizens.' 'Computerized child and youth services that involves homework help, educational enrichment, arts and crafts, and sports activities.' 'Food give-away program.' 'Arts and Crafts and social gathering for the senior population.' 'Voting education and making the center a voting place during elections. The Hollywood West Tenants Action Committee is presently overseeing the management of 5 different housing sites for a total of 84 units: ' 5822 Willoughby Avenue ' 0.00 miles (across the street) ' 5819 Gregory Avenue ' 0.12 miles (1-1/2 small blocks) ' 5715 Camerford Avenue ' 0.24 miles (3 small blocks) ' 5712 La Mirada Avenue ' 1.01 miles (13 small blocks) ' 5603 Lexington Avenue ' 1.07 miles (14 small blocks) This is a highly populated neighborhood in the Hollywood area; with the following population: ' 56% Hispanic ' 26% White ' 4% African American ' 1% American Indian ' 10% Asian ' 3% Other Like any other over-populated zone, it has its troubled residential pockets. The HWTAC is committed to offering the services of the center to the residents within the above-mentioned community boundaries in order
to decrease neighborhood rates of unemployment, drug-related crimes, prostitution, and gang activity. Furthermore, HWTAC seeks to address school drop-out and illiteracy rates among the youth and adults. So many of our youth are slipping through the cracks of the school system; they are being robbed of an essential skill that will keep them from upward mobility. The schools have hardened their indifference, to the point that they seek refuge in gangs and drugs. The educational attainment in this area is as follows: ' 28.7% Less than 9th grade, ' 19.1% 9th to 12th grade, no diploma ' 18.9% High School Diploma ' 15.9% Some College, No degree ' 6.1% Associate's Degree ' 7.6% Bachelor's Degree ' 3.7% Graduate or Professional Degree The HWNNLC would provide a sense of importance, of family and of opportunity. It will provide the kids and their families with programs that will attract and keep their attention, and present them with opportunities to better both themselves and their environments. The center will provide those essential opportunities for learning and growth. The Board of Directors for HWTAC has agreed with Genessy Management and Development, LLC (Genessy) to act as their managing agent. Genessy's responsibilities not only include the management of the apartment complexes but also the management of HWNNLC. Genessy has been in existence since 2005 and is capable of operating a center like the HWNNLC. Genessy counts with its own tech team. Jose Oliva is the computer technician that oversees the main office's computers and systems. Please refer to his resume and certificates for qualifications. Genessy's tech team has successfully installed its first 8 computers and will be able to expand or set-up the additional 12 computers. They will also be responsible for the internet installation in each of the apartment complexes. Genessy also counts with an accounting department and will spend the project's funds appropriately. Genessy will also supervise the center's personnel and make sure that the center always operates efficiently. Genessy will successfully manage and maintain the HWNNLC. HWTAC will hire a main instructor and four (4) assistants. Volunteers, if necessary, will be requested to help the principal instructor and his/her assistants in implementing the proposed program. The implementation of the proposed HWNNLC has been estimated at $400,000.00. All expenditures projected for the start-up year have been considered and included in the total. Toward this total HWTAC, the applicant has contributed $200,000.00 for the real estate acquisition. Therefore the funding request is for $200,000.00 and includes the following: personnel in the amount of $61,716.00; equipment in the amount of $26,773.00 of which $24,524.00 is for hardware and $2,249.00 for software; supplies and material in the amount of $5,640.00; contractual in the amount of $97,271 for set-up and labor costs; construction in the amount of $5,000.00 for retrofitting material and other in the amount of $3,600.00 for maintenance costs. The center would not be able to operate without the federal grant assistance because the applicant does not have additional funds to hire or expand the center. The funds available to HWTAC have been used to maintain the low-income apartment complexes. With the assistance the center would open and benefit not only the residents of Hollywood West Apartments but also the surrounding community.