Executive Summary

The proposed project seeks to expand broadband access to low-income individuals. The proposed broadband expansion for the NNC would allow the center to obtain its own broadband source and no longer use the Collier Gardens resources for this purpose. It would also add four additional workstations to increase broadband access. The specific area to be served would be the NNC at Collier Gardens. The population of this target area are 150 plus low-income individuals (an underserved population). Of the 150 households served at Collier, 40 percent of the heads of households are senior citizens (age 62 or older). 80 percent of the heads of households have a disability. In addition, 25 percent of the heads of households are minorities. This project has the potential of serving at least 155 individuals. WCHA currently operates two busy NNC's. The staff are always there to help. The NNC's are helping tenants to span the digital divide by providing welcoming places where tenants can improve their computer literacy. WCHA is removing barriers to computer literacy by providing community residents with access to computers and more. The same individuals are learning how to use computers to efficiently navigate through life. The NNC's are also creating an actual sense of community as places where people meet, learn and create real connections. One job will be saved and a new one created from this project. The proposed cost is $100,000.