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Organization:	County of Crook
Project Name:	Crook County Computer and Education Center
Project Type:	Public Computer Center
State:	Oregon
Federal Award:	\$ 3,908,064

ABOUT THE PROJECT

Crook County covers 3,000 square miles in a rural, high desert and forest area of central Oregon with spotty broadband availability and the state's highest unemployment rate following recent declines in forestry, tourism, and manufacturing. The County has partnered with a wide range of community organizations from the public, private, and nonprofit sectors to plan and propose a new, 65-station computer learning center to be built in Prineville, the county seat. It will be open to the public more than 90 hours per week and will provide the county's 25,000 residents with education, training and broadband access at a minimum speed of 10 Mbps, eventually reaching 100 Mbps. The Crook County Computer and Education Center project also plans to deploy a mobile lab with satellite connectivity and 12 mobile workstations to provide instruction and training to remote areas of the county.

The Crook County Computer and Education Center project proposes to:

- Offer a wide range of educational and vocational courses, using a hybrid approach of online and face-to-face instruction, in a county that lacks a single community college or trade school.
- Partner with local small and disadvantaged businesses and minority access organizations to help create jobs and stimulate economic growth.
- Provide training sessions to local law enforcement and healthcare personnel, reducing the need to travel to distant instructional sites.

ORGANIZATION'S HISTORY

Incorporated in 1882, Crook County, Oregon, has been directly managing construction and development projects for 127 years. In November 2009, the citizens of central Oregon passed a bond levy from Central Oregon Community College to expand its programs into the rural communities of its educational district. A total of \$1,000,000 of that bond has been committed to this project.

PROJECT PARTNERS

- Oregon State University
- Central Oregon Community College
- Crook County Education Council
- Partnership to End Poverty
- Pioneer Memorial Hospital - CHIP Program
- Economic Development of Central Oregon
- Crook County School District
- Mid Oregon Personnel
- Crook County Library
- Central Oregon Intergovernmental Council
- Crook County Commission on Children and Families
- Oregon Department of Human Services
- Central Oregon Workforce Coordinating Council
- Prineville-Crook County Chamber of Commerce
- Goodwill Industries Vocational Services Department
- Crook County Veteran Services
- Crook County Sheriff's Office
- Bend Broadband
- Community Latino Association
- City of Prineville

Data provided in the project description is based on information supplied by the applicant. An executive summary of this application can be found on www.ntia.doc.gov/broadbandusa.

For press-related inquiries, contact 202-482-7002 or press@ntia.doc.gov. For the general public, contact BTOP@ntia.doc.gov.





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