



# BROADBANDUSA

CONNECTING AMERICA'S COMMUNITIES

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<b>Organization:</b>	City of Brownsville
<b>Project Name:</b>	Connect Brownsville
<b>Project Type:</b>	Public Computer Center
<b>State:</b>	Texas
<b>Federal Award:</b>	\$865,920

## ABOUT THE PROJECT

To foster economic growth in a city with high levels of unemployment, the City of Brownsville's **Connect Brownsville** project proposes to increase public computer access and awareness of the benefits of broadband among residents over the next three years. The project proposes to bolster the town library's broadband speeds and provide 176 new computers to the library and to deploy a mobile lab in collaboration with Texas Southmost College to make available another 30 laptop computers for residents. The project also expects to deploy five new workstations to the United Way of Southern Cameron County, a key community development organization in the city, and allow community members to benefit from services such as basic math and reading, GED preparation, computer skills training, and English-as-a-second-language classes through the Brownsville Literacy Center.

Connect Brownsville also proposes to:

- Deploy 176 new workstations and increase hours of operation by up to 150 hours per week, while engaging approximately 22,200 new weekly users.
- Train as many as 3,000 residents with up to 9,900 hours of teacher-led training over the life of the project.
- Increase the number of weekly public Internet sessions by 120 percent and decrease the wait time for public computers.
- Collaborate with fellow BTOP awardee Texas State Library & Archives Commission's statewide Public Computer Center project to ensure that there is a coordinated approach to the delivery of training to end-users and library staff, the utilization of existing resources, and the sharing of best practices related to delivering PCC services.

## ORGANIZATION'S HISTORY

The City of Brownsville has provided public access computers as a regular part of library services to the public in the state of Texas for over 16 years. The city's Public Library System was established in 1994, and has received and managed multiple federal awards previously.

## PROJECT PARTNERS

- Texas Southmost College
- United Way of Southern Cameron County
- Brownsville Adult Literacy Council
- Workforce Solutions Cameron

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](http://www.ntia.doc.gov/broadbandusa).

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).

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