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Organization:	WinstonNet, Inc.
Project Name:	WinstonNet Enhanced Community Computer Centers for Forsyth County
Project Type:	Public Computer Center
State:	North Carolina
Federal Award:	\$926,537

ABOUT THE PROJECT

Public computer centers in Forsyth County, North Carolina, are struggling to meet increased demand and enable residents to access current online applications with outdated equipment. **WinstonNet's** Enhanced Community Computer Centers project proposes to upgrade computers and provide new equipment for 38 public computer centers with the greatest need.

The project plans to offer health information, community outreach services, and training to youth, unemployed minority populations, senior citizens, people with disabilities, and Native Americans. The computer centers plan to engage the area's Spanish-speaking population by providing instruction in Spanish, including computer training and advanced English as a Second Language learning programs.

WinstonNet Enhanced Community Computer Centers for Forsyth County also proposes to:

- Establish four new public computer centers and upgrade approximately 34 more libraries, schools, and community anchor institutions in the Forsyth County, North Carolina region, deploying approximately 44 new workstations and upgrading an additional 245.
- Enable access for as many as 2,500 additional users per week at public centers.
- Expand public computer center capabilities for the local disabled community.
- Train as many as 3,500 residents with approximately 10,500 hours of teacher-led training. Training will focus on computer skills, ESL language courses (particularly targeting the area's growing Hispanic population), and jobs training.

ORGANIZATION'S HISTORY

WinstonNet is a collaboration between city and county governments, Wake Forest University, Winston-Salem State University, Salem College/Academy, North Carolina School of the Arts, Forsyth Technical Community College, the Winston-Salem public school system, and the Winston-Salem Chamber of Commerce. WinstonNet was established in 2001 with the goal of bridging the digital divide in the Winston-Salem and Forsyth County by providing community computer access and preparing the region's workforce for the next generation of network-based technology.

PROJECT PARTNERS

- Forsyth Technical Community College
- Winston-Salem Public School System
- Forsyth County
- City of Winston-Salem
- The Adaptables, Inc.
- Five regional colleges and universities

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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