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Organization:	Mexican Institute of Greater Houston, Inc.
Project Name:	Sustainable Broadband Adoption through Training for Hispanic Adults
Project Type:	Sustainable Broadband Adoption
State:	Texas
Federal Award:	\$2,015,025

ABOUT THE PROJECT

According to studies, only approximately 20 percent of primarily Spanish-speaking residents subscribe to broadband services in the home. To engage the Hispanic and English-as-a-Second-Language populations, as well as improve adoption rates in the Greater Houston, Beaumont, and San Antonio areas, the **Mexican Institute of Greater Houston** proposes to create a broadband outreach and training program targeting Hispanic and minority communities. The project plans to utilize its network of over 100 existing community centers, many located at K-12 public schools in the region, to conduct technology training sessions in Spanish for students and their families.

The project also plans to expand its network of resources into surrounding areas of Texas, building upon a longstanding tradition of success in reaching Hispanic, ESL, and other economically and socially vulnerable populations. The project plans to include in the pool of instructors students proficient in Spanish that excel in training as the program matures to create a sense of continuity and community for new students.

The Training for Hispanic Adults project also proposes to:

- Provide computer skills and broadband training to as many as 5,600 residents over the life of the project, offering approximately 560,000 teacher-led and online, tutor-supported training hours focusing on online connectivity, career building, community resources, and education.
- Update existing curricula, expand services, and upgrade the current Mexican Institute network to better manage courses and track subscribership and training effectiveness.
- Integrate the twin goals of bringing all participants into the digital economy and monitoring the program's process by setting up email accounts for all program participants and using them to populate a program database for notifying them of future opportunities while tracking their digital literacy improvement.

ORGANIZATION'S HISTORY

Founded in 1991, the Mexican Institute of Greater Houston engages Hispanic parents in their children's schools by offering a comprehensive computer technology program in Spanish at its Community Learning Centers, operating at numerous schools in different school districts. The Institute offers distance learning programs, online hands-on training, and guidance supported by a network of instructors, online tutors, and online curricular materials, allowing its participants to prepare to apply for better-paying jobs and receive continuing education.

PROJECT PARTNERS

- Texas Learning & Computation Center at the University of Houston

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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