



**Broadband Technology Opportunities Program  
Public Computer Centers Program – Sustainable Adoption Program**

<b>Submitted Date:</b> 8/14/2009 2:31:24 PM	<b>Easygrants ID:</b> 1126
<b>Funding Opportunity:</b> Public Computer Centers and Sustainable Broadband Adoption	<b>Applicant Organization:</b> Department of Military and Veterans Affairs
<b>Task:</b> Submit Application - Non-Infrastructure Programs	<b>Applicant Name:</b> Ms. Shannan Zerance

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## A. General Application Information

<b>1. Applicant Information</b>	
<b>1-A. Name, Address, and Federal ID for Applicant</b>	
<b>i. Legal Name:</b>	Department of Military and Veterans Affairs
<b>ii. Employer/Taxpayer Identification Number (EIN/TIN):</b>	236002830
<b>Street 1:</b>	Bldg. 11-6, Fort Indiantown Gap
<b>Street 2:</b>	
<b>City:</b>	Annville
<b>County:</b>	Lebanon
<b>State:</b>	PA
<b>Country</b>	United States
<b>Zip/Postal Code:</b>	17003
<b>1-B. Name and Contact Information of Person to be Contacted on Matters Involving this Application:</b>	
<b>Prefix:</b>	Ms.
<b>First Name:</b>	Shannan
<b>Middle Name:</b>	
<b>Last Name:</b>	Zerance
<b>Suffix:</b>	
<b>Telephone Number:</b>	717-861-8479
<b>Fax Number:</b>	717-861-2932
<b>Email:</b>	szerance@state.pa.us
<b>Title:</b>	Chief, Division of Grants
<b>1-C. Other Required Identification Numbers</b>	



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<b>i. Organizational DUNS:</b>	79657683
<b>ii. CCR # (CAGE):</b>	1UHF2
<b>iii. Funding Opportunity Number:</b>	2
<b>iv. Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number:</b>	<b>BTOP CFDA Number:</b> 11.557 <b>BTOP CFDA Title:</b> Broadband Technology Opportunities Program

**1-D. Organization Classification**

State or State Agency

**1-E. Applicant Federal Debt Delinquency Explanation**

Is the **Applicant** Delinquent On Any Federal Debt?  
No

**Federal debt delinquency Explanation:**

**1-F. Congressional Districts of:**

**Applicant:** Pennsylvania - 17

<b>Program/Project</b>
Pennsylvania - 3
Pennsylvania - 6
Pennsylvania - 9
Pennsylvania - 8
Pennsylvania - 11
Pennsylvania - 14



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**2. Project Title and Project Description**

**2-A. Project Title :** Broadband for State Veterans Homes

**2-B. Project Description:** The Pennsylvania Department of Military and Veterans Affairs will provide broadband access, education and training to 1,500 residents at the six state veterans’ homes. The initiative will enable this vulnerable population to stay abreast of current affairs, maintain contact with loved ones and use technology to share their experiences and knowledge gained while serving our country.

**3. Project Type**

Classify the particular project type for which you are seeking federal funding.

**Project Type:** Sustainable Broadband Adoption

**Project ID:** 2

**4. Application ID for Multiple Submissions for Identified Service Areas**

**5. Estimated Funding (\$):**

Estimated Funding (\$):	
Federal	381,360
Applicant	95,340
State	
Local	
Other	
Program Income	
<b>Total</b>	<b>476,700</b>



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## B. Eligibility Factors

### 6. Eligibility Factors.

<b>The application must be completed fully, and all required supplemental documentation must be attached.</b>
<b>Applicants must commit to substantially completing their Project (as defined in the NOFA) within two years of the award date, and completing the Project within three years of the award date.</b>
<b>Applicants must credibly demonstrate that their Project advances at least one of the five statutory purposes for BTOP.</b>
<b>Applicants must demonstrate that but for Federal funding they would not have been able to complete their project during the grant period.</b>
<b>The budget for the project must be reasonable and all costs must be eligible.</b>

**6-d.** Applicant is providing matching funds of at least 20 percent towards to the total eligible project costs or is requesting a waiver of the matching requirements.

Yes

**Matching Fund Waiver Request Explanation**

## C. Executive Summary

### 7. Executive Summary of Overall Proposal:

The Broadband for State Veterans Homes program will bring broadband access to 1,500 residents at the six state veterans' homes in Pennsylvania. Broadband service will enable these



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residents, many of whom are elderly and have disabilities, to engage in new and stimulating activities; stay abreast of current events; communicate with loved ones; and share their valuable knowledge and experience gained while serving our country in the armed forces. By introducing them to the internet and providing the necessary training and education for its use, veterans and their spouses who live in the homes can see faraway lands or visit with friends and relatives without leaving the confines of their wheelchairs or desk chairs.

This initiative will provide eight computers, peripherals, and ancillary devices for each of the six veterans' homes; offer focused, practical training to the residents on how to use computers and the internet; and provide on-site technical support and troubleshooting to make sure the broadband service, computers and software are maintained and updated as needed.

Implementation and oversight of this project will be a collaborative effort by the fiscal, program, administrative and information technology personnel in the Pennsylvania Department of Military and Veterans Affairs. The staff working on this initiative have experience implementing complex programs, maintaining oversight of multiple vendors, administering grant programs and complying with extensive reporting requirements. The Commonwealth Procurement Code ensures fair competition in purchasing. Competitively-bid contracts will be used to augment the staffing requirements for information technology support and training. Accountability of vendors, invoices, reimbursements and accounts will be maintained through the Commonwealth's comprehensive fiscal tracking system.

The total budget to implement this project is \$476,700, which includes the 20% match provided by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the 80% funded by federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act appropriations. This investment will provide a solid foundation for a program that will be sustained by each veterans' home following the grant funding.

## **D. Project Purpose**

### **Project Purpose: Recovery Act & BTOP Objectives**

#### **8. Project Purpose**



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According to the current population survey conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau as of 2007, 49.8% of households comprised of persons aged 55 or older do not have internet access. Of the households that do, 12% are using dial-up to access the internet. The remaining 38% of households in that age group are using broadband to take advantage of the infinite resources that the worldwide web has to offer. Unfortunately, the same cannot be said for the residents at Pennsylvania’s six veterans’ homes. The percentage of residents who have internet access is very small compared to the rest of the population – only 3.2% of the 1,500 residents have personal computers and even fewer have an internet service provider.

Like their counterparts living independently, it is very likely that many more veterans and spouses would use the internet if it were accessible. The Broadband for State Veterans Homes program will bring broadband access to the residents at the six state veterans’ homes in Pennsylvania. Through this initiative, 1,500 residents will have the opportunity to take advantage of the knowledge, resources, activities and networking enjoyed by people of every age with broadband service.

As evidenced by an average age of 78, the majority of residents at the state veterans’ homes are elderly and many also have disabilities, which can limit their ability to read newspapers, talk on the phone with friends and family or travel to certain activities outside the veterans’ home. Broadband access will allow these residents to stay informed about current events; research topics of interest; easily communicate with the “outside world;” and stay in touch with loved ones who are unable to visit regularly. With funding through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, bringing broadband access to this vulnerable population will improve the quality of life for these men and women who have served our nation.

Along with installing broadband at each of the six veterans’ homes, this program will allow the Commonwealth to purchase eight computers, peripherals, and ancillary devices for each home. Each computer will feature a large-screen monitor designed to assist those with limited vision. Web cameras will be purchased for each of the computers to allow face-to-face communication with friends and family around the globe. Additionally, assistive technology devices will be purchased to mitigate the challenges faced by residents with disabilities. For example, there is screen-reading software with privacy headphones for residents who are blind and special keyboards and joysticks designed for amputees. The assistive technology needs at each home will be individually evaluated and, where possible, purchased to ensure widespread access to these computers.



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Because the residents of the Pennsylvania veterans’ homes are not state employees, state policy prohibits them from using computers that are connected to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania’s secure network. Unfortunately, this also prevents them from using its network administration, virus protection and inappropriate content filtering features. To protect the residents and the State, these safety and security gaps can be bridged by using virus protection and content filtering software.

Contracted information technology consultants experienced in the troubleshooting, installation and maintenance of broadband and computers will be hired to provide the support necessary to accomplish this endeavor. Although each veterans’ home has one Information Technology Generalist on staff, these employees do not have sufficient time to devote to this project, particularly troubleshooting problems for users who are unfamiliar with computers.

To allow residents to gain familiarity with the computers and the internet, on-site training will be provided by skilled educators. Two consultants will spend an estimated twenty hours at each home, given during five separate sessions, to help residents reach a level of comfort with using the internet and computers. Having multiple trainers and sessions will reduce “information overload,” allow time for residents to gain experience and ask follow-up questions, reduce the number of residents being trained simultaneously and encourage other residents to participate. Additional, ongoing training following the grant period will be sought through partnerships with volunteer organizations and institutions of higher learning.

The six veterans homes are run by the Pennsylvania Department of Military and Veterans Affairs. Accordingly, this initiative will be directed by the fiscal, program, administrative and information technology personnel on staff, as well as the consultants who will lend their expertise. The experienced staff has worked together to develop this project to meet the needs of the residents at the veterans’ homes. All of the key personnel are practiced in overseeing complex programs to accomplish projects on schedule and within budget.

Grant purchases are made in accordance with the Commonwealth Procurement Code, designed to ensure fair competition among vendors and secure discount pricing for bulk purchases. Competitive bidding required by the Procurement Code also rewards participation by small and disadvantaged businesses. The fiscal accounting system used by the purchasing, comptroller and treasury staff creates electronic documentation of purchases and payments and facilitates



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the audit and reporting requirements necessary in grant administration.

The IT staff support, instructors, computers and peripherals are on state contract. All purchases will be made in accordance with the Commonwealth Procurement Code.

The total cost to implement this initiative is \$476,700. The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania will provide \$95,340 as its 20% match and the remaining \$381,360 is requested in federal funding.

**9. Recovery Act and Other Governmental Collaboration.**

This project leverages the state-funded resources provided by the Pennsylvania Department of Military Affairs with the funding allocated by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. State funds will be used for fiscal, administrative and program oversight, while federal funds will enable us to launch this program and bridge the funding gap between start-up and continuation of this endeavor.

**10. Enhanced Services for Health Care Delivery, Education, and Children**

**11. Small and Disadvantaged Business Involvement**

The Commonwealth Procurement Code prohibits vendors who have provided quotes or technical information for grant proposals from submitting a competitive bid for the supply or service being sought. Because of this, budget information is prepared using pricing from state contracts or estimating market value based on independent research. This ensures that no vendors will be barred from submitting competitive bids. In this instance, nearly all of the purchases will be made using existing state contracts, which is the required mechanism for purchase.

**E. Project Benefits**

**E-1 – Expanding Broadband Public Computer Center Capacity**

**Public Computer Center Capacity, Including Areas and Populations Served**





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Age Distribution: 60-69
Age Distribution: 70 and above

<b>Ethnicity or ethnicities</b>
Ethnicity: Hispanic
Ethnicity: Non-Hispanic White
Ethnicity: Non-Hispanic Black
Ethnicity: Non-Hispanic American Indian
Ethnicity: Non-Hispanic Asian
Ethnicity: Non-Hispanic Hawaiian or Pacific Islander

<b>Gender</b>
Gender: Female
Gender: Male

<b>Median Household Income</b>
Median Household Income: Less than \$9,999
Median Household Income: \$10,000 - \$14,999
Median Household Income: \$15,000 - \$24,999
Median Household Income: \$25,000 - \$34,999
Median Household Income: \$35,000 - \$49,999
Median Household Income: \$50,000 - \$74,999



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Median Household Income: \$75,000 - \$99,999
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<b>Educational Levels</b>
Educational Levels: Secondary - Grade 9 to Grade 12
Educational Levels: College
Educational Levels: Masters

<b>Disabilities status</b>
Disabilities status : Blindness, Deafness or a severe vision or hearing impairment
Disabilities status : A condition that substantially limits one or more basic physical activities such as walking, climbing stairs, reaching, lifting or carrying
Disabilities status : A physical, mental or emotional condition lasting 6 months or more

<b>Unemployment Rate</b>
Unemployment Rate: 100.00

<b>Language</b>
Language : English - Primary

**17. Public Computer Centers Outreach**

**Public Computer Center Capacity: Training and Educational Programs**



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**18. Public Computer Centers Peripherals and Equipment**

**19. Public Computer Centers Workstation Software**

**20. Public Computer Centers Training and Education Programs**

**E-2- Project Benefits – Sustainable BroadBand Adoption**

**21. Innovative Approach to Sustainable Broadband Adoption**

In order to offer broadband access to all residents of the veterans' homes, the monthly access fees, hardware, software, support and training will initially be part of the grant initiative. This will encourage participation without requiring financial commitments or hardship to individuals who could not purchase it on their own. After the initial investments are made to provide access and training, the level of interest is expected to increase and additional points of access may become necessary as familiarity grows. In a group setting, it is impracticable, and cost-prohibitive for some, to require individual broadband subscriptions for each resident. A minimum of four lines at each of the six homes will bring this valuable service to 1,500 residents. With widespread interest, this program could easily be replicated at any other state's veterans homes, as well as skilled nursing and personal care homes.

**22. Sustainable Broadband Adoption Household Subscribers.**

How many total new home subscribers (household accounts) to broadband do you expect to generate through use of BTOP funds over the entire life of the program funded?

**23. Sustainable Broadband Adoption Institutional Subscribers.**

How many total new business and/or institutional subscribers to broadband do you expect to generate through use of BTOP funds over the entire life of the program funded? 24

**24. Sustainable Broadband Adoption Users of Public Access Facilities.**



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How many total **users** of broadband in public computer centers or **users** of broadband **outside the home** (e.g., in a community college) do you expect to generate through use of BTOP funds over the entire life of the program funded? **750**

**25. Sustainable Broadband Adoption Population Demographics.**

Please refer to PCC – SBA Demographics section (Section E1- Question 17)

**26. Sustainable Broadband Adoption People Trained/Educated.**

If you intend to provide training or education, how many people **in total** will your program(s) reach?

**1,500**

**27. Sustainable Broadband Adoption - Scope of Training/Education Programs.**

How many hours of training do you expect to provide *per person on average* for each participant in your training program(s), through completion of training for that individual? If you will offer multiple programs, provide estimates for each program. **6**

**28. Sustainable Broadband Adoption Instructor Qualifications.**

How many (FTE) instructors/facilitators will you employ for broadband and digital literacy training purposes, and what are their qualifications (training and experience)?

Training for this program will be provided by consultants who have been contracted by the Commonwealth. Instructors will be required to have experience in teaching seniors and persons who are new to computers.

**29. Sustainable Broadband Adoption Equipment Purchased.**

How many broadband-related equipment units (e.g. computers, wireless devices) do you intend to purchase overall? **48**

**30. Sustainable Broadband Adoption Cost of Devices.**

What is the total up-front cost of this equipment? **55,632**

**31. Sustainable Broadband Adoption Loan Program Participants.**

If you are providing an equipment purchase or loan program, for how many households, businesses and/or institutions do you expect to provide equipment or computers?

**Number of Households:**

**Number of Businesses:**

**Number of Institutions: 6**

**32. Sustainable Broadband Adoption Loan Cost to Borrower.**

If you are employing a loan program for purchases of service or equipment, what will be the total cost to the typical customer you assist over the life of the loan, including all interest and fees?

**33. Sustainable Broadband Adoption Target Population, Awareness Campaign.**

If you are conducting an awareness campaign, how many people do you expect your campaign will reach?

**34. Sustainable Broadband Adoption Awareness Campaign Methods**

Residents at the state veterans' homes will be informed of the project prior to and during implementation of the broadband access. The activity director at each veterans' home will



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communicate the upcoming trainings to residents and a list of the times and locations for training will be posted in public areas of the veterans' homes.

**35. Measuring Campaign Impact for Sustainable Broadband Adoption**

The performance measures used to evaluate success for this project will be the number and percentage of residents who take advantage of the training and, subsequently, the number of users following program implementation.

**36. Sustainable Broadband Adoption Total Cost Per New Subscriber.**

What is the total cost of your project per new subscriber (household, individual, or institutional) or new end-user? **635.60**

## **F. Project Viability**

### **Technical Viability**

**37. Technology Strategy**

**37 - A. Public Computer Center Technology Strategy**

**37 - B. Sustainable Broadband Adoption Technology Strategy**

The strategy used to implement broadband access at homes is based on the small number of computers in various locations at each home. With a maximum of eight computers, it is more cost effective to install broadband cabling and use 4-port routers to connect computers in close proximity. Those outside the broadband's distance capability equidistant from the router will be installed using separate cabling.

### **Organizational Capability**

**38. Management Team Resumes.**

Please refer to upload section at the end of document.

**39. Organizational Readiness**

The Pennsylvania Department of Military and Veterans Affairs oversees an annual budget of \$350 million in state and federal funding for veterans' services, the Pennsylvania National



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Guard and six state veterans' homes. Solid policies and procedures for purchasing and accounting are in place to immediately begin this program, if awarded funding. A concerted effort by procurement, fiscal, grant administration and information technology staff will ensure a timely implementation and successful outcome.

**40. Organizational Chart.**

Please refer to upload section at the end of document.

**Community Involvement**

**41. Key Partners**

The senior management team at the Pennsylvania Department of Military and Veterans Affairs responsible for the implementation of this program consists of Dee McPherson, Patricia Derry, Tim Irvin, and Shannan Zerance.

Dee McPherson is Chief of Operations for the State Veterans Homes. She has seven years of managerial experience in the executive branch of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in addition to experience in the legislative branch. She also brings a clinical background from the private sector.

Patricia Derry is Director of the Bureau of Budget and Finance, a position she has held for the past nine years. In her current capacity, she manages a combined state and federal budget of \$350 million. Prior to that, she spent four years as Chief of the Federal Budgeting Division in her current office and nearly ten years in the Budget Office at the Pennsylvania Department of Aging. All together, she has more than 22 years of fiscal experience with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Tim Irvin is Chief of the Technical Services Division of the Bureau of Information Technology. He is also currently serving as Acting Chief Information Officer. Tim has been responsible for providing oversight to the IT Generalists at the six veterans' homes for the past eight years providing IT. He previously served as the Network Manager.

Shannan Zerance is Chief of the Grants Division in the Bureau of Budget and Finance. She has



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sixteen years of administrative experience with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and is responsible for tracking grant funds, identifying purchases, complying with reporting requirements and maintaining audit files of all grant programs.

Contractual information technology support and training will be provided by a vendor on state contract with employees with expertise in the information technology fields.

**42. Partnering with Disadvantaged Businesses**

As stated in question 11, the Commonwealth Procurement Code prohibits collusion with potential vendors prior to the award of a competitive bid. The only exception to this policy would be coordinating with vendors who are already on state contract for the services provided. Since rates and services have already been negotiated prior to awarding a contract, state agencies lack the ability to choose small or disadvantaged businesses as partners. The Procurement Code requires agencies to use the vendor on state contract. Many of the vendors with state contracts for supplies and services, however, are small and/or disadvantaged businesses because these companies receive priority consideration when bidding on state contracts.

**Ability to Start Promptly & Timeline**

**43. Project Timeline and Challenges**

Quarter 1 Activity

- Install broadband cabling and establish connectivity in identified areas.
- Issue 2-year contract for high-speed internet
- Issue purchase orders for computers, software, printers, desk furniture, desk chairs, ancillary devices and consumable supplies
- Issue 2-year contract for IT service and support
- Issue 2-year contract for training
- Comply with reporting requirements

Quarter 1 Deliverables

- Broadband installed
- Contract in place
- Purchase orders issued



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Service contract in place  
Training contract in place

**Quarter 2 Activity**

Install furniture, computers, peripherals and chairs  
Install software for DSL, program suite, virus protection and content filtering  
Develop training schedule and post at veterans' homes  
Comply with reporting requirements

**Quarter 2 Deliverables**

Installation completed  
Software installed  
Training scheduled

**Quarters 3-8 Activity**

Conduct training for residents  
IT service and support as necessary  
Monitor virus and content filtering software effectiveness  
Evaluate internet use and interest  
Purchase assistive technology devices as needed  
Comply with reporting requirements  
Maintain equipment inventory  
Maintain audit files

**Quarters 3-8 Deliverables**

Training completed  
Performance measures evaluated  
Final reports submitted

Challenges to timely implementation of this initiative are installation service availability, equipment backorders and delivery timeframes and training schedules. While these issues could result in delays, they will not compromise the ultimate implementation of the program. Using the combined state and federal funding, this program can be fully implemented in a 24-month period and provide lasting benefits to the veterans and their spouses who reside at Pennsylvania's state veterans' homes.



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#### 44. Non-Infrastructure Projects - Licenses and Regulatory Approvals

#### 45. Legal Opinion.

Please refer to upload section at the end of document.

## G. Project Budget & Sustainability

### Project Profile: Budget and Budget Narrative

#### 46. Budget Narrative

The budget represents only those costs which are necessary to implement this initiative - broadband installation, basic hardware and software, IT support and training.

The installation of broadband cabling from outside to the demarcation point inside a facility is typically \$250 per line, based on the current costs negotiated on state contract. The budget includes the cost of four DSL lines at each of the 6 veterans homes, for a total cost of \$6,000 for installation. Although only 8 computers are being installed and could potentially be connected to two 4-port routers, 4 lines may be necessary because some homes have multiple buildings, have access points in excess of the 250 feet allowable for signal strength in either direction of the router or have multiple floors or wings at which access will be provided in one building.

Installing the cabling from the demarcation point inside the home to each point of access is \$70 per hour plus material, which usually averages \$500 per line installed. The cost of installing 4 lines at each of the 6 homes is included in the budget, for a total of \$12,000. The installation of 4 cables connected to a maximum 4-port router is anticipated due to the reasons cited above.

The cost to purchase high-speed internet access at a speed of 768 kbps on each DSL line is currently \$50 per month. With four lines at each of the six homes over a 24-month period, the total cost is \$28,800.

The purchase of 48 computers at a cost of \$1,159 will allow 8 computers to be placed in each of the 6 veterans homes. The cost of the computers is based on a current quote for a Dell Optiplex 960 computer on state contract and includes shipping. The total cost for computers is



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\$55,632.

The cost per computer of \$659 for Microsoft Office software, \$499 for ContentProtect Professional filtering software with updates and support and \$199 for McAfee Anti-Virus software with updates and support equals a combined total of \$65,136.

The cost of supplies is based on a personal printer for each computer, which is much less costly than a network printer on state contract, at \$84 including shipping for an Epson Workforce 30 color printer; \$1,125 for the purchase and installation of 48 wheelchair-accessible computer desks; \$450 for the purchase and delivery of 48 computer chairs; and \$750 to purchase assistive technology devices at each computer to meet the individualized needs of residents. The total cost of supplies is \$115,632, which includes furniture and peripherals below the \$5,000 threshold for equipment.

A statewide contract for IT specialist support averages \$77.87 per hour, plus travel costs. Estimating a cost of \$1,000 per month to include travel costs of \$221.30 and 10 hours of support at each home per month for 24 months, the budget for this service totals \$144,000. This is a contract negotiated by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for IT support and must be used. Some homes may use more than 10 hours per month, while others may use less. This represents an average across the homes.

The cost to provide broadband education and training to residents is budgeted at \$49,500. This includes the use of two IT specialists at a rate of \$77.87 per hour, plus an estimated \$1,027.04 for travel per training session, for a total of \$1,650 per session for five 4-hour sessions at each home.

The total cost to implement this initiative is \$476,700, which represents \$95,340 in a cash match of state funds and \$381,360 in federal grant funds. The 20% cash match funded by the state will be divided among the six veterans' homes and paid out of their operating budgets.

**47. Non-Infrastructure Projects - Budget Reasonableness**

All of the supplies and services purchased for this initiative will be made in accordance with the contracts and procurement policies established by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The costs for broadband installation, inside cabling, computer hardware and



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software, peripherals, and information technology specialists and trainers have been competitively bid and awarded on state contract, which state agencies are required to use. Usage estimates for hourly rates are based on costs paid for other projects of similar size and nature. No administrative or indirect costs are included with this proposal.

**48. Demonstration of Financial Need**

The initial costs required to implement this initiative – to install cabling and run it to multiple access sites in each home, purchase computers and related supplies and peripherals, contract for on-site IT service and support and provide multiple training sessions at each veterans’ home – are not available in the operating fund for the state veterans’ homes. As reflected in the budget spreadsheet, with an outlay of more than \$400,000 in the first year, the start-up costs were prohibitive without additional funding. If it were not for this grant opportunity, installing broadband at the veterans’ homes would not be feasible. With a collaborative federal and state funding effort, however, this program will become a reality.

**49. Historical Financial Statements.**

Please refer to upload section at the end of document.

**Project Profile: Long Term Sustainability**

**50. Sustainability.**

**51 - A. Public Computer Center Sustainability**

**51 - B. Sustainable Broadband Adoption Sustainability**

Once the initial equipment, installation and training to stand up this initiative have been funded, the cost to sustain this program will be greatly diminished. The reduced cost to maintain broadband service will be paid by each veterans home’s Welfare Relief Fund, available solely for programs that benefit all of its residents. Using funding outside the state budget process will remove the burden of financial commitment from the Commonwealth and further the longevity of this initiative, ensuring the benefits of this program continue long after grant funding ceases. Through the existing network of volunteer programs and activities, each home will work to develop partnerships with volunteer organizations and institutions of higher



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learning to continue training new residents on the use of computers and the internet.

### **Project Profile: Outside Leverage**

**51. Matching Funds.**

Please refer to upload section at the end of document.

**52. Unjust Enrichment**

The Commonwealth has not applied to any other Federal agencies to fund any part of this initiative.

**53. Disclosure of Federal and/or State Funding Sources**

Aside from the 20% match that will be drawn from Pennsylvania budget appropriations, no other federal or state funds have been requested or received for this project or activities related to this project.

**54. Buy American.**

Is the applicant seeking an individual waiver of the Buy American provision?

No

**Buy American Waiver Request Explanation**

### **H. DOC Environmental Checklist**

**55. SECTION 1** – Please refer to upload section at the end of document.

### **I. Compliance and Certification**

**56. Certification and signature.**

Please refer to upload section at the end of the document.



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## J. Uploads

In order to improve system performance and help ensure that all applicants are able to complete their applications by the deadline, we have changed the way your application PDF is created. This PDF contains all of the information you entered throughout the Easygrants data entry screens. PDF copies of all documents that have been uploaded can be viewed and printed separately from the **Main page of the application after you submit**. These will continue to be available to you in read-only format after your application has been submitted.