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Organization:	Cambridge Housing Authority
Project Name:	Cambridge Housing Authority Community Computer Centers
Project Type:	Public Computer Center
State(s):	Massachusetts
Federal Award:	\$698,924

ABOUT THE PROJECT

The Cambridge Housing Authority Community Computer Centers project plans to reopen and expand three public computer centers that serve approximately 10,000 public housing residents, including low-income households, immigrants, seniors, and minorities. The Cambridge Housing Authority intends to replace 24 workstations and add 16 new ones at the centers to serve an expected 420 new users per week with access to broadband technology, computer courses, job training, and literacy programs.

The Community Computer Centers project also proposes to:

- Reinstatement of the Cambridge Housing Authority's educational programs, including workforce skills training, test preparation, literacy, and English as a Second Language courses.
- Offer training in Microsoft Office programs to 110 adult students.
- Partner with the Cambridge Public Schools, Cambridge Office of Workforce Development, and the Cambridge Community Learning Center, the city's adult basic literacy education agency, to provide critical education and employment services at the centers.
- Leverage a 44 percent match to maximize use of federal funds.

ORGANIZATION'S HISTORY

The Cambridge Housing Authority serves more than 10 percent of Cambridge residents. The Housing Authority has provided services through the Resident Services Department since 1976 and has operated three computer centers since 1999, whose training programs were suspended due to budget cuts. The Housing Authority has received numerous awards, including the Department of Education Secretary's Award for Outstanding Adult Education and Literacy Programs, and the Ford Foundation/ Harvard University Innovations in American Government Award. The Housing Authority also intends to partner with one socially and economically disadvantaged small business to provide technical support and other consulting services to this project.

PROJECT PARTNERS

- Cambridge Agenda for Children
- Cambridge Department of Human Service Programs
- Cambridge Employment Program
- Cambridge Office of Workforce
- Cambridge Public Schools
- City of Cambridge
- Community Learning Center
- North Shore Consulting and Development, Inc.

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.broadbandusa.gov.

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

