



Supporting the efforts of Ohio's Community Technology Service Providers

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July 10, 2006

Ohio Community
Computing Network
@ State Library of Ohio
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To: Docketing Division
PUCO

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Enclosed is one original and 10 copies of the Ohio Community Computing Network's final report to the PUCO regarding distribution of community technology funds in the matter of the Verizon-GTE Merger Agreement (Case No. 98-1398-TP-AMT).

Sincerely,

Angela Stuber

Angela Stuber
Executive Director
astuber@ohioccn.org

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**BEFORE THE
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO**

In the Matter of the Verizon-GTE Merger Agreement (Case No. 98-1398-TP-AMT)

**FINAL REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
COMMUNITY TECHNOLOGY CENTER COMMITMENT
IN THE
VERIZON-GTE MERGER AGREEMENT**

Introduction

The funds pledged by Verizon were made available pursuant to the PUCO's February 10, 2000 Opinion and Order in the Matter of the Joint Application of Bell Atlantic Corporation and GTE Corporation for Consent and Approval of a Change in Control, Case No. 98-1398-TP-AMT, and the subsequent agreement between Verizon, Edgemont Neighborhood Coalition and The Office of Consumers' Counsel providing for \$143,000 per year for three years for computer centers. The Ohio Community Computing Center Network (OCCN) was designated as the organization to oversee the selection, dispersal, and evaluation of community technology centers.

2002 OCCN Community Technology Center Grant Awards

Objectives: To develop new or expand existing community technology centers. Funded community technology centers will use technology within a computer, math or language literacy program in addition to providing a minimum of 10 hours open access per week. The specific method in which a literacy program is intertwined with the technology is up to the individual CTCs. The funds can be used for personnel, training of personnel, telecommunications, equipment and basic operating costs. All nonprofit organizations, institutions and governmental agencies located in Verizon regular phone service areas of Ohio are eligible to apply for the grant (not cellular phone service areas).

OCCN awarded funding for community technology centers to six organizations located throughout the designated service areas. The organizations included:

- Appalachian Media Access Center (AMAC), Athens
- Kent State University Tuscarawas
- Northwest ABLE, McDermont
- The Ohio State University, Learning Center East & South, Caldwell & Piketon
- Scioto County Adult Workforce Development, Portsmouth
- Volunteers of America of Central Ohio, Logan

A summary of each award follows with a spreadsheet detailing the dates and amount of funds distributed.

The Community Technology Centers

Appalachian Media Access Center (AMAC)

Contact: Richard Sams

100b Columbus Road

Athens, OH 45701

Tel: 740-593-5681

Fax: 740-594-0691

Total Request: \$54,560; Year One: \$20,000, Year Two: \$17,820, Year Three: \$16,720,

The Appalachian Media Access Center received their first and second year of funds for the grant project 'Life as a Kid'. AMAC is dedicated to providing the people of Appalachia with the skills and tools necessary to access use and create technology and electronic communication. AMAC's focus is on computer and technological literacy programs. They offer biweekly training in computer, Internet, digital video and audio, studio, and web authoring. For this project AMAC collaborated with the Athens County Library to provide the library employees and Athens community training sessions to establish a historical collection project titled 'Future Histories: Documenting Now.' The project created a DVD set of interviews of community members detailing their lives growing up in the Athens region. AMAC did not demonstrate adequate record keeping and reporting of their second year and failed to submit a third plan that met the requirements of this grant. Therefore, **the total amount dispersed was \$37,820.**

Kent State University Tuscarawas

Flo Smith, Director

Continuing Studies and Community Development

330 University Drive Northeast

New Philadelphia, OH 44663-9403

Tel: 330-339-3391

Fax: 330-339-3321

Total Request: \$59,997 Year One: \$19,999, Year Two: \$19,999, Year Three: \$19,999.

Kent State University Tuscarawas welcomes undereducated, low-income, minority, or disabled youth and adults to an outreach program providing access to computers and a comfortable introduction to their use. In addition, access to labs and computer literacy were offered to targeted small business owners. Small, limited satellite locations will be included in this program in partnerships with Workforce Initiative Association and the Minority Employment Readiness Committee. Kent State University Tuscarawas successfully fulfilled their objectives for three years of funding.

Northwest ABLE

Rural Scioto County's Adult Literacy Education Program

Contact: Charley Flaig, Coordinator

13056 State Route 73

McDermont, OH 45652-9000

Tel: 740-372-2812

Fax: 740-372-7205

cflaig@northwest.k12.oh.us

Year One: \$20,000, Year Two: \$20,000, Year Three: \$20,000, Total Request: \$60,000.

The CTC will be housed at the Northwest Family Resource Center where clients of Northwest ABLE, Even Start, Portsmouth Public Library, Head Start, and Scioto County educational programs will have access to technology. The community will have open access a minimum of 20 hours per week with additional hours as arranged.

The Ohio State University

Learning Center East

Contact: Cindy Bond-Zielinski, Program Coordinator

16714 SR 215

Caldwell, OH 43724

Tel: 740-732-2381

Fax: 740-732-5992

Bond-zielinski.1@osu.edu

Year One: \$20,000, Year Two: \$20,000, Year Three: \$20,000, Total Request: \$60,000.

Ohio State University Learning Centers partnered with Senior Centers and Adult Basic Literacy Education (ABLE) students to provide computer literacy classes to the Appalachian population of Southern and Eastern Ohio. This is a non traditional at risk population that allows OSU Learning Centers to reach new audiences as well as provide a needed educational outreach program to the community.

Scioto County Adult Workforce Development

Scioto County JVSD-Post Secondary Division

Contact: Jenny Blackburn

951 Vern Riffe Drive

Lucasville, OH 45648

Tel: 740-259-5526 ext. 208

Jblackburn_sj@scoca-k12.org

Year One: \$20,000, Year Two: \$19,990, Year Three: \$20,000, Total Request: \$59,990.

Scioto County JVS Adult Workforce Development Center and its community partners will establish a new Community Technology and Certification Center using an existing Workforce Assessment Computer Lab in downtown Portsmouth, to be open at no cost to the community at proposed and approved times. The purpose is to provide cost-free computer use and training for the large number of under-skilled and unemployed individuals in the county in order for them to enhance technology skill levels and improve their ability to compete in the 21st century job market for a better quality of life.

Volunteers of America of Central Ohio

Contact: Nicole Knowlton, Director of Development

379 West Broad Street

Columbus, OH 43215-2789

Tel: 614-224-8650

Fax: 614-224-3823

nknowlton@voacentralohio.org

Year One: \$17,266, Year Two: \$18,129, Year Three: 419,036, Total Request: \$54,431.

Volunteers of America of Central Ohio's Logan Youth and Adult Center serves the people of Logan and Hocking County with services designed to motivate and prepare youth and adults for success. The Center's computer lab allows the people of the community to have access to computer technology on a regular basis and supports classes in computers, literacy, GED and employment.

Disbursal of Funds for 2002 OCCN Community Technology Center Grants

Applicant Organization Name:	Total Amount Requested	release	year 1	Release	year 2		year 3	remaining funds from total project	new total 3rd check	Release	Redistribution of AMAC's 3rd year grant	Total Amount Dispersed
Appalachian Media Access Center	\$54,560	Oct-02	\$20,000	Feb-04	\$17,820	Oct-04						\$37,820
Kent State University Tuscarawas	\$59,997	Oct-02	\$19,999	Nov-03	\$19,999	Oct-04	\$19,999	\$1,837	\$21,836	Nov-04		\$61,834
Northwest ABLE	\$60,000	Oct-02	\$20,000	Dec-03	\$20,000	Oct-04	\$20,000	\$1,837	\$21,837	Nov-04	\$9,288.50	\$71,126
The Ohio State University - Learning Centers	\$60,000	Oct-02	\$20,000	Dec-03	\$20,000	Oct-04	\$20,000	\$1,837	\$21,837	Nov-04		\$61,837
Scioto County Adult Workforce Development	\$59,990	Oct-02	\$20,000				\$39,990	\$1,837	\$41,827	Jan-05		\$61,827
VOA of Central Ohio	\$54,431	Oct-02	\$17,266	Jan-04	\$18,129	Oct-04	\$19,036	\$1,837	\$20,873	Dec-05	\$9,288.50	\$65,557
Total Request	\$348,978		\$117,265		\$95,948		\$119,025		\$128,210			\$360,000
Total Available	\$360,000											