

Colorado State Library BTOP PCC Grant Application - Letters of Support

| Participating Library | Entity | City | State |
|------------------------|--|----------------|-------|
| Statewide | Governor Bill Ritter | Denver | CO |
| Statewide | Senator Mark Udall | Washington | DC |
| Statewide | Representative John Salazar | Washington | DC |
| Statewide | Representative Jared Polis | Washington | DC |
| Statewide | Representative Diana DeGette | Washington | DC |
| Statewide | Assistive Technology Partners | Grand Junction | CO |
| Statewide | Special Populations and Issues Committee | Denver | CO |
| Alamosa-Southern Peaks | Blue Peaks Developmental Services | Alamosa | CO |
| Alamosa-Southern Peaks | Alamosa Chamber of Commerce | Alamosa | CO |
| Alamosa-Southern Peaks | Trinidad State Junior College - Valley Campus | Alamosa | CO |
| Alamosa-Southern Peaks | Mayor of Alamosa | Alamosa | CO |
| Burlington | Colorado Welcome Center in Burlington | Burlington | CO |
| Burlington | Burlington Public Library Board of Trustees | Burlington | CO |
| Burlington | Eastern Colorado Workforce Center - Burlington | Burlington | CO |
| Carnegie | City of Monte Vista | Monte Vista | CO |
| Carnegie | Rio Grande County Board of County Commissioners | Del Norte | CO |
| Carnegie | San Luis Valley Rural Electric Co-op | Monte Vista | CO |
| Carnegie | Valley Communications Companies | Monte Vista | CO |
| Carnegie | Trinidad State Junior College | Trinidad | CO |
| Carnegie | Trinidad School District #1 | Trinidad | CO |
| Cortez | Southwest Colorado Workforce Center | Durango | CO |
| Cortez | Sleeping Ute Mountain Chapter of DAR | Cortez | CO |
| Cortez | Montezuma-Cortez School District | Cortez | CO |
| Cortez | Cortez Area Chamber of Commerce | Cortez | CO |
| Del Norte | Chamber of Commerce | Del Norte | CO |
| Del Norte | Rio Grande County Board of County Commissioners | Del Norte | CO |
| Del Norte | High Valley Community Center | Del Norte | CO |
| Del Norte | Del Norte Federal Bank | Del Norte | CO |
| Delta | Blue Sage Center for the Arts | Paonia | CO |
| Delta | Creamery Arts Center | Hotchkiss | CO |
| Delta | Delta Chamber of Commerce | Delta | CO |
| Delta | Friends of the Delta Public Library | Delta | CO |
| Delta | Family Literacy and Resource Program | Delta | CO |
| Delta | Hotchkiss Community Chamber of Commerce | Hotchkiss | CO |
| Delta | Kids Pasta Project | Paonia | CO |
| Delta | KVNF Radio | Paonia | CO |
| Delta | Meth-Free Delta County | Delta | CO |
| Delta | Paonia Chamber of Commerce | Paonia | CO |
| Delta | Rotary Club of Paonia Colorado | Paonia | CO |
| Delta | Town of Paonia | Paonia | CO |
| Delta | North Fork Vision Home and Community Program | Paonia | CO |
| Denver | Athmar Park Patrons | Denver | CO |
| Denver | Byers Patrons | Denver | CO |
| Denver | City of Denver - Chief Information Officer | Denver | CO |
| Denver | Jeanne Robb, Denver City Council, District 10 | Denver | CO |
| Denver | City and County of Denver, Office of the Mayor | Denver | CO |
| Denver | Docent Letter | Denver | CO |
| Denver | Escuela Tlatelolco | Denver | CO |
| Denver | Community Technology Center Customers | Denver | CO |
| Dolores County | Dolores County Public Library | Dove Creek | CO |
| Dolores County | Dolores County Board of Commissioners | Dove Creek | CO |
| Dolores County | Dolores County Health Association | Dove Creek | CO |
| Dolores County | 7th Street Elementary School | Dove Creek | CO |
| Dolores County | Dolores County School District Re-2J | Dove Creek | CO |
| Dolores Public Library | Southwest Colorado Workforce Center | Durango | CO |
| Dolores Public Library | Dolores Chamber of Commerce | Dolores | CO |
| Dolores Public Library | Dolores Community Center Association | Dolores | CO |
| Dolores Public Library | Dolores School District RE-4A | Dolores | CO |
| East Morgan | Brush Chamber of Commerce | Brush | CO |
| East Morgan | Friends Organization of East Morgan County Library | Brush | CO |
| East Morgan | Brush Public Schools RE-2J | Brush | CO |
| Elbert | Big Sandy School District 100-J | Simla | CO |
| Elbert | Town of Simla | Simla | CO |
| Elbert | Board of County Commissioners | Kiowa | CO |
| Elbert | Eastern Colorado Workforce Center - Elizabeth | Elizabeth | CO |
| Elbert | Colorado East Community Action Agency | Stratton | CO |
| Elbert | Agate School District #300 | Agate | CO |
| Elbert | DOW, District Wildlife Manager | Elbert | CO |
| Fleming | Fleming Town Council - Dan Conn | Fleming | CO |
| Fleming | Frenchman RE-3 School District | Fleming | CO |
| Fleming | Fleming Town Council - Clay Gorman | Fleming | CO |
| Fleming | Fleming Library Association | Fleming | CO |
| Fort Morgan | Fort Morgan Senior Center | Fort Morgan | CO |
| Fort Morgan | Fort Morgan Workforce Center | Fort Morgan | CO |
| Fort Morgan | Morgan County Economic Development Corporation | Fort Morgan | CO |
| Fort Morgan | OneMorgan County | Fort Morgan | CO |
| Fowler | Tri-County Housing & Community Development Corporation | Fowler | CO |
| Fowler | Town of Fowler | Fowler | CO |
| Fowler | Chamber of Commerce | Fowler | CO |
| Gunnison | Literacy Action Program - GED | Gunnison | CO |
| Gunnison | City of Gunnison | Gunnison | CO |
| Gunnison | Gunnison County Board of County Commissioners | Gunnison | CO |
| Gunnison | Gunnison County Chamber of Commerce | Gunnison | CO |
| Gunnison | CSU Gunnison County Extension | Gunnison | CO |
| Gunnison | Early Childhood Council | Gunnison | CO |
| Gunnison | Western State College | Gunnison | CO |
| Lamar | Southeast Colorado Workforce Region - Lamar | Rocky Ford | CO |
| Lamar | Prowers County Board of County Commissioners | Lamar | CO |
| Lamar | Lamar Chamber of Commerce | Lamar | CO |
| Lamar | City of Lamar | Lamar | CO |
| Las Animas-Bent County | Bent County Board of County Commissioners | Las Animas | CO |
| Las Animas-Bent County | State Senator Ken Kester | Las Animas | CO |
| Las Animas-Bent County | Las Animas Elementary School | Las Animas | CO |
| Las Animas-Bent County | City of Las Animas | Las Animas | CO |
| Las Animas-Bent County | Bent County Development Foundation | Las Animas | CO |
| Limon | Eastern Colorado Workforce Center - Limon | Limon | CO |
| Limon | Limon Child Development Center | Limon | CO |
| Limon | Limon Chamber of Commerce | Limon | CO |
| Limon | John Balentyne Patron Letter | Limon | CO |

Colorado State Library BTOP PCC Grant Application - Letters of Support

| | | | |
|-------------------|--|-------------------|----|
| Limon | Janice Gill Patron Letter | Limon | CO |
| Limon | David Ratzlaff Patron Letter | Limon | CO |
| Mancos | Mancos Valley Chamber of Commerce | Mancos | CO |
| Mancos | Town of Mancos Trustee | Mancos | CO |
| Mesa County | Grand Junction Small Business Development Center | Grand Junction | CO |
| Mesa County | Colorado Immigrant Rights Coalition | Montrose | CO |
| Mesa County | Business Incubator Center | Grand Junction | CO |
| Mesa County | Grand Junction Area Chamber of Commerce | Grand Junction | CO |
| Montrose | Montrose County Board of County Commissioners | Montrose | CO |
| Montrose | City of Montrose | Montrose | CO |
| Montrose | Western Workforce Region | Montrose | CO |
| Montrose | Montrose County School District RE-1J | Montrose | CO |
| Montrose | Montrose County Schools ESL/Migrant Coordinator | Montrose | CO |
| Nucla | Town of Nucla | Nucla | CO |
| Nucla | West End Public School District RE-2 | Naturita | CO |
| Nucla | The Citizens State Bank of Ouray, Montrose County Branch | Naturita | CO |
| Nucla | West End Family Link Center | Nucla | CO |
| Nucla | West End 4-H Livestock | Nucla | CO |
| Ordway | Crowley County Nursing Center | Ordway | CO |
| Pikes Peak | Colorado Springs Senior Center | Colorado Springs | CO |
| Pikes Peak | Pikes Peak Community Action Agency | Colorado Springs | CO |
| Pikes Peak | Pikes Peak Community College | Colorado Springs | CO |
| Pikes Peak | Greater Colorado Springs Chamber of Commerce | Colorado Springs | CO |
| Pikes Peak | Harrison School District 2 | Colorado Springs | CO |
| Pikes Peak | Colorado Springs Economic Development Corporation | Colorado Springs | CO |
| Poudre River | CORE Center | Fort Collins | CO |
| Poudre River | The Family Center/La Familia | Fort Collins | CO |
| Pueblo | Pueblo Community College | Pueblo | CO |
| Pueblo | Southern Colorado Small Business Development Center | Pueblo | CO |
| Pueblo | El Pueblo Learning & Technology Services | Pueblo | CO |
| Pueblo | Fray Angelico Chapter, GSHA-Pueblo | Pueblo | CO |
| Pueblo | Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Pueblo | Pueblo | CO |
| Pueblo | The Center for Disabilities | Pueblo | CO |
| Pueblo | City of Pueblo Office of the City Council | Pueblo | CO |
| Pueblo | Board of Pueblo County Commissioners | Pueblo | CO |
| Pueblo | Pueblo Workforce Center | Pueblo | CO |
| Rangeview | City of Commerce City | Commerce City | CO |
| Red Feather | Larimer County Board of County Commissioners | Fort Collins | CO |
| Red Feather | Red Feather Lakes Planning Advisory Committee | Red Feather Lakes | CO |
| Red Feather | Red Feather Lakes Fire Protection District | Red Feather Lakes | CO |
| Red Feather | Red Feather Lakes Elementary School | Red Feather Lakes | CO |
| Red Feather | Miramont Family Medicine of Red Feather Lakes | Red Feather Lakes | CO |
| Rocky Ford | Southeast Colorado Workforce Region - Rocky Ford | Rocky Ford | CO |
| Rocky Ford | Chris' Computer Connection | Rocky Ford | CO |
| Rocky Ford | Rocky Ford School District | Rocky Ford | CO |
| Silverton | Patron Letter | Silverton | CO |
| Silverton | San Juan Development Association | Silverton | CO |
| Silverton | Town of Silverton | Silverton | CO |
| Silverton | Silverton Area Chamber of Commerce | Silverton | CO |
| Southern Teller | Patron Letter | Cripple Creek | CO |
| Southern Teller | Cripple Creek-Victor School District | Cripple Creek | CO |
| Southern Teller | Aspen Mine Center | Cripple Creek | CO |
| Spanish Peaks | Las Animas Huerfano County Family Resource Center | Walsenburg | CO |
| Spanish Peaks | Huerfano Board of County Commissioners | Walsenburg | CO |
| Spanish Peaks | Spanish Peaks Regional Health Center | Walsenburg | CO |
| Spanish Peaks | City of Walsenburg | Walsenburg | CO |
| Spanish Peaks | Huerfano County Chamber of Commerce | Walsenburg | CO |
| Sterling | RE-1 Valley School District | Sterling | CO |
| Sterling | Eastern Colorado Workforce Center - Sterling | Sterling | CO |
| Swink | Swink School District | Swink | CO |
| Trinidad/Carnegie | Trinidad & Las Animas County Chamber of Commerce | Trinidad | CO |
| Trinidad/Carnegie | South Central Colorado Workforce Center | Rocky Ford | CO |
| Trinidad/Carnegie | Friends of Historic Branson | Branson | CO |
| Upper San Juan | Archuleta Board of County Commissioners | Pagosa Springs | CO |
| Upper San Juan | Pagosa Springs Area Chamber of Commerce | Pagosa Springs | CO |
| Upper San Juan | Archuleta County Education Center | Pagosa Springs | CO |
| Upper San Juan | Town of Pagosa Springs | Pagosa Springs | CO |
| Upper San Juan | Pagosa Springs Youth Center | Pagosa Springs | CO |
| Wray | Sampson Patron Letter | Wray | CO |
| Wray | Wray Public Library Board of Trustees | Wray | CO |

STATE OF COLORADO

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

136 State Capitol Building
Denver, Colorado 80203
(303) 866 - 2471
(303) 866 - 2003 fax



Bill Ritter, Jr.
Governor

March 10, 2010

Administrator Lawrence Strickland
National Telecommunications and Information Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20230

Re: Colorado State Library's Application for Broadband Technology Opportunities Program Public Computer Center Grant

Dear Mr. Strickland:

I urge you and your BTOP team to support the application submitted by the Colorado State Library, in partnership with 76 Colorado public libraries and two Ute tribal libraries. The grant will impact a total service area of **2.5 million people** with training and resources to underserved and unserved populations including those with low income, low education levels, low broadband penetration, and disabilities.

In my own path to achievement I utilized the public library in my community to gain knowledge that helped me excel. Through this grant, we would like to afford other Coloradans with the opportunity that access to the Internet and 21st Century resources can provide. With this grant, Colorado will be adding **692 laptops, 450 desktops, 68 ADA stations, 55 laptop carts**, and other hardware and software to these public computer centers. These additional computers will reduce wait times in public libraries and allow the state and local agencies to provide training and support for those with highest need.

One goal of this grant program is to offer **10,000 classes** over a two-year period in the various computer labs throughout the state. The State Library has developed partnerships to make this feasible including the Colorado Department of Labor Workforce Centers, Colorado Community College System, Colorado Adult Education and Family Literacy, Colorado GED Testing Centers, College in Colorado, National Libraries of Medicine, and the Colorado Department of Education English Language Acquisition Unit. Along with much-needed basic computer training, residents in these 76 communities will have training opportunities in workforce development, English as a second language, and resources such as GED and college preparation, consumer health, and other online learning and research tools.

At a local level, public and tribal libraries are collaborating with town and regional partners as witnessed by the 25+ partnership letters submitted from local agencies. Colorado is a locally strong state. Each community is planning for the most effective use of the public computer centers to meet the specific needs of each community. In Lamar, for example, the Future Business Leaders of America at the high

school intend to provide computer training classes for the public. In Red Feather Lakes, emergency services is needing these computers to access online training which would otherwise be unavailable to them in their remote location. In Cortez, the Sleeping Ute Mountain Chapter of D.A.R. is preparing genealogy classes.

For each of these 76 communities, local plans are beginning. Included in the application are 158 letters of support from city and county agencies, Chambers of Commerce, school districts, community colleges, and other local entities as a testament to the excitement and need for these Public Computer Centers in these diverse locations.

The Colorado State Library has a proven track record of implementing statewide initiatives in local libraries. In 2008, with an additional \$1,000,000 in state funds allocated for online databases, the State Library put together a package for local libraries that saw a 76% increase in the use of resources. This success is due to a strategic roll out which included statewide training and marketing support for local libraries and staff.

I strongly urge you to support the Colorado State Library's proposal for Public Computer Centers in Colorado. With BTOP Public Computer Centers, the neediest Coloradans will have the resources they need to improve their education and their lives. Thank you for your consideration. Please keep my office informed of any developments related to this proposal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bill Ritter, Jr." with a stylized flourish at the end.

Bill Ritter, Jr.
Governor

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

March 9, 2010

Members of the Review Panel
Broadband Technology Opportunities Program
National Telecommunications and Information Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20230

Dear Review Panel Members:

I am pleased to write this letter of support on behalf of the Colorado State Library. The Colorado State Library is working to secure federal funding through the National Telecommunications and Information Administration's Broadband Technology Opportunities Program. The Colorado State Library seeks to use this funding to dramatically improve broadband access at libraries in 78 different locations across the State of Colorado.

With the funds received from this grant, the Colorado State Library will create a new program, Bridging Colorado's Great Digital Divide. Bridging Colorado's Great Digital Divide is designed to provide for the computing needs of residents living in areas with high rates of poverty and limited access to free public computers with broadband Internet connections. The program hopes to provide 76 community libraries and two Ute Indian Tribal Centers with 795 laptop computers, 472 desktop computers, 57 mobile laptop carts, and 70 ADA compliant workstations. The program also plans to provide participating libraries and community centers with training and educational resources. Each location can help individuals by providing training in basic computer skills, essential software applications, access to online employment databases, community and governmental resources, and a connection to online learning programs.

The facilities enabled by funds from this grant will help address serious needs for broadband internet access among poor and unemployed Coloradans. I ask that you give the Colorado State Library's application every appropriate consideration consistent with all applicable laws and regulations.

Sincerely,



Mark Udall
United States Senator

MEU/hf

JOHN T. SALAZAR
3RD DISTRICT OF COLORADO

326 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
202-225-4761
202-226-9669 (FAX)



COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS
SUBCOMMITTEE ON
ENERGY AND WATER

SUBCOMMITTEE ON
MILITARY CONSTRUCTION AND
VETERANS' AFFAIRS

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

March 5, 2010

Broadband Technology Opportunities Program
National Telecommunications and Information Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20230

**Re: Colorado State Library's Application for Broadband Technology Opportunities
Program Public Computing Center Grant**

Dear members of the BTOP Review Panel:

I urge you to support an application submitted by the Colorado State Library, in partnership with 76 public libraries, two Ute Indian reservations, the National Library of Medicine, Colorado Workforce Centers, College in Colorado, Colorado Family and Adult Education, Colorado GED Testing Centers, and local immigrant facilities for a Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP) Public Computing Center Grant through the Department of Commerce. With these funds, the Colorado State Library hopes to implement their "Bridging Colorado's Great Digital Divide" project, which aims to provide additional computer equipment and enhance access to public computing centers for educational purposes, computer skills training, job database searches, and government resources for communities with high poverty rates.

As a fifth generation farmer and rancher from the San Luis Valley and a champion of rural Colorado, I understand how important quality public internet access and computer skills training are for my constituents in Colorado's 3rd Congressional District. With BTOP Computing Center funds, the Colorado State Library will purchase 692 laptop computers, 450 desktop computers, 55 mobile laptop carts, and 68 ADA compliant work stations for libraries throughout Colorado, including 34 in my rural district. The applicants also plan to provide training in basic computer skills, accessing college education, adult education, consumer health information, english-as-a-second-language training and work force development

I strongly urge you to support this proposal. With BTOP Public Computing Center funds, the Colorado State Library has an incredible opportunity to serve as a credible umbrella agency with a successful track record of success to pool limited resources to accomplish together what no one

134 WEST B STREET
PUEBLO, CO 81003
719-543-8200
719-543-8204 (FAX)

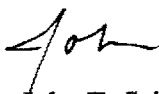
225 NORTH 5TH STREET, STE 702
GRAND JUNCTION, CO 81501
970-245-7107
970-245-2194 (FAX)

609 MAIN STREET, #6
ALAMOSA, CO 81101
719-587-5105
719-587-5137 (FAX)

813 MAIN AVENUE, STE 300
DURANGO, CO 81301
970-259-1012
970-259-9467 (FAX)

entity could accomplish alone. Thank you for your consideration. Please keep my Alamosa office informed of any developments related to this proposal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John", written in a cursive style.

John T. Salazar
Member of Congress

MAR. 9. 2010 3:08PM

JARED POLIS

NO. 368 P. 2

JARED POLIS
2ND DISTRICT, COLORADO

501 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-0802
(202) 225-2181
(202) 226-7840 (FAX)

website and email
<http://polis.house.gov>



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

March 9, 2010

COMMITTEES:
COMMITTEE ON
EDUCATION AND LABOR
SUBCOMMITTEES
EARLY CHILDHOOD, ELEMENTARY AND
SECONDARY EDUCATION
HIGHER EDUCATION, LIFELONG LEARNING
AND COMPETITIVENESS
HEALTHY FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES
COMMITTEE ON RULES
STEERING AND POLICY

Broadband Technology Opportunities Program
1401 Constitution Ave, NW
Washington, DC 20230

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to express my strong support for the Colorado State Library's American Recovery and Reinvestment Act BTOP Public Computing Center Grant Application.

Public computer access in libraries and on reservations is essential for these populations to access education, basic computer skills training, jobs databases, government resources, and other online resources.

Should this grant application be approved, the grant funding would go towards enhancing and creating public computing access in 76 communities and the two Ute Indian Tribe centers in Colorado. The additional computers will serve areas with high poverty rates and vulnerable populations.

For many of our neediest citizens, libraries are often the only place to access the internet free of cost. Unfortunately, in a time when citizens have an especially strong need for expanded free public internet access, local budgets have been cut, which has resulted in decreased access

I strongly endorse the CSL's planned BTOP proposal to provide training in the areas of basic computer skills, accessing college education, adult education, consumer health information, english as a second language, and workforce development. These align with some of the strongest needs in Colorado.

The proposal's strategy of community outreach, library staff training and development of state-wide and local partnerships is an effective strategy to meet these needs. The addition of a public awareness marketing campaign will help to inform these populations of the vital need to adapt to online technology in the 21st Century.

Furthermore, the Colorado State Library has a track record for successfully managing grants and assisting local libraries in meeting the needs of Colorado communities. I believe they are highly qualified to execute the outlined grant application.

DISTRICT OFFICES

BOULDER OFFICE
4770 BASELINE ROAD, SUITE 220
BOULDER, CO 80303
303-484-8596
303-588-9007 (FAX)

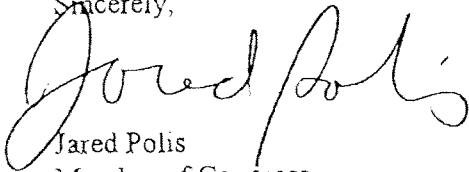
MOUNTAIN OFFICE
101 WEST MAIN STREET, SUITE 1010
FRISCO, CO 80643
970-688-3240

THORNTON OFFICE
1200 EAST 78TH AVENUE, SUITE 105
THORNTON, CO 80229
303-287-4158

PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER

I encourage you to support the Colorado State Library's grant application, consistent with all applicable laws and regulations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jared Polis". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Jared Polis
Member of Congress

DIANA DeGETTE
1st DISTRICT, COLORADO

2335 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-4431
FAX (202) 225-6657

DISTRICT OFFICE:
800 GRANT STREET, SUITE 202
DENVER, CO 80203
(303) 844-4988
FAX (303) 844-4996

<http://dgette.house.gov>

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-4329

CHIEF DEPUTY WHIP
COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND
COMMERCE
VICE CHAIRMAN
SUBCOMMITTEE ON HEALTH
SUBCOMMITTEE ON
COMMUNICATIONS, TECHNOLOGY AND
THE INTERNET
SUBCOMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND
INVESTIGATION
SUBCOMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, TRADE
AND CONSUMER PROTECTION
COMMITTEE ON NATURAL
RESOURCES
SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL PARKS,
FORESTS AND PUBLIC LANDS
SUBCOMMITTEE ON INSULAR AFFAIRS,
OCEANS AND WILDLIFE

February 25, 2010

Honorable Larry Strickland
Assistant Secretary of Commerce
Administrator, National Telecommunications and Information Administration
U. S. Department of Commerce
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Assistant Secretary Strickling:

I am writing to support the application of the Colorado State Library for a second round American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) Broadband Technology Opportunity Program Public Computing Center grant. If funded, the State of Colorado will create or enhance seventy-eight public computer centers in Colorado, including seven in the First Congressional District, in low-income, diverse and underserved areas, including the state's Native American tribes. With this funding, nearly \$4 million will be used to expand computing capacity in libraries, schools and community centers through a series of fixed and mobile computer labs.

The project will use community outreach, library staff training, and development of state-wide, local and other partnerships to meet community needs. Current partners include, but are not limited to: The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, the Denver Public Library and more than seventy other libraries throughout the state, the Mountain Ute and Southern Ute Tribal Museum and tribes, College in Colorado, and, the Colorado Community College system.

The grant proposal focuses on four areas of need of interest to the citizens of Colorado: 1) increasing minority and rural access to education; 2) increasing education levels; 3) increasing income levels; and, 4) providing computing center access to disabled persons. This project, in addition to providing access to core programs, will provide sessions for high school students on college admissions, online college courses and financial aid resources. As a pilot State for computer-based testing for the General Education Degree (GED), it will increase public access that will enhance the goals of the project to improve educational services and computer skills training to those who do not have college degrees. Each of the upgraded libraries will have jobs database access, in partnership with state and local agencies that provide workforce development programs leveraging computers. ADA-compliant

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

workstations will be provided and library staff will be trained to engage and serve disabled and elderly citizens.

Please give the Colorado State Library's collaborative application for a Broadband Technology Opportunity Program Public Computing Center Grant application you appropriate consideration. Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Diana DeGette". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "D".

Diana DeGette
Member of Congress

John W. Hickenlooper
MAYOR



City and County of Denver

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY AND COUNTY BUILDING
DENVER, COLORADO • 80202-5390
TELEPHONE: 720-865-9000 • FAX: 720-865-9040
TTY/TTD: 720-865-9010

March 5, 2010

Eugene Hainer, Assistant Commissioner
Colorado State Library
201 E. Colfax Avenue
Denver, CO 80203

**Re: Colorado State Library Public Computing Center Grant Proposal
"Bridging Colorado's Great Digital Divide"**

Dear Grant Review Panel:

I am pleased to write this letter in support of the Colorado State Library's application for a Public Computing Center Grant in the second round of American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funding through the NTIA/BTOP program.

The proposed project, "Bridging Colorado's Great Digital Divide" will provide enhanced public computing access at public libraries in a total of 76 Colorado communities including the Denver Public Library, as well as at two Ute Indian Tribal Centers. The project will address the needs of Colorado residents living in areas with high rates of poverty and unemployment and limited access to free public computing facilities and free broadband Internet connectivity.

As individuals and families have faced the challenges of the economic downturn and increased unemployment, they have increasingly turned to public libraries. For many of these vulnerable individuals, their local public library is the only place that provides free computing and online resources. This access to computers and the Internet is essential for basic educational needs, computer skills training, job search skills, employment databases, and community, government and other online resources.

Just as people have faced hardships, communities have been similarly impacted by the economic situation. Cities around the country, including the City of Denver, are finding that decreased revenues make it impossible to provide additional funding to update and improve library public computing centers. The Colorado State Library's proposed project will provide the computers and equipment needed to enhance these computing centers in 78 Colorado communities.

The "Bridging Colorado's Great Digital Divide" proposal requests a total of 1,175 new computers to be distributed among the 78 Colorado locations. The Denver Public Library would receive 257 of these computers to be used at the Central Library and at six of DPL's branches located in neighborhoods with high levels of poverty, unemployment, minority populations and non-English speakers. These new computers will enable DPL to provide well-equipped computer labs and training facilities for Denver residents having a great need for and limited free access to computers and the Internet.

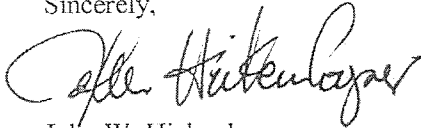
The Colorado State Library's proposed project will also provide training and education services that will help meet Denver's and Colorado's greatest challenges, including: training in basic computer skills and essential software applications, workforce development, adult education, access to college education, English language learning and access to consumer health and financial information.

The proposal includes a strategic plan of community outreach, library staff development, and implementation of a statewide network of local partnerships to leverage resources and provide ongoing sustainability for the project. Also included is a marketing campaign geared toward the targeted populations, stressing the vital importance of developing the technology skills essential to 21st Century success.

Colorado State Library's staff has a strong record of managing grants and assisting local libraries in meeting the needs of Colorado communities. They will bring this expertise to the successful implementation of the proposed Public Computing Center project.

Thank you for your consideration of this application. I strongly endorse funding of this project on behalf of the residents of the City of Denver and the State of Colorado.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John W. Hickenlooper". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and "H".

John W. Hickenlooper
Mayor



Assistive Technology Partners

BREAKING BARRIERS, CHANGING LIVES

February 5, 2010

Dear BTOP Proposal Reviewer,

This is a letter of support for the Colorado State Library's grant proposal for Public Computing Centers in Colorado libraries.

The Colorado State Library (CSL) grant proposal includes the acquisition of ADA public work stations at each participating library. This inclusion of hardware and software to meet the needs of the blind, vision impaired and physically handicapped is vital to serving the needs of our disabled population.

Our agency Assistive Technology Partners/WesTAC provides training and support for those with disabilities in Western Colorado. We recognize that the addition of ADA workstations in nearby public libraries will increase the ability of our clients to gain better access to computers as well as learn increased proficiency.

Assistive Technology Partners/WesTAC has reviewed and provided input into the components of these workstations that the CSL intends to place in the libraries. We believe that the specific components are standard solutions which would meet the needs of many Colorado's handicapped residents. Because many of our clients are unable to afford computers and the addition equipment at home, we look forward to sending them to the public library as an option during and after their work with us.

Having these ADA workstations will significantly increase the libraries' ability to service the ADA community with both informal access to computers and the Intranet as well as with the formal training and computer support which is also a part of this grant application. We believe this is a nice complement to the training and programs we offer.

Sincerely,

Denice Roberts
Instructor/Assistive Technology Specialist
ATP/WesTAC
Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation
University of Colorado Denver
2897 North Avenue, Modular 3A
Grand Junction, CO 81501
970-248-0876 phone
970-248-0877 fax/tty
Website: www.assistivetechologypartners.org



University of Colorado at Denver
and Health Sciences Center



Blue Peaks Developmental Services, Inc.

703 Fourth Street • Alamosa, Colorado 81101
(719) 589-5135 • Fax (719) 589-0680
www.bluepeaks.org

Eugene Hainer, Assistant Commissioner
Colorado State Library
201 E. Colfax Ave.

Dear Mr. Hainer,

I am the Executive Director at Blue Peaks Developmental Services, Inc. We provide services and supports for developmentally disabled individuals and their families. On behalf of my organization, I am writing in support of the Colorado State Library's Public Computing Center application for the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program. I am particularly excited about the benefits that enhanced computing and Internet access at the Southern Peaks Public Library will bring to our community.

Our community does not have this type of technology available for our consumers and their families at present and most of them cannot afford their own. Ours is a very vulnerable population with very few options available to them. This would allow them and their families the ability to compete on a larger scale.

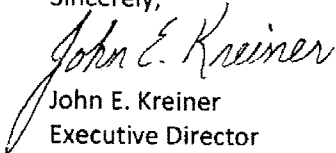
We strive to prepare our consumers to be contributing members of the community and be as independent as possible. The use of the computers and Internet access will provide information and assistance in ways that are unexplored at this time. This will help some of our folks to be on a more even level with other members of our society.

I feel that some of our consumers will find this a challenge to use but with the proper training and support will also find it rewarding. It will open some educational and work avenues that are non-existent now. I also feel the rest of the community will utilize the library more frequently and this could lead to better relationships between agencies and business concerns.

Working with Southern Peaks Public Library, a library participating in the Colorado State Library proposal, we hope they are awarded these funds because of the significant impact on both our community and our consumers.

Blue Peaks appreciates the Colorado State Library's submission and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration's Consideration of the application.

Sincerely,



John E. Kreiner
Executive Director



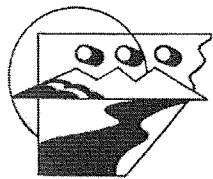
Alamosa County Economic Development Corp

610 State Ave
Alamosa CO 81101

719-589-3681

John Eland
Executive Director

719-588-7609 cell



Alamosa County
Chamber of Commerce



March 4, 2010

Eugene Hainer, Assistant Commissioner
Colorado State Library
201 E. Colfax Avenue
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Mr. Hainer:

I am the Executive Director at the Alamosa County Economic Development Corporation and the Alamosa County Chamber of Commerce. On behalf of my organization, I am writing in support of the Colorado State Library's Public Computing Center application for the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program. I am particularly excited about the benefits, such as helping our residents keep up with employment and job seeking skills, that enhanced computing and Internet access at the Southern Peaks Public Library will bring to our community.

The San Luis Valley is isolated from the rest of the world by distance and significant mountain passes. Our economy has struggled for a long time. The funds the Southern Peaks Public Library is seeking will help bridge that isolation with access to computer technology and the internet. The availability of this technology will help residents to keep up with the employment and job seeking skills that today's business community demands. The Alamosa County Chamber of Commerce and Economic Development Corporation will help promote the use of these resources in presentations, on our radio interviews and our monthly newsletter. We will encourage the business community to spread the word of its availability to their employees and their families.

Working with the Southern Peaks Public Library, a library participating in the Colorado State Library proposal, we hope we are awarded these funds because of the significant impact on both our community and others throughout Colorado.

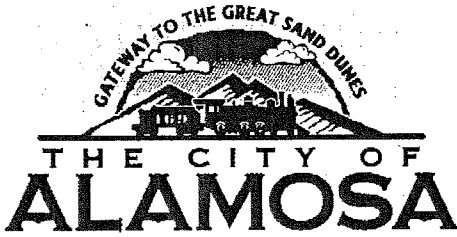
The Alamosa County Economic Development Corporation and Alamosa County Chamber of Commerce appreciates the Colorado State Library's submission and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration's consideration of this application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John E. Eland'.

John E. Eland
Executive Director

"To Create and Sustain Economic and Community Development in Our County"
alamosa.org johneland@alamosacountyedc.com



Eugene Hainer, Assistant Commissioner
Colorado State Library
201 E. Colfax Avenue
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Mr. Hainer:

I am the Mayor of the City of Alamosa. On behalf of my constituents and City Council, I am writing in support of the Colorado State Library's Public Computing Center application for the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program. I am particularly excited about the benefits such as the ADA compliant work stations and computer features that will make computer access possible for a population we've not been able to serve well in this capacity at the Southern Peaks Public Library in the past.

While the Southern Peaks Public Library is the most heavily utilized recreational opportunity in our community, it lacks resources to serve all who wish to use it. Alamosa, and the San Luis Valley, are among the poorest communities in the state of Colorado, and the nation, for that matter. Many people in our community do not have the fortune of owning personal computers and heavily rely on our library to provide that outlet for them. Our library not only serves the city of Alamosa, but also the entire San Luis Valley, which has a population of nearly 50,000 people.

The city of Alamosa is committed to its public library. As a city with very limited resources and great needs, we find it very difficult to keep up with the growing needs of such a valuable asset. While we will continue to contribute and dedicate funds for operations and improvements, there is never enough to make the kind of improvements that funding such as this would facilitate. This funding is crucial to provide opportunities you will see within the application.

Our local library offers such a great service to the entire San Luis Valley by offering the use of computers. The enhancement of this popular program will benefit our entire community. This will improve the ability for people to access jobs, receive education, and gain information in order to increase their knowledge on health related topics, and other information which would be at their fingertips with the computer expansion/enhancement at our Southern Peaks Public Library.

Working with the Southern Peaks Public Library, a library participating in the Colorado State Library proposal, we hope we are awarded these funds because of the significant impact on both our community and others throughout Colorado.

The City of Alamosa appreciates the Colorado State Library's submission and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration's consideration of this application.

Sincerely,

Kathleen J. Rogers, Mayor



March 3, 2010

Eugene Hainer, Assistant Commissioner
Colorado State Library
201 E. Colfax Avenue
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Mr. Hainer:

I am the On Line, On Site Mathematics Instructor at the Alamosa Campus of Trinidad State Junior College. On behalf of my organization, I am writing in support of the Colorado State Library's Public Computing Center application for the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program. I am particularly excited about the benefits, such as allowing our math students internet access at times they cannot be in class. Not all of the ALEKS Math students have computing capabilities at home. Enhanced computing and Internet access at the Southern Peaks Public Library will bring flexible classroom teaching to our community.

. My students are in the non-traditional remedial math category. This expanded access will be of great assistance in helping to overcome many of the obstacles to education they face. Two examples are the parent with small children who cannot be present in a traditional classroom, or the worker attempting to gain an education while holding a job.

The library will provide easier access to the on-line math classroom since TSJC students come from all over the San Luis Valley. We at times do not have enough computers available in the Math classroom. Other obstacles to attendance include weather, the high cost of gasoline, baby sitter problems, and conflicts with the area schools.

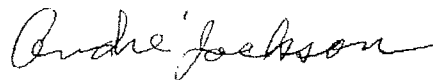
The type of financial match will be training. These math students will be trained to be computer literate in their math class.

We will determine the impact by data collected when a student logs into the math class. The math instructor gets a "Time and Topic" report which list the number of topics mastered per hour/log-in.

Working with the Southern Peaks Public Library, a library participating in the Colorado State Library proposal, we hope we are awarded these funds because of the significant impact on both our community and others throughout Colorado.

The Trinidad Alamosa Campus appreciates the Colorado State Library's submission and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration's consideration of this application.

Sincerely,



Andre' Jackson
Mathematics Instructor

BURLINGTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

321 14th St.
Burlington, Colo. 80807
Phone (719) 346-8109

March 1, 2010

Eugene Hainer, Assistant Commissioner
Colorado State Library
210 E. Colfax Avenue
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Mr. Hainer:

I am the President of the Burlington Public Library Board of Trustees. On behalf of my organization, I am writing in support of the Colorado State Library's Public Computing Center Application for the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program.

The reason our community has not been able to expand in this direction is our lack of funding from our city – major cutbacks in all areas.

The purpose of the Burlington Public Library is to provide patrons of all ages, in our culturally diverse community, easy access to a broad collection of materials in a variety of media that record our knowledge, ideas and culture and to offer guidance and encouragement in their use.

If we receive this grant, our community will receive more support for job searching, educational support for high need populations and access to reliable health information and e-government websites. For the first time, we will have ADA Compliant work stations in our library. We are also requesting laptop labs that can be used in other agencies so our community can take advantage of this technology.

The Library Board of Trustees has a special fund from our book sales that we will use as a match for the grant.

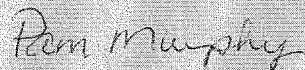
Working with The Burlington Public Library, a library participating in the Colorado State Library proposal, we hope we are awarded these funds because of the significant impact on our community and others throughout Colorado.

BURLINGTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

321 14th St.
Burlington, Colo. 80807
Phone (719) 346-8109

The Burlington Public Library Board of Trustees of Burlington, CO appreciates the Colorado State Library's submission and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration's consideration of this application.

Sincerely,



Pam Murphy
President
Burlington Public Library Board of Trustees

2-24-10

Eugene Hainer, Assistant Commissioner
Colorado State Library
201 E. Colfax Avenue
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Mr. Hainer:

I am the Manager of the Colorado Welcome Center in Burlington. I work directly for the Colorado Tourism Office and the Office of Economic Development and Interantional Trade. On behalf of my organization, I am writing in support of the Colorado State Library's Public Computing Center application for the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program. I am particularly excited about the benefits to the traveling public that we serve here at the Welcome Center who may need enhanced computing and Internet access at the Burlington Public Library while they are visiting our community or are here for an extended stay and need that sort of assistance to keep in touch with family and business partners.

Our community is perfectly situated on interstate 70 to serve the needs of travelers as they pass by. Burlington is a haven for them during bad weather and a great place to stop overnight or to visit our attractions or attend one of our various events. However we are a small locale in an agricultural area that is hard hit by economic downturns. Our population supports what it can but we rely heavily on the influx of tourism dollars as a vital source of income to our local economy. Providing all possible services, likeBroadband Internet access to these travelers increases the likelihood that they may spend more time and money in our community.

At the Welcome Center we serve around 200,000 people per year heading west bound into Colorado. Many of these travelers are in need of booking travel, searching real estate options, looking for business opportunities and printing off documents while they travel on business or leisure.

While I-70 is a great avenue for us to capture travelers it also bypasses our community and we struggle to capture all of the potential travel market as it passes by. The more we can offer travelers and the better we promote what we offerthe more people will stop and stay. At the Welcome Center we are open 7 days a week and we can and will promote the Burlington Public Library internet services to the 200,000 people who stop at the Welcome Center.

Our mission as a state operated Welcome Center is to provide sincere hospitality, travel assistance and information to influence travelers to stay longer and spend more money in Colorado so that we can increase tax revenues. Longwoods International who studies tourism expenditures nationally has shown that for every dollar Colorado spends to promote itself the state collects \$157 dollars in tax revenue. That saves the Colorado family \$400 per year in taxes they would normally have to pay that is paid by tourists to

our state. We are able to have this great Return on Investment because we are efficient, have a great product to offer and by leveraging our dollars to fullest extent. Offering a great product with expanded services here in Burlington will create the same return on your investment to our Library. By providing more travel related services in Burlington we can influence them to stay here. The Burlington Library internet services would be part of the services travelers are looking for.

I also believe the benefits of expanded internet services at the Library to our local citizens is a great way to serve the community. Not everyone has access to a computer. This would be a great benefit for our students, for families and for the elderly interested in computer utilization.

Working with the Burlington Public Library, a library participating in the Colorado State Library proposal, we hope we are awarded these funds because of the significant impact on both our community and others throughout Colorado.

The Colorado Welcome Center appreciates the Colorado State Library's submission and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration's consideration of this application.

Sincerely,



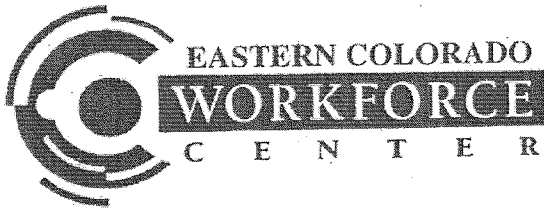
Kendra Rhoades, Mgr

Colorado Welcome Center

A division of the Colorado Tourism Office

and the Office of Economic Development and International Trade.





March 3, 2010

Eugene Hainer, Assistant Commissioner
Colorado State Library
201 E. Colfax Avenue
Denver, Co 80203

Dear Mr. Hainer:

I am the Labor and Employment Specialist at the Burlington Workforce Center (BWFC). On behalf of the organization, I am writing in support of the Colorado State Library's Public Computing Center Applications for the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program. I am particularly excited about the benefits, such as expanding the public computer lab, as it will enhance computer and Internet access that the Burlington Public Library will be able to offer to our community.

As a Colorado Workforce Center employee, I have seen first hand an increase in the local unemployment rates. Families are falling into situational poverty or teetering on the edge, taking every opportunity to lower their daily living expenses. Many community members are experiencing a need to eliminate luxury items such as Internet access. As a rural community the availability of these kinds of resources would be well received, and cover a wide range of users and needs. From grade school students needing research to older residents needing information and even the occasional traveler who is exploring what our community may have to offer.

As part of the Colorado Department of Labor & Employment workforce development programs the severity of budget cuts is well understood. One of the services we provide is 3 public computers available at no cost to our customers, however, it is not enough. We must limit their computer usage to employment related activities. On a regular basis we find it necessary to refer customers to the Burlington Public Library as a very professional environment to complete work search activities. There is a need for more public computers with Internet accessibility in our community.

I am certain there would be more opportunity for members of the community to conduct their work search while influencing their family towards an educational environment. There would be a larger opportunity for the Burlington Public Library to host community activities requiring computer applications or Internet accessibility. BWFC welcomes the opportunity to partner with the Burlington Public library in these endeavors.

We consistently partner with the Burlington Public Library in hosting work experience opportunity for youths, as we know local budgets are spread thin yet the quality of service they provide holds strong. Also we recommend their services to families looking for an inexpensive way to partake in educational family activities. Working with the Burlington Public Library as it participates in the Colorado State Library proposal, we hope to see an award of funds because of the significant impact on both our community and others throughout Colorado.

The Burlington Workforce Center appreciates the Colorado State Library's submission and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration's consideration on this application.

Sincerely,

Jennifer R. Beck
Labor & Employment Specialist

BURLINGTON

1490-A Martin Ave
P.O. Box 115
Burlington, CO 80807
(719) 346-5331

ELIZABETH

392 Main
P.O. Box 538
Elizabeth, CO 80107
(303) 646-2783

FORT MORGAN

411 Main Street, Suite 200
Fort Morgan, CO 80701
(970) 867-9401

LIMON

179 E Avenue
P.O. Box 875
Limon, CO 80828
(719) 775-2387

STERLING

NJC - Walker Hall #22
100 College Drive
Sterling, CO 80751
(970) 522-9340

YUMA

215 S. Main Street
Yuma, CO 80759
(970) 848-3760

RIO GRANDE COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

rgcommissioner@riograndecounty.org

925 6th St., Room 207
Del Norte, Colorado
81132
(719) 657-2744
Fax (719) 657-2514

February 24, 2010

To Whom It May Concern:

BOARD OF
COMMISSIONERS

Rio Grande County Board of County Commissioners supports the application being made by the Carnegie Public Library for the Colorado State Library's Public Computing Center for the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program.

Douglas M. Davie
Chairman

Robert Hagedorn
Commissioner

Dennis Murphy, Jr.
Vice Chairman

ADMINISTRATOR

Suzanne L. Benton

Carnegie Public Library is requesting funding for new computers and equipment so that the community members can obtain job search information, educational support for high-need populations, and access to reliable health information and e-government websites.

Being an economically depressed area with high unemployment, the Library is the only facility that provides computers and internet access for a large portion of the population. This is one of the major services utilized by the residents at the Library.

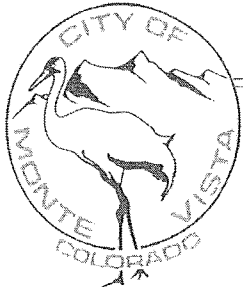
We urge your support of this application.

Sincerely,



Doug Davie
Chairman of the Board

/slb



CITY OF MONTE VISTA

www.ci.monte-vista.co.us

4 Chico Camino in Colorado 81144

City Manager: (719) 852-2692
City Services: (719) 852-5926
Parks & Recreation: (719) 852-4575
Administration: (719) 852-5926

City Manager & City Clerk Fax: (719) 852-6172
Human Resources Fax: (719) 852-6176
Finance Department Fax: (719) 852-6167

February 23, 2010

Eugene Hainer, Assistant Commissioner, Colorado State Library
201 E. Colfax Avenue
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Mr. Hainer:

I am the City Manager for the city of Monte Vista. On behalf of the city council and the fine citizens of our community, I am writing in support of the Colorado State Library's Public Computing Center application for the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program. I am particularly excited about the benefits, such as increased accessibility to technology for our community members. With enhanced computer and Internet access at the Carnegie Public Library it will bring our community into new era of technology.

The economy in the Monte Vista area is very stressed with the recent recession we have experienced. Approximately 2-5% of the community members have lost business or jobs with the cut back in spending in this area. There are few individuals in this area with high speed internet service do to these areas demographics. Many individuals cannot afford internet service, unless they go to a library.

Our organization uses computers on a daily bases, however, we have a no use policy for personal use of staff abusing the use of the internet. Many of our staff members use the library as a resource for personal manners. If technology upgrades were available at our local library we believe many staff members, as well as, their family members would take advantage of the improvements. Often staff members need to access the internet for health information, traveling directions, and school projects for their children.

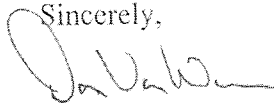
Job searches for family members have been a high priority during this time of economic changes. Approximately .2% of our staff's spouses are seeking employment at this time.

The library has been offering computer classes for community members; however, often the classes are full. If there is an increase in the computers for public use, many of our staff members would also take advantage of the classes.

Working with Carnegie Public Library, a library participating in the Colorado State Library proposal, we hope we are awarded these funds because of the significant impact on both our community and others throughout Colorado.

The city of Monte Vista appreciates the Colorado State Library's submission and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration's consideration of this application.

Sincerely,



Don Van Wormer
Monte Vista City Manager



March 4, 2010

Eugene Hainer, Assistant Commissioner
Colorado State Library
201 E. Colfax Avenue
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Mr. Hainer:

I am the Director of Learning Services Support at the Trinidad School District #1. On behalf of my organization, I am writing in support of the Colorado State Library's Public Computing Center application for the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program. I am particularly excited about the benefits, such as access to computers, educational support for parents and additional added support for job searching.

The Trinidad community is a high needs area with low socioeconomics and a lack of appropriate parent involvement in education. One economic challenge has been that the Pioneer Natural Resources Company has had to shut down all of its drill rigs in the Trinidad area forcing many families to move putting a major strain on our local economy. Many homes in our area do not have computers or Internet access.

Our school district is very much behind the times in technology and could be called "technology poor". For example at Fishers Peak Elementary we currently have 450 students and one computer lab with 25 computers. Students and parents do not have access to computers after school in three of our four schools.

Access to computers for our students and parents will benefit the district by providing additional access to student information regarding student progress through a web-based data system called Power School. It will also allow students opportunities that are not provided at school or at home. We are willing to assist the library in providing training for parents and can track the use of the program following training.

The Trinidad School District appreciates the Colorado State Library's submission and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration's consideration of this application.

Sincerely,

Virginia Goddard
Director of Learning Services

A great place to start...



...or start over!

March 5, 2010

Eugene Hainer, Assistant Commissioner
Colorado State Library
201 E. Colfax Avenue
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Mr. Hainer:

On behalf of Trinidad State Junior College, I am writing in support of the Colorado State Library's Public Computing Center application for the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program. I am particularly excited about the benefits such as support for job searching, educational support for high needs populations, and access to reliable health information. ADA compliant work stations to support those who are blind, visually impaired or have other challenges are of particular need as none exist in our community at this time.

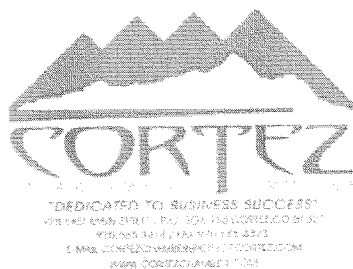
An award to the Trinidad Carnegie Public Library, a library participating in the Colorado State Library proposal, would provide significant impact on our community and other communities throughout Colorado.

Trinidad State Junior College appreciates the Colorado State Library's submission and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration's consideration of this application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Felix M. Lopez'.

Felix M. Lopez
Interim President



March 4, 2010

Eugene Hainer, Assistant Commissioner
Colorado State Library
201 E. Colfax Avenue
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Mr. Hainer:

As the Executive Director of the Cortez Area Chamber of Commerce, I am writing on behalf of my organization in support of the Colorado State Library's Public Computing Center application for the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program. I am particularly excited about the benefits, such as increased knowledge about computers for the public that enhanced computing and Internet access at the Cortez Public Library will bring to our community.

The Cortez City Library serves Montezuma County. Based on the latest official figure from the Bureau of Economic Analysis (in 2006), Per Capita Income was only estimated to be \$28,547. All of Montezuma County has been designated as an Enterprise Zone, recognizing the dismal economic status of the area. Almost all businesses are small mom and pop operations with only a small number of employees. For the most part, they do not offer medical insurance, retirement funds, etc. The graduation rate from Montezuma-Cortez High School is less than 60%.

The Cortez Area Chamber of Commerce working in partnership with the Small Business Development Center at Fort Lewis College in Durango, works with a large percentage of business owners who have little or no formal business training. We attempt to offer classes every other month in a variety of subjects. Unfortunately, what we can offer is limited by the fact that we don't have a computer lab. With this grant we would be able to offer classes in web site design, QuickBooks, and selling via the internet, as well as accessing professors at Fort Lewis who work to help us increase the success of local businesses.

When we set up a new agritourism program a year ago, we stressed the need for all agricultural businesses to have a website to participate. No one had one. This program would have allowed us to set up a workshop to get everyone up and running immediately.

As it is, the Cortez Library's computers are used extensively. Limited numbers of computers limits the time an individual can spend on line, and people wait for access. I can also see an opportunity for community members to access education on line to build their job skills. Many residents do not have the luxury of their own computer and their own access to the net.

Working with the Cortez Public Library, a library participating in the Colorado State Library proposal, we hope we are awarded these funds because of the significant impact on both our community and others throughout Colorado.

The Cortez Area Chamber of Commerce appreciates the Colorado State Library's submission and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration's consideration of this application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Marcy Cummins". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Marcy Cummins, Executive Director

mcummins@cityofcortez.com

March 5, 2010

Eugene Hainer, Assistant Commissioner
Colorado State Library
201 E. Colfax Avenue
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Mr. Hainer:

I am the Regent at the Sleeping Ute Mountain Chapter of the D.A.R. On behalf of my organization, I am writing in support of the Colorado State Library's Public Computing Center application for the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program. I am particularly excited about the possibilities for Internet genealogy classes that we could provide at the Cortez Public Library.

Presently we have a genealogy class scheduled at the library, but because the public computers are such a popular service, the director does not want to give several of them up for a class during regular library hours. This limits when we can hold the class to before the library opens or after it closes. These are probably not the best times for maximum attendance. If the library had more computers we could hold our classes whenever we thought it was best.

The D.A.R. provides the trainer for these genealogy classes.

Working with the Cortez Public Library, a library participating in the Colorado State Library proposal, we hope we are awarded these funds because of the significant impact on both our community and others throughout Colorado.

The Sleeping Ute Mountain Chapter of the D.A.R. appreciates the Colorado State Library's submission and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration's consideration of this application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Marianne Koskie".

Marianne Koskie

Regent Sleeping Ute Mountain Chapter D.A.R.



MONTEZUMA-CORTEZ SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-1

P.O. Drawer R 121 East First Street Cortez, Colorado 81321
(970) 565-7522 Fax (970) 565-2161 www.cortez.k12.co.us

March 2, 2010

Eugene Hainer, Assistant Commissioner
Colorado State Library
201 E. Colfax Avenue
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Mr. Hainer:

I am the Chief Academic Officer at the Montezuma/Cortez School District. On behalf of school district, I am writing in support of the Colorado State Library's Public Computing Center application for the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program. I am particularly excited about the benefits, such as increased opportunities for computer related education that enhanced computing and Internet access at the Cortez Public Library will bring to our community.

Montezuma Cortez School District has a student enrollment 2,779 students. Student ethnic composition for Montezuma-Cortez School District RE-1 has a strong minority population with 45% of the district's students identified as American Indian and Hispanic. The number students identified under federal guidelines as being English Language Learners in the district is 217, which reflects the need for a strong literacy component in our community.

The district's ET-IL plan identifies specific targeted goals to ensure students are proficient in information literacy by eighth grade. According to the 2008-2009 data, the district's eighth graders are not meeting the grade level expectations for information literacy.

Referring both parents and students to the library for both homework and further education would assist the district in meeting the needs of the students as identified in the district's ET-IL plan. As the district focuses on information literacy the need to make the home school connection will be enhanced by using the library as a partner. The district's free and reduced population is 52% which reflects the limited exposure our students are provided in having access to computers. By providing computer accessibility to parents and students at the library will certainly improve education and the workforce in our community.

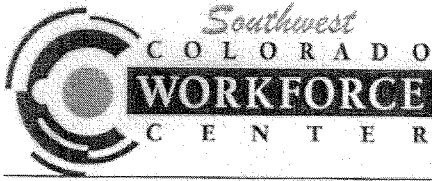
Partnering with the Cortez Public Library, a library participating in the Colorado State Library proposal, we hope we are awarded these funds because of the significant impact on both our community and others throughout Colorado.

The Cortez/Montezuma School District appreciates the Colorado State Library's submission and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration's consideration of this application.

Sincerely,



Lori Haukeness
Chief Academic Officer
Montezuma Cortez School District



331 So. Camino del Rio, Ste. C, Durango, CO 81303

970-247-0308

March 03, 2010

Eugene Hainer, Assistant Commissioner
Colorado State Library
201 E. Colfax Avenue
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Mr. Hainer:

I am the Regional Supervisor of the SW Colorado Workforce Centers, which include Cortez, Durango and Pagosa Springs Workforce Centers. On behalf of my organization, I am writing in support of the Colorado State Library's Public Computing Center application for the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program. I am particularly excited about the benefits, such as increased computer knowledge for people looking for work, that enhanced computing and Internet access at the Cortez Public Library will bring to our community.

In these tough economic times, competition is great in any job opening. Having computer knowledge increases an individual's possibilities of finding and/or keeping employment. With this grant, the Cortez Public Library will be able to provide additional access to the world of computers and the World Wide Web. There is current access available, but it is limited and is not completely meeting the needs of our community as many people are seeking to increase the computer knowledge to add to their job search toolbox.

Each of the SW Colorado Workforce Centers does have a resource area with computers available to the community to use in their job related endeavors and periodically we can provide basic computer training, however, we have limited staff and limited computers as well as an influx of individuals needing the computers to address their unemployment needs. With the addition of new computers and equipment, as well as training and support, at the local library, most community members will be able to assess the technology they need to become more employable which in turn improves our community as a whole.

At the present time, Colorado Workforce Centers has initiatives available that will allow eligible individuals to take advantage of free online learning, however our centers, in the SW region, do not have computers available for individuals to use for their online classes. Knowing our local library may

Southwest Region Workforce Centers are an Equal Opportunity Employer / Program
with Auxiliary Aides & Services available upon request to individuals with disabilities.

have the equipment and space available for this use enables us to provide better customer services by sharing this resource with them.

Workforce Centers provide a variety of free services to assist employers and job seekers alike. These include but are not limited to: job listings, computer & internet access for job related tasks including resume' writing, labor market information, recruitment of workers, pre-screening & referral services, tax credits information and Federal Bonding information. I can envision the SW Workforce Centers and the Library collaborating on offering computer classes to address peoples' needs to fill out on line applications, create resumes and search for jobs. The Cortez and Durango Workforce Centers each have a conference room in which we could hold job related workshops in when the room is available. The Workforce Center staff could help facilitate the workshops.

Working with Cortez Public Library, a library participating in the Colorado State Library proposal, we hope we are awarded these funds because of the significant impact on both our community and others throughout Colorado.

Our mission is to deliver a workforce system that enhances employer growth and customer success by providing employment and training opportunities that achieve and sustain economic prosperity. The CEWA Project fits perfectly into our workforce mission, and we strongly support and endorse this project.

When agencies collaborate, customers benefit.

The SW Colorado Workforce Centers appreciates the Colorado State Library's submission and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration's consideration of this application.

Sincerely,



Chloe I. Wiebe
SW Colorado Workforce Centers
331 S. Camino del Rio, Ste. C
Durango, CO 81303

RIO GRANDE COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

rgccommissioner@riograndecounty.org

925 6th St., Room 207
Del Norte, Colorado
81132
(719) 857-2744
Fax (719) 857-2514

February 24, 2010

To Whom It May Concern:

BOARD OF
COMMISSIONERS
Douglas M. Davie
Chairman
Robert Hagedorn
Commissioner
Dennis Murphy, Jr.
Vice Chairman

ADMINISTRATOR
Suzanne L. Benton

Rio Grande County Board of County Commissioners supports the application being made by the Del Norte Public Library for the Colorado State Library's Public Computing Center for the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program.

Del Norte Public Library is requesting funding for new computers and equipment as well as training and support so that the community members can get more support for job searching, educational support for high-need populations, and access to reliable health information and e-government websites. In addition, an ADA Compliant work site is being requested to assist those who are blind, visually impaired, or have other challenges in using standard public computer stations.

Being an economically depressed area with high unemployment, the Library is the only facility that provides computers and internet access for a large portion of the population. This is one of the major services utilized by the residents at the Library.

We urge your support of this application.

Sincerely,



Doug Davie
Chairman of the Board

/slb

DEL NORTE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

505 Grand Avenue, Del Norte, CO 81132
710-657-2845

www.delnortechamber.org

February 22, 2010

Mr. Eugene Hainer
Assistant Commissioner
Colorado State Library
201 E. Colfax Avenue
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Mr. Hainer:

I am the current President of the Del Norte Chamber of Commerce. On behalf of our organization, I am writing in support of the Colorado State Library's Public Computing Center application for the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program. I am particularly excited about the benefits, such as new computers and other equipment, as well as training and support, that enhanced computing and internet access at the Del Norte Public Library will bring to our community.

Our small town of approximately 1800 inhabitants faces economic, educational, and health challenges in these tight times. Much of our community consists of those with high need, which sometimes cannot be met due to cuts in funding resulting in lack of facilities and updated technical opportunities. Many of our Hispanic population have never owned a computer and have no training therefor.

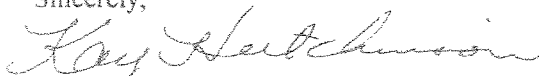
It is our hope that through the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program, the Del Norte Public Library will be able to ensure that community members can get the education and technological support that will enable them to search for jobs, realize educational goals, access reliable health information, and visit e-government websites. Additionally, the Del Norte Public Library seeks to provide ADA compliant work stations to support the blind and visually impaired or have other challenges in using standard public computer stations. Laptop computers are also requested for computer classes and training for the public.

The Del Norte Public Library is already used as a public computing center daily and during weekends, holidays, and other days when school is not in session, by students who do not have access to computers in their homes and by adults seeking jobs, education and health-related matters online. With training and classes, this need will increase dramatically.

Our Del Norte Chamber of Commerce has already provided assistance in marketing the availability of the Library's computer center, and will continue to do so. Our local Chamber of Commerce takes pride in networking and communication among our business members, the Del Norte Schools, students and families, and visitors to our community. We want Del Norte to have an image of helpful friendliness to our community members and to our tourists who may be in need of technological assistance.

Our organization looks forward to ongoing support of the Del Norte Public Library, and we appreciate the Colorado State Library's submission and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration's consideration of the grant application.

Sincerely,



Kay Hutchinson
President

DEL NORTE PUBLIC LIBRARY
790 Grande Avenue
Del Norte, Colorado 81132

February 24, 2010

Eugene Hainer
Assistant Commissioner
Colorado State Library
201 E. Colfax Avenue
Denver, Co 80203

Dear Mr. Hainer,

I am the Director at the Del Norte Public Library. This letter indicates our participation as a sub-receipt of the Colorado State Library's Public Computing Center application for the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program.

The Del Norte Community is economically depressed. Unemployment is high, as it is in most areas right now. The computer classes we have been conducting are well received and the patrons seem very grateful for the training opportunities.

People use the public access computers, which are wireless, for various reasons. including job searching, some classroom work, banking and several other reasons. Having free access is very important to many patrons. If it were not for the free access they would likely not have an opportunity for computer use, since alot of the patrons can't afford to pay for a computer of their own, much less the hookup costs and monthly charges. The computer classes offered to the public are for those that are

unfamiliar with computers to those who are advanced on computers.


Right now we have patrons waiting to use the computers alot of the time and it is especially congested during the months tourists are plentiful. With more lap tops available, this will fill the void we now face and also replace several of our older computers that are used by patrons. This will enable people to search for materials needed and complete their projects.

At the present time we partnership with the schools, such as searching of materials for science projects, summer reading requirements. I would sincerely like to partnership with the local Chamber of Commerce and have recently been in discussion with them.

AS part of our participating in this grant application, the Del Norte PUblic Library agrees to sustain all computing center services and programs including hardware and software. We will participate in training and partnerships to make the computer centers a long-term public resource for our community. We also certify that the library public computing center will be free and open to all.

We will work with the Colorado State Library to comply with all BTOP reporting requirements and we will comply with applicable federal, state and local laws related to this grant project. Finally, if awarded the funds from the ntia, Del Norte Public Library will be able to provide a cash commitment of 10% of the total estimated cost of our equipment. These funds will come from our operating budget and a portion from the King's Daughter Associaton (acting as Friends of Library). Funding timeframe is October 2010-April 2011.

The Del Norte Public Library is excited to partner with the Colorado State Library on this important grant. We believe the impact on our community will be significant. We thank the National Telecommunications and Information Administration for this opportunity and for considering our important application.

Sincerely,

Kathy Gilliam
Director, Del Norte Public Library

DEL NORTE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

505 Grand Avenue, Del Norte, CO 81132
710-657-2845

www.delnortechamber.org

February 22, 2010

Mr. Eugene Hainer
Assistant Commissioner
Colorado State Library
201 E. Colfax Avenue
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Mr. Hainer:

I am the current President of the Del Norte Chamber of Commerce. On behalf of our organization, I am writing in support of the Colorado State Library's Public Computing Center application for the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program. I am particularly excited about the benefits, such as new computers and other equipment, as well as training and support, that enhanced computing and internet access at the Del Norte Public Library will bring to our community.

Our small town of approximately 1800 inhabitants faces economic, educational, and health challenges in these tight times. Much of our community consists of those with high need, which sometimes cannot be met due to cuts in funding resulting in lack of facilities and updated technical opportunities. Many of our Hispanic population have never owned a computer and have no training therefor.

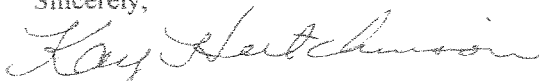
It is our hope that through the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program, the Del Norte Public Library will be able to ensure that community members can get the education and technological support that will enable them to search for jobs, realize educational goals, access reliable health information, and visit e-government websites. Additionally, the Del Norte Public Library seeks to provide ADA compliant work stations to support the blind and visually impaired or have other challenges in using standard public computer stations. Laptop computers are also requested for computer classes and training for the public.

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Our Del Norte Chamber of Commerce has already provided assistance in marketing the availability of the Library's computer center, and will continue to do so. Our local Chamber of Commerce takes pride in networking and communication among our business members, the Del Norte Schools, students and families, and visitors to our community. We want Del Norte to have an image of helpful friendliness to our community members and to our tourists who may be in need of technological assistance.

Our organization looks forward to ongoing support of the Del Norte Public Library, and we appreciate the Colorado State Library's submission and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration's consideration of the grant application.

Sincerely,



Kay Hutchinson
President

03/03/10

Eugene Hainer, Assistant Commissioner
Colorado State Library
201 E. Colfax Avenue
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Mr. Hainer:

On behalf of the Delta Area Chamber of Commerce, I am writing in support of the Colorado State Library's Public Computing Center application for the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program. I am particularly excited about the benefits that enhanced computing and Internet access at the Delta Public Library will bring to our community.

Access to computers, internet, and training are integral to the growth of our community and our industry. This is especially important for members of our community that are applying for jobs and gaining computer training that will make them more valuable to employers. This grant would allow us to expand services at the library that would provide more access to resources that are greatly needed in the Delta area.

Working with Delta Public Library, a library participating in the Colorado State Library proposal, we hope we are awarded these funds because of the significant impact on both our community and others throughout Colorado.

We appreciate the Colorado State Library's submission and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration's consideration of this application.

Sincerely,

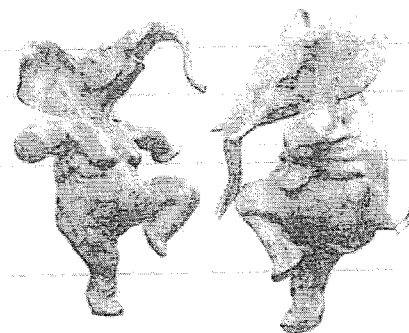
Linda Sanchez

Linda Sanchez

A Colorado Nonprofit Organization

CREAMERY ARTS CENTER

165 West Bridge St., PO BOX 218, Hotchkiss, CO 81419
(970) 872-4848 www.creameryartscenter.org



March 4, 2010

Eugene Hainer, Assistant Commissioner
Colorado State Library
201 E. Colfax Avenue
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Mr. Hainer:

I am a founding member of the Creamery Arts Center in Hotchkiss, Colorado. On behalf of my organization, I am writing in support of the Colorado State Library's Public Computing Center application for the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program. I am particularly excited about the benefits, such as community education, that enhanced computing and Internet access at the Hotchkiss Public Library will bring to our area.

As an arts center, one of our goals is to provide a location for people to come together in celebration of the arts. We meet this need for those interested in the visual arts, but for people seeking to participate in other means of education and entertainment, there are few venues in town, as Hotchkiss lacks even a movie theater. We have witnessed the many ways in which the Hotchkiss Public Library fills this need as a community gathering place, supporting the public by offering long open hours, public computers, classes, and events.

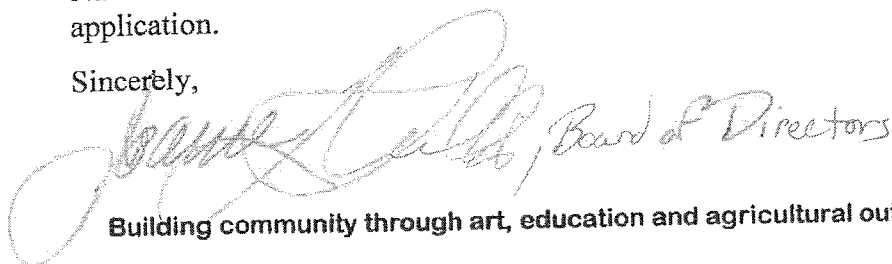
There is nowhere else in town to use a public computer, making the computers available at the Hotchkiss Library absolutely essential to residents in the area. Many of our residents cannot afford their own computers in their homes, and some that do lack the skills necessary to safely access the Internet. The library not only offers free Internet without discrimination, but they also provide classes and regular assistance to their users.

We have worked with the Hotchkiss Library to print fliers, postcards, and brochures for our events. We look forward to greater collaboration, and can imagine some wonderful programs that could emerge from the use of a traveling computer lab. Together, we could meet the artistic and educational needs of a larger number of people in the area.

Working with Hotchkiss Public Library, a library participating in the Colorado State Library proposal, we hope we are awarded these funds because of the significant impact on both our community and others throughout Colorado.

The Creamery Arts Center appreciates the Colorado State Library's submission and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration's consideration of this application.

Sincerely,


Board of Directors

Building community through art, education and agricultural outreach.



THE FAMILY LITERACY AND RESOURCE PROGRAM

822 Grand Ave.
Delta, CO 81416
Phone: 970-874-9517

March 4, 2010

Eugene Hainer, Assistant Commissioner
Colorado State Library
201 E. Colfax Avenue
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Mr. Hainer:

I am the Director of the Delta County School District's Family Literacy Center. On behalf of my organization, I am writing in support of the Colorado State Library's Public Computing Center application for the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program.

Our program is committed to providing family literacy services in Delta County so we work hand in hand with the Delta County Libraries' Literacy Department. We have worked together to create a program that allows us to share teachers and classrooms, maximizing the impact of both programs in the community. Because of the closely tied nature of our programs, the addition of computers to the Delta County Libraries' Literacy Program will definitely have a positive impact on our Family Literacy Center.

On a regular basis, we work with over 40 families, many of whom enter our program speaking little or no English. We teach these parents to find success in Delta County, through language, parenting, and life skills classes. Technology has become an essential part of these classes, for the purposes of communication, education, and employment.

Unfortunately, many of our families are transitory or low income and do not have the funds or stability to maintain a computer in their own homes and gain the skills there that are necessary to succeed in 2010. Our teachers regularly utilize computers provided by the Delta County Libraries to help our students familiarize themselves with essential technology. However, the Library District computers currently at our disposal were purchased in 2006 and we struggle with their inability meet the needs of the program in terms of quantity or quality. Several of the computers are beyond repair and have been taken out of commission, and our teachers must carefully arrange their class schedules to coordinate the use of the small computer lab.

The Family Literacy Program will work with the Library District to maintain and store the new computers purchased through this program. Our classroom spaces are more than adequate for housing additional computers, and we are willing to work with the Library District to promote their use through our classes.

Working with the Delta County Literacy Program, part of a library district participating in the Colorado State Library proposal, we hope these funds are awarded because of the significant impact on both our community and others throughout Colorado.

The Delta County School District Family Literacy Center appreciates the Colorado State Library's submission and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration's consideration of this application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lee-Ann Short".

Lee-Ann Short
Program Director

03/03/10

Eugene Hainer, Assistant Commissioner
Colorado State Library
201 E. Colfax Avenue
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Mr. Hainer:

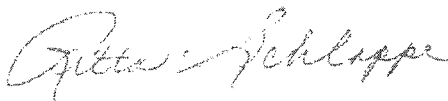
On behalf of the Friends of the Delta Public Library, I am writing in support of the Colorado State Library's Public Computing Center application for the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program. I am particularly excited about the benefits that enhanced computing and Internet access at the Delta Public Library will bring to our community.

The computer classes that have been offered at the library have made a major impact in the community by helping people get up to speed with the computer skills they need to apply for jobs, fill out government forms, and keep in touch with loved ones. More computers and computer classes will continue to enrich the community further and will allow our people to reach further into their full potential.

Working with Delta Public Library, a library participating in the Colorado State Library proposal, we hope we are awarded these funds because of the significant impact on both our community and others throughout Colorado.

The Friends of the Delta Public Library appreciates the Colorado State Library's submission and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration's consideration of this application.

Sincerely,



Ritta Schlappe

President

March 4, 2010

Eugene Hainer, Assistant Commissioner
Colorado State Library
201 E. Colfax Avenue
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Mr. Hainer,

As the President of the Hotchkiss Community Chamber of Commerce, I am writing to throw the full support of my organization behind the efforts of the Hotchkiss Library and more broadly, the Delta County Libraries, to upgrade public access computer equipment and expand Broadband Internet service within the library system.

The Delta County Libraries provide a vital service to the community through its Broadband Internet access. While many residing in urban areas of Colorado take Broadband Internet access for granted, there are significant portions of Delta County where residents do not have home access to Broadband services, simply because such service is not available in their locale.

Within its limited budget, the Delta County Library system has done well at attempting to meet the needs of local residents in relation to providing the technology resources and Internet access so sorely needed in Delta County. Unfortunately, as community need for these services has increased, library budgets have not kept pace, and as a consequence, these technology resources are not up to a level that would provide the desired additional benefit to our county's 31,000 rural residents.

As the leader of a local business organization, and a library user myself, I can vouch for the fact that the Delta County Libraries' technology and Internet services are used not only by a large number of local residents, but additionally by a number of small business people who find themselves lacking Broadband Internet access at their business location. Geographically isolated areas, such as Delta County, already have greater obstacles in reaching the "outside world" for business purposes, and readily available Broadband Internet access – through updated computers – would undoubtedly enhance the economic prospects of many in the community. On a more personal note, The Chamber of Commerce recently went through the process of launching a new community website. Because of the Hotchkiss Library's availability of Broadband services, we used the Library as our "development site", with all the project partners meeting on site to work on the website development project. The Library's facilities were a great benefit in this process, but would have been even more useful with more updated and quicker computers and Broadband Internet access.

Please accept this letter of support from the Hotchkiss Community Chamber of Commerce as a strong endorsement of the Library's efforts to update and improve community access to computer technology and Broadband Internet access.

Best Regards,

Nathan R. Sponseller

Nathan R. Sponseller, President

March 2, 2010

Eugene Hainer, Assistant Commissioner
Colorado State Library
201 E. Colfax Avenue
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Mr. Hainer:

I am the Director of Development for the Kids' Pasta Project in the North Fork community of Delta County. On behalf of my organization, I am writing in support of the Colorado State Library's Public Computing Center application for the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program. I am particularly excited about the benefits, such as youth access to technology and participation in program administration that enhanced computing and Internet access at the Delta County Libraries will bring to our community.

We have been very fortunate to have the support of our libraries for a number of activities involving our youth. As technology becomes increasingly useful as a tool for accomplishing tasks in project management, and as our organization increasingly involves youth in administration, we look forward to utilizing even more of the resources at our libraries. Our recently formed Youth Advisory Board would benefit directly from additional computers at the library.

The mission of Kids' Pasta Project is for youth to serve their community by preparing and serving healthy meals, with the dinner profits going to local causes. Most Mondays, you will find a group of youth and adult volunteers serving home made pasta dinners to approximately 40 guests at the Scenic Mesa Ranch Restaurant. We are happy to have had our libraries as partner-recipients for fundraising dinners on three occasions this year. They have been active in partnering with us, spreading the word and making the dinners successful. We look forward to another dinner with the libraries in April as a part of the "Big Read" and have been discussing ideas for extra activities to enhance the event and raise extra money as well. We hope to be able to raise at least \$250 in matching funds as a partner agency.

Working with the Hotchkiss and Paonia Public Libraries, libraries participating in the Colorado State Library proposal, we hope we are awarded these funds because of the significant impact on both our community and others throughout Colorado. The Kids' Pasta Project appreciates the Colorado State Library's submission and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration's consideration of this application.

Sincerely,

Moni Slater
Development Director, Kids' Pasta Project

March 1, 2010

Eugene Hainer
Colorado State Library
201 E. Colfax Ave
Denver, CO. 80203

Dear Mr Hainer,

My name is Ali Lightfoot and I am the program director at KVNF, a community radio in Paonia, Colorado. On behalf of my organization, I am writing in support of the Colorado State Library's Public Computing Center application for the Broadband Technology Opportunities program.

The computing and internet access at our local libraries is absolutely vital to our community. The demographics of Western Colorado include rural areas that rank among the lowest in Colorado in terms of per capita hourly income. There are many members of our community that would not have access to computers if not for the library. Tasks such as completing job and school applications as well as research can only be done via the internet in the 21st century.

KVNF is a reliable community resource, providing our listeners with information vital to community development while creating a strong outreach effort in the underserved populations of our listening area. We have worked with the library over the years to combine our efforts in serving our community by providing access to modern technology and training.

We will continue to support the library in their efforts by making regular public service announcements about all events, classes and services they provide.

Working with Paonia Public Library, a library participating in the Colorado State Library proposal, we hope they are rewarded these funds because of the significant impact on both our community and others throughout Colorado.

KVNF appreciates the Colorado State Library's submission and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration's consideration if this application.

Thank you,
Ali Lightfoot
Program Director
KVNF

03/03/10

Eugene Hainer, Assistant Commissioner
Colorado State Library
201 E. Colfax Avenue
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Mr. Hainer:

As the Executive Director of Meth Free Delta County, I write in support of the Colorado State Library's Public Computing Center application for the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program. Increased computer access can and will allow individuals and families in recovery to access much needed digital resources that effectively change lives.

People and families in recovery often struggle just to maintain access to a telephone. The access to computers and the internet supports life skill development, increased job access and increased education and community opportunities for our individuals and families. The library is one of the only truly FREE family resources that our population accesses and we strongly support this effort.

Rural communities like ours are almost always resource poor...and ours is no exception. If awarded, this grant will significantly impact the people of Delta County.

On behalf of people and families in recovery in Delta County, I thank you in advance for your time and consideration of this application

Sincerely,



Curielle Duffy, M.A., M.S.W.
Executive Director
Meth-Free Delta County



**Meth-Free
Delta County**



Curielle B. Duffy, M.A., L.S.W.
Administrator

DELTA COUNTY COURTHOUSE Phone: (970) 874-2101
Site: 501 Palmer Street, Suite 114 Call: (970) 840-4901
Mail: 501 Palmer Street, Suite 227 Fax: (970) 874-2111
Delta, Colorado 81416-1798 E-mail: cduffy@deltacounty.com
Web: www.methfreedelta.com

NORTH FORK VISION HOME AND COMMUNITY PROGRAM

208 Main Street, P.O. Box 636, Paonia, CO 81428
Telephone: 970.527.8766 FAX: 970.527.8768 Email: nfvision@tds.net

March 1, 2009

Eugene Hainer, Assistant Commissioner
Colorado State Library
201 E. Colfax Avenue
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Mr. Hainer,

I am the Director of the North Fork Vision Home and Community Program (Vision), a school within the Delta County public school system. Vision serves the home based and community based learners in our area that do not attend the traditional public brick building schools. On behalf of Vision, I am writing to support the Colorado State Library's Public Computing Center application for the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program. I am particularly excited about the benefits, especially improved access for home and community learners, that enhanced computing and internet access at the Paonia Public Library will bring to our community.

As a non-traditional school without a campus of its own, the Vision learners rely upon the library for research, copies and printing capabilities, internet access and a quiet learning environment, among other services. The need to access, learn and master technology is of vital importance to students in today's world. Without the local library, many of the Vision learners would lack adequate access to the needed technology.

Almost all of our community based learners and a majority of our home based learners are currently using the library to meet their learning needs. With updated equipment and improved access to technology, the benefit of this program to Vision learners will be beyond measure. Also, the additional training and support that will be available to students will help keep Vision learners at the forefront in the technology area.

As Vision plans for the future, especially the planned changes in CSAP testing, I see a specific need to partner with local organizations to supply the needed computers and technology for Vision learners to excel in standardized testing. As more details are made public, Vision will be looking to partner with the library to work together to assist Vision learners to master computer skills to facilitate test taking and to have the computers available to facilitate learners in taking these tests. This is only one area where enhanced computer access will be a great benefit to the Vision organization, as well as the community as a whole.

The services that the Paonia Public Library provides for the community cannot be understated. Any enhancement to these services will be an added benefit for Vision and this whole community. We can only hope that the Paonia Public Library, in participation with the Colorado State Library proposal, is awarded these funds because of the impact they will provide to our organization and our community. The North Fork Vision Home and Community Program appreciates the Colorado State Library's submission and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration's consideration of this application.

Sincerely,



Teri Kinkade, Director

February 3, 2010

Eugene Hainer, Assistant Commissioner
Colorado State Library
201 E. Colfax Avenue
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Mr. Hainer,

I am President of the Paonia Chamber of Commerce, and am writing in support of the Colorado State Library's Public Computing Center application for the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program.

The Paonia Chamber is dedicated to the improvement of the Paonia area's economic and social health. This community faces a major challenge over the next half decade to decade. We have depended for a century or more on coal mining to sustain this community. We currently have approximately 900 coal mining jobs.

However, the mines are approaching the technological limits of their ability to mine coal in this valley. To be precise, the Oxbow Mine, with over 300 well paid employees (compensation of \$97,500/year), states that it will mine the last of its coal in December 2016. The other two coal mines will mine out their mineable reserves within a few years of that. The problem is that with current mining technology, the miners cannot work under more than 2,500 feet of overburden, and all three of our mines are approaching that limit.

One of the goals of the Paonia Chamber of Commerce is to prepare our community for the coming difficult transition. Paonia has "always" been a coal mining town. It supplies 1.5 percent of America's lowest sulfur coal. That coal is shipped not just to the East Coast, but to Asia as well.

The transition away from coal mining will be wrenching. Fortunately, we have some time to prepare for this transition. Also fortunately, this community has other resources: its agriculture, its physical beauty, its proximity to national forests and wilderness, and its diverse and multi-talented residents.

The Paonia Public Library will play an important role in this transition by providing information on possibilities for the future, by providing a wonderful meeting place for various groups, and by providing the computing power people and institutions here will need as we prepare for a very different economic future.

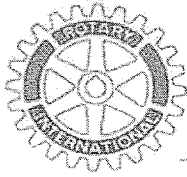
The Paonia Public Library has always been a center of the community. Now, more than ever, it will need to have the most up to date information gathering ability to help Paonia weather the coming difficult transition.

This letter was unanimously approved at the March monthly meeting of the Paonia Chamber of Commerce board.

Sincerely,


Ed Marston

President
Paonia Chamber of Commerce
Paonia, Colorado 81428



Rotary Club of Paonia Colorado

P.O. Box 1543
Paonia, CO 81428-1543

March 2, 2010

Eugene Hainer
Assistant Commissioner
Colorado State Library
201 E. Colfax Avenue
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Mr. Hainer,

On behalf of the Rotary Club of Paonia, I am writing to support the Colorado State Library's Public Computing Center application for the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program.

Enhanced computing and Internet access at the Paonia Public Library will provide a critical service to our community during these difficult economic times. Until recently, household incomes in Paonia were largely derived from the agriculture and coal mining industries. Households in our area are currently experiencing declines in income due to the depressed agriculture and coal markets, and local coal mines have recently implemented large-scale layoffs. There is an urgent need for our citizens to gain new skills and re-tool for new jobs. Many families in our area cannot afford broadband Internet service in their own homes and lack modern computer technology with which to access it. The new Paonia Public Library offers an ideal venue for local community members to access state of the art computing equipment and free broadband services, with which to further their education and seek re-employment opportunities.

Literacy is a major concern of Rotary. Our primary community service project is to provide scholarships to local high school students and dictionaries to each 3rd grader in the valley every year. The parents of our community's children are now in need of assistance in achieving digital literacy so that they may compete in today's job market. Should this project receive funding, we have no doubt that our community would benefit significantly.

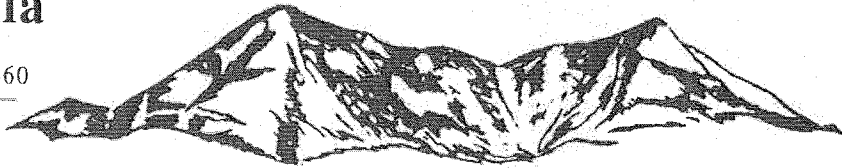
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bill Barton".

Bill Barton
Community Service Chair
Rotary Club of Paonia

Town of Paonia

P.O. Box 460
Paonia, Colorado 81428-0460



1 March 2010

Eugene Hainer, Assistant Commissioner
Colorado State Library
201 East Colfax Avenue
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Mr. Hainer,

On behalf of the Town of Paonia, the Board of Trustees supports the Colorado State Library's Public Computing Center application for the Broadband Technology Opportunities program. In our rural community, having enhanced computing and internet access is a valuable benefit.

While the Town of Paonia is unable to address this need on a municipal level, is excited that the Library District is providing an avenue for our citizens to have internet access available to all. With upgrades implemented, citizens may get their degree online, set up networks to find a job, or just have the convenience of internet for personal reasons at a central location. With the current economic situation, these free services are even more vital and important for our community as valuable resources.

Working with the Paonia Public Library, participating in the Colorado State Library proposal, the Town hopes these funds are awarded due to the significant impacts for rural communities like ours throughout Colorado.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this application.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Neal J. Schwieterman', written over a faint background image of a mountain range.

Neal J. Schwieterman
Mayor



To Whom It May Concern:

I understand that the Athmar Park branch of the Denver Public Library has the opportunity to obtain additional computers through federal stimulus funds. As a frequent user of the Athmar library, I believe it would be extremely beneficial for this branch to add computers. There is very high demand, and now with the additional closed days the branch is busier and the wait time is even longer than before and it is much more difficult to access a computer.

This branch serves many children coming from four different neighborhood schools who also need access to these computers. Having more available for all would be a benefit to both kids and adults using the library.

I support any efforts by the Denver Public Library to allocate any stimulus funds to purchasing computers for the Athmar library.

Sincerely,

Euodulpe Chavira

February 26, 2010

Eugene Hainer, Assistant Commissioner
Colorado State Library
201 E. Colfax Avenue
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Mr. Hainer:

I am a regular customer at the Byers Branch Library. I am writing in support of the Colorado State Library's Public Computing Center application for the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program. I am particularly excited about the benefits, such as additional computers for the library's customers, and perhaps basic computer classes that enhanced computing and Internet access at the Byers Branch Library will bring to our community.

This library branch serves a large homeless population and working families. The library is in within walking distance of Father Woody's Haven of Hope and sees many of their clients. Many of the families in our neighborhood do not have Internet access at home.


The branch currently has seven computers to serve this population. There is often a wait to use the computer at any given time of day. When I am at the library, I notice many customers in need of computer assistance. Some of the questions from customers are basic, and some are more specific.

I believe Byers would benefit from having more computers for two reasons. One, there would not be as long of a wait for computers. The other reason is there would be a place for those who are new to the computer to become more proficient. I think that basic computer classes, such as how to set up an email account, and job searching would be ideal for the mobile computer lab that the library may receive. I envision many of my neighbors taking advantage of this opportunity, if it becomes available at Byers.

I hope the library is awarded these funds because of the significant impact on both our community and others throughout Colorado.

I appreciate the Colorado State Library's submission and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration's consideration of this application.

Sincerely,


Yolande Reyes



Technology Services

201 West Colfax Avenue, Department 301
Denver, CO 80202
www.denvergov.org/technology_services

March 1, 2010

Eugene Hainer, Assistant Commissioner
Colorado State Library
201 E. Colfax Avenue
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Mr. Hainer:

As the Chief Information Officer for the City and County of Denver, I am writing in support of the Colorado State Library's Public Computing Center application for the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program. I am particularly excited about the benefits, such as assistance with job seeking and small business development, that enhanced computing and Internet access at the Denver Public Library will bring to our community.

We currently have about 500 public PCs and are requesting funding to purchase 172 computers (104 new and 68 replacements) and 85 laptops (55 new and 30 replacements). This is a priority for the City and County of Denver, but we are not able to fund this much within the city's general fund budget due to reduced revenue and increased demand for many city agencies who share the PC replacement fund.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Molly E. Rauzi

March 5, 2010

From: customers of the Denver Public Library's Community Technology Center

To:
Eugene Hainer, Assistant Commissioner
Colorado State Library
201 E. Colfax Avenue
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Mr. Hainer:

"Everyone will have the resources and skills they need to connect with others and participate in the digital world." -Vision Statement E

Just take a stroll on the fourth floor of the Central Library on any given day and you will see this vision coming to life in a variety of ways...

You will walk by the Small Computer Training Classroom, in which there might be a class on anything from Microsoft Excel to photo editing to social networking. There might also be one on one computer lessons or individual job seeker appointments happening in the classroom. Upon entering the Lab – the major hub of activity in the Community Technology Center (CTC) - you will be amazed by the amount of on-demand, just-in-time assistance given to our customers by staff and docents. You'll see people getting help completing online job applications, creating resumes, posting to craigslist, exploring social networking sites, uploading pictures from cameras or other devices, learning Microsoft Office applications, downloading music or eMedia to an mp3 player, getting email accounts, and much, much more.

As customers and beneficiaries of the burgeoning CTC, we would hereby like to support the Colorado State Library's Public Computing Center application for the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program. We are thrilled about the potential benefits, such as increased capacity for training and workshops, enhanced computing and Internet access, and a more comfortable and open space for achieving our technology-related goals.

Some of our colleagues in the CTC have already said it best...

- "The classes here are a great contribution to the community."
- "Today was a great day for me at your library. [CTC staff and volunteers] were so prompt to help me with my questions and problems that I had with my assignment. I was really impressed with their courtesy and attention I received from them. I want to come back soon, just for the good services I get."
- "I have been coming [to the CTC] to do job searches, resume writing, and proposal writing on the library's computers. It is with cheerfulness and patience that [the CTC staff and volunteers] have worked with me and others..."
- "I had never seen a computer before, and I did not even know what a mouse was. Now thanks to the excellent instruction provided by [CTC staff and volunteers], I have made enormous progress in understand computers and being able to use them [to] job search and in my life."

The customers of DPL's CTC appreciate the Colorado State Library's submission and the National

Telecommunications and Information Administration's consideration of this application. Thank you for allowing us to demonstrate our enthusiasm and encourage the continued growth and development of the fabulous service in the CTC!

Signed:

Fredy M Hernandez

Dakin Ghedy aka RABBIT

~~J. [unclear]~~

James A. Hornbeak

~~[unclear]~~ ANDRE' RABATUS

~~[unclear]~~

Annette Walker

Chin Bell

March 5, 2010

Eugene Hainer
Assistant Commissioner
Colorado State Library
201 E. Colfax Avenue
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Mr. Hainer:

I am in support of the Colorado State Library's Public Computing Center application for the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program. By way of introduction, I am a Docent at the central Denver Public Library (DPL) in the Community Technology Center (CTC) and part of the Denver business community.

What I am particularly interested in is for the DPL CTC to increase its computer and Internet capacity. I have witnessed how busy the center is and how many people require access, but the current number of workstations, projection capability, and connectivity is limited.

With greater capacity, the Center will be able to: 1) meet the demand for more classes to gain or improve computer skills to compete for employment and perform well in school; 2) offer the public access to the numerous online training offerings; 3) provide a location to hold virtual public, business, and non-profit group meetings; and, 3) be more generous with time for needed business, academic, and personal research.

In addition, with the protracted economy and projected long recovery, I have seen the need to accommodate many more people who abandoned their computer and Internet service due to financial constraints leading to a greater need to use the CTC's resources to apply for posted jobs since most are listed on-line today.

I am also convinced that with expanded technology in the CTC it will be easier to garner business and technology sponsors as part of its outreach. It can become a key component for the City and County to recruit new businesses to the area as well. At every opportunity I sing the praises of the services offered to the public and encourage other business people to get involved so its reach grows.

The DPL CTC has a unique opportunity to become the premier public resource for the entire City and County and to increase its technological presence in the area. I believe the impact on our community will be significant.

I appreciate the Colorado State Library's submission and I am hopeful that the National Telecommunications and Information Administration funding becomes a reality.

Sincerely,



Laurie E. Graves

Docent DPL and
Business Manager,
Kelly Ramsdale & Associates, Denver, CO

March 5, 2009

Eugene Hainer, Assistant Commissioner
Colorado State Library
201 E. Colfax Avenue
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Mr. Hainer:

I am an Upper School teacher at Escuela Tlatelolco in Denver. I am writing in support of the Colorado State Library's Public Computing Center application for the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program. I am particularly excited about the benefits, such as increased capacity for training and workshops, enhanced computing and Internet access, and additional avenues for partnering with the Denver Public Library (DPL) to achieve some of our common goals.

The mission of Escuela Tlatelolco is to "liberate the mind, heart, and spirit of students, through the knowledge of their cultural expression, moral courage, and honorable behavior." We "empower students to become well educated, responsible, self-directed, think critically and creatively." While we can get some of this accomplished within the walls of our school building, we often rely on vital community institutions to contribute to the growth and development of our future leaders.

The Denver Public Library has been one of the partners in our mission, and in particular, the Community Technology Center (CTC). The students and teachers at Escuela have made regular visits to the CTC to learn about conducting high quality research and producing well-written, painstakingly researched papers and projects. Additionally, we have benefited from the use of the PCs in the CTC, which have given us access to Microsoft Office 2007 and librarian-selected research resources.

Our partnership with DPL's CTC continues to grow and we hope to increase the frequency of our visits. However, since most of our classes have 25-30 students, the current 12-seat classroom must be supplemented with the use of the public computer lab during our visits, making it difficult to work as a group and work effectively. We look forward to the possibility of more computers in general and a second much larger classroom in the CTC that could accommodate our classes and give us more time and dedicated space to achieve our goals.

Working with the Denver Public Library as part of the the Colorado State Library's Public Computing Center application for the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program, we hope we are awarded these funds because of the significant impact on both our community and others throughout Colorado. Escuela Tlatelolco appreciates the Colorado State Library's submission and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration's consideration of this application.

Thank you for considering this proposal. Please contact me if I can provide any additional information.

Sincerely,



Mark de la Cruz-Chavez, Upper School Teacher
Escuela Tlatelolco

CITY COUNCIL
City and County of Denver



Denver City Council, District Ten Office
1232 E. Colfax Ave.
Denver, Colorado 80218
Phone: 303-377-1807
Fax: 303-377-1802
Email: jeanne.robbs@ci.denver.co.us

Jeanne Robb
Councilwoman, District Ten

Denver City Council, Main Office
City and Council Building
1437 Bannock Street, Room 451
Denver, Colorado 80202
Phone: 720-865-9534

March 5, 2010

Eugene Hainer, Assistant Commissioner
Colorado State Library
201 E. Colfax Avenue
Denver, CO 80203

Re: Colorado State Library
"Bridging Colorado's Great Digital Divide"
Public Computing Center Grant Application

Members of the Review Panel:

I am writing to express my support of the Colorado State Library's application requesting funding for "Bridging Colorado's Great Digital Divide."

This proposed project will provide the computer equipment and training needed for 78 public computing centers located at libraries in 76 Colorado communities (including the Denver Public Library) and on two Ute Indian reservations. The project is designed to meet the needs of underserved residents of communities experiencing increased rates of unemployment and poverty. For these individuals and families, the local public library often provides their only free access to computers and the Internet. The proposed project will provide the additional computers and equipment needed to ensure this access.

As Denver and Colorado residents are experiencing economic challenges, they are using public libraries more than ever. They count on their local library for computer use and Internet access. They rely on library staff for training in computer and software use, job search skills, resume preparation and online job applications, as well as for educational needs.

At a time when libraries are striving to meet these needs for increased services, local governments, including the City of Denver, are finding that decreased revenues make it impossible to provide additional funding to update and improve the libraries' public computing centers. The Colorado State Library's proposed project will provide

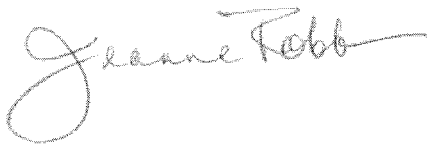
the computers and equipment needed to enhance these computing centers in 78 Colorado communities.

In 2007 Denver voters approved the Better Denver Bond Program that included funds for renovation and refurbishment of existing Denver Public Library facilities. These funds are being used to create a large new Community Technology Center (CTC) at the Central Library and improvements and upgrades at the six Denver branch libraries named in the "Bridging Colorado's Great Digital Divide" project. While bond funds are paying for the building renovations, these funds cannot be used to purchase new computers. Work on the Central Library's Technology Center is nearly complete. Most of the Central Library's current public access computers will be moved to the CTC, however, this will leave the new 37-station computer training classroom and a wired community space designed for 55 workstations without computers. Similar situations exist at the six branch libraries. The new computers to be provided by the Colorado State Library project would enable DPL to serve the people of Denver with well-equipped facilities and greatly needed programs.

In addition to purchasing computers, "Bridging Colorado's Great Digital Divide" will provide training and education services to maximize the value of the computing centers. The proposal provides a strategic plan for community outreach and library staff development. It also addresses the development and implementation of a statewide network of local partnerships to leverage resources and provide project sustainability.

Over the years, the Colorado State Library has established a record of effectively managing grants and assisting libraries in meeting the needs of their communities. The CSL staff will use their knowledge and experience to successfully implement "Bridging Colorado's Great Digital Divide." I strongly urge funding of this vital project.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jeanne Robb". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name and title.

Jeanne Robb
District 10 City Councilwoman
Denver City Council President

March 2, 2010

Eugene Hainer, Assistant Commissioner
Colorado State Library
201 E. Colfax Avenue
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Mr. Hainer:

I am the principal at 7th Street Elementary School in Dove Creek. On behalf of my organization, I am writing in support of the Colorado State Library's Public Computing Center application for the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program. I am particularly excited about the benefits, such as enhanced computing and Internet access at the Dolores County Public Libraries. It is beneficial that our small rural area has stable internet access and computing capabilities for our community members, students and staff.

Dove Creek is a small rural community located in Southwestern Colorado. It is approximately 35 miles to Cortez which is the nearest town which would have any substantial services. Dove Creek is located in Dolores County, which is consistently ranked at the top of the list in unemployment rates and families receiving some form of assistance. Currently, over 50% of our students qualify for free or reduced lunch, but this number is low, because there are many families that refuse to fill out the required paperwork. The other problem with this area is there are no major employers to provide jobs, most jobs are minimum wage service jobs.

Our achievement data indicates that we are making progress with our students. However, the rate of growth is low and there are many technology applications including internet based programs that we can access to improve our overall academic programming. We currently offer internet college credit classes; it is over 100 miles to the nearest higher education campus.

I feel we will increase our college offering to students and community members as our technology capabilities increase. Technology has to be accessible and easy to use in order for people to utilize it. This funding will increase our access and technology capabilities. Hopefully, we can seek out a variety of post-secondary colleges to partner with.

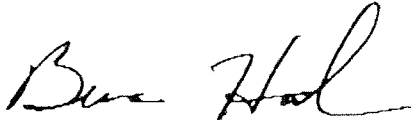
We are in a unique situation due to the fact that we currently have a partnership between the Dolores County Library system and our school district. All libraries are housed in our schools, which provide access not only to our community, but students and a staff. I do not have budgetary control, but would highly encourage our district to provide whatever financial support needed to receive this funding.

Working with Dolores County Public Libraries, a library participating in the Colorado State Library proposal, we hope we are awarded these funds because of the significant impact on both our community and others throughout Colorado.

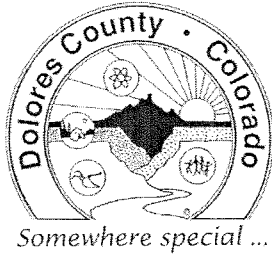
March 2, 2010
Page 2 of 2

Dolores County School District appreciates the Colorado State Library's submission and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration's consideration of this application.

Sincerely,



Bruce Hankins, Principal



Board of County Commissioners

P O Box 608

Dove Creek, CO 81324

Phone: (970) 677 2383 Fax: (970) 677-2815

dolocnty@centurytel.net

March 3, 2010

Eugene Hainer, Assistant Commissioner
Colorado State Library
201 E. Colfax Avenue

Dear Mr. Hainer,

The Dolores County Commissioners would like to express their support of the Dolores County Public Library & Distance Learning Program application for the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program. The Commissioners are very excited about the benefits such a program would bring to our community, including increased access to vital technology and increased learning opportunities.

Dolores County faces significant barriers to widespread computer access. First, our County has the highest unemployment rate in the state at 17%, and a large percentage of our families live at or below the poverty line. Computer access and training are not high priorities for these households. Next, we are located in a very rural area and lack widespread internet availability. Due to the rural nature of Dolores County, there is a significant distance factor involved which impedes using other publicly available resources outside of Dolores County. Finally, while recognizing the importance of widespread computer access in job training and achieving educational parity, Dolores County lacks the funds to implement such a program. Therefore, the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program would be of enormous help to Dolores County.

The Dolores County Public Library & Distance Learning Program is a vital resource for Dolores County. Offering public access to the internet will not only enable the Dolores County Public Library to facilitate improved educational opportunities, but will also ensure other improvements within the community, including easier access to jobs and increased business opportunities; important functions in these economic times. The Dolores County Commissioners recognize the importance of these functions to our community; the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program would help make these goals a reality.

Thank you for your consideration of the Dolores County Public Library & Distance Learning Program application.

Sincerely,
Dolores County Commissioners

DOLORES COUNTY HEALTH ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 576

Dove Creek, Colorado 81324-0576

(970) 677-2291

Fax: (970) 677-2540

February 22, 2010

Eugene Hainer, Assistant Commissioner
Colorado State Library
201 E. Colfax Avenue
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Mr. Hainer:

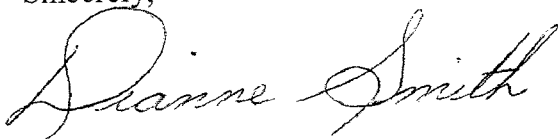
I am the Executive Director at the Community Health Clinic in Dove Creek, CO. On behalf of my organization, I am writing in support of the Dolores County Library's application for funding through the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program. I am particularly excited about the possibility of acquiring additional computer equipment for both our library and the Distant Learning Center here in our small community. This equipment will allow students access to additional learning resources as well as provide opportunity for adult education.

Dolores County ranks as one of the poorest counties in the State as well as ranking high in unemployment. There are no major industries in Dove Creek and patient statistics from the Community Health Clinic show 65 percent of patients have incomes 200% or below Federal Poverty Level.

The remote location of Dove Creek presents barriers to higher learning resources, causing many residents to accept much lower wages. Through a cooperative effort between the College of Eastern Utah, Dolores County Schools and The Community Health Clinic, grant funding has been secured to provide equipment for Distant Learning. Our local library can be used as a public computing center, but additional computer equipment is needed. The benefits to the community and the Community Health Clinic with this opportunity to improved education would be for continuing medical education for healthcare providers and training for medical assistants and nurses.

Please give careful consideration of the application submitted by the Dolores County Public Library for funding to provide computers to assist residents of Dove Creek and the surrounding communities in their efforts to obtain higher education.

Sincerely,



Dianne Smith, Executive Director

Dolores County Health Association / Community Health Clinic

Dolores County Public Library
PO Box 578
Dove Creek, CO 81324

March 1, 2010

Eugene Hainer
Assistant Commissioner
Colorado State Library
201 E. Colfax Ave.
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Mr. Hainer

I am the secretary of the Dove Creek Volunteer Ambulance Service and also bookkeeper at the Dolores County Public Library. I am working with the library to request American Recovery and Reinvestment Act federal funds. These are requesting these funds for laptop computers, which can be setup in the library and our Distance Learning Center. Dove Creek Co in Dolores County is a remote farming and mining community with a small population with very limited resources. The library is the only place for many in this community to have access to a computer. Many of the adults use the computers to fill out job applications, access their email and search the web.

We are located in the school and provide students with a use of a computer, as many of these students cannot afford one of their own.

In 2008 we entered collaboration with the school, the Community Health Clinic and us to get a distance-learning center. We secured the funds and now have the center in place but the students still need help. This center will allow the students to have basic college classes out of the way when they enter college. Adults of the community will also benefit from this center as adult education is offered.

Sincerely,
Dixie Mulligan

DOLORES COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-2J

P.O. Box 459
Dove Creek, Colorado 81324



Bruce Hankins
Assistant Principal/Athletic Director
Elementary: (970) 677-2296
Fax: (970) 677-2356

Stephen G. Strong
Superintendent
District Office: (970) 677-2522
Fax: (970) 677-2712

Ty Gray
7-12 Principal
Jr/Sr High: (970) 677-2237
Fax: (970) 677-2927

March 5, 2010

Eugene Hainer
Assistant Commissioner
Colorado State Library
201 E. Colfax Avenue
Denver, Co 80203

Dear Mr. Hainer,

I am the superintendent of Dolores County School District RE2J. I am writing this letter in support of the Colorado State Library's Public Computing Center application for the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program.

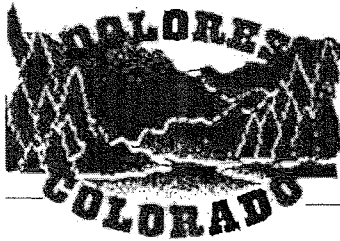
I feel it is very important that we continue to look at ways to enhance our educational opportunities in our community. Being a rural southwest Colorado school district, I feel it is important to explore all avenues of technology and to bring our resources together to offer educational opportunities to our students as well as our community members. We have actively pursued this through our partnerships with the Community Health Clinic, community library, and the Town of Dove Creek. Two years ago we were instrumental in acquiring a two way video/audio through the Rural Health Initiatives Grant. In doing so we have been able to provide opportunities for students to attend college level courses on campus as well as provide health related training for community members.

The school district houses the communication center classroom and the community library. We feel it is vital to the community and we have established a very positive relationship with our constituents. We would be excited to be able to expand our resources through the acquisition of computers to be utilized by students of the learning center.

I strongly encourage the support of this grant opportunity. I feel this is the next step in providing educational opportunities for our community and school.

Sincerely,


Stephen G. Strong



Dolores Chamber of Commerce

R. O. Box 602 • 201 Railroad Ave. • Dolores, Colorado 81323

(970) 882-4018 • (800) 807-4712

www.doloreschamber.com • Email: dolores@fone.net

March 1, 2010

To Whom It May Concern:

The Dolores Public Library District is submitting an application to request American Recovery and Reinvestment Act federal stimulus funds. We, the Dolores Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, offer our endorsement that they may receive funding for new computers and equipment, as well as training and technical support.

Our community members and businesses need greater access to job training, searches, educational support, along with access to reliable health information and e-government websites. In addition, we applaud the possibility of having ADA-compliant work stations in our local library to accommodate the blind, visually impaired, and other challenged citizens of our community. Requested funds will also be used for laptop labs, which can be set up not only in our library but also in other local agencies (such as the Chamber) so that more of our community members can take advantage of this technology for training and information access.

I am writing this letter of support on behalf of the Dolores Chamber of Commerce. We hope to demonstrate a local need and demand for enhanced computing and Internet access, as well as the resulting benefits. Our organization hopes to partner with the library for the use of these computers for training and education, business promotion and community enhancement. Your consideration of their request will be greatly appreciated. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Brenda K Smith-Bates

Brenda K Smith-Bates

President

Dolores Chamber of Commerce

Board of Directors

DOLORES COMMUNITY CENTER ASSOCIATION
Post Office Box 324
Dolores, Colorado 81323
(970) 882-7337

March 3, 2010

Carole Arnold
Library Director
Dolores Public Library
1002 Railroad Avenue
Dolores, CO 81323

Re: Letter of Support

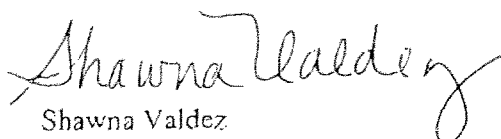
To Whom It May Concern:

This letter is to support the Dolores Public Library's efforts to obtain new computers, equipment and training. The Dolores Public Library is the sole source for public computer access in the community. Computer access and availability is essential to our small community, as the majority of our residents are low to moderate income and many do not have computers or internet access in their homes.

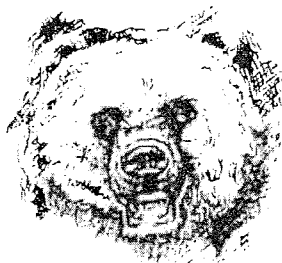
The Dolores Public Library has a history of providing a support system for the town and this project is no different. These computers will allow patrons to further their education, search for jobs, and obtain needed health and services information. The computers would also allow for training classes both in and outside of the library. The Dolores Public Library also has an excellent history of partnering with other organizations to ensure success of projects. The Community Center is excited about the prospect of hosting training sessions using the Library's laptops and smart board. These computers would be a tremendous asset to local businesses, non-profits and the local school district.

The Dolores Community Center Association board supports the Library in implementing this project. Considering the community's needs and the Library's history of success providing services to our citizens, this project will be a wonderful boost for Dolores.

Sincerely,



Shawna Valdez
President
Dolores Community Center Association

**Dolores School District RE-4A****Mark MacHale, Superintendent**17631 Highway 145
Dolores, Colorado 81323Voice 970-882-7255 Fax 970-882-7685
www.dolores.k12.co.us

March 2, 2010

Eugene Hainer, Assistant Commissioner
Colorado State Library
201 E. Colfax Avenue
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Mr. Hainer:

I am the superintendent of Dolores School District. On behalf of my organization, I am writing in support of the Colorado State Library's Public Computing Center application for the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program. I am particularly excited about the benefits of the continued partnership between the School District and the library, along with the opportunities to citizens that enhanced computing and Internet access at the Dolores Public Library will bring to our community.

Dolores faces many social and economic challenges. Our school has a 55% poverty rate. Our students often face a rather bleak reality when school is not in session. Many parents struggle to piece together enough employment to allow them to remain in their homes. Many of our students lack Internet connection at home. It is not uncommon to see every computer station occupied when I visit the library during non-school hours. The primary goal of the School District is to provide an excellent education for every student. Obviously technology is a huge part of that goal in the 21st Century, and the library plays a huge role in helping us meet our goals. We have enjoyed an effective partnership with the Dolores Library, and an increase in the technological capabilities will have a direct impact on the education level of both the students and the adults in the community.

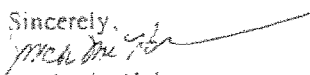
With increased access to quality technology and Internet access, our students and parents will be able to interact and understand the world outside of our small town. They will have access to career, financial and political information that is simply not available any other way. The Denver Post stopped daily delivery to our area about a year ago, and even our satellite television is based out of Albuquerque.

Dolores School District teachers will also directly benefit from increased technological capacity at the local library. Every year the teachers meet with the library staff to learn how to use the library to increase student achievement. Our teachers greatly benefit from this training and exposure. The District also works directly with the library in offering after school programs for students, and this program would also benefit under this proposal.

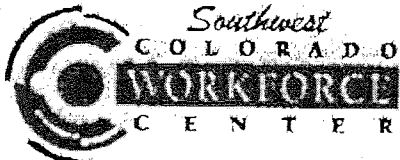
Working with Dolores Public Library, a library participating in the Colorado State Library proposal, we hope we are awarded these funds because of the significant impact on both our community and others throughout Colorado.

The Dolores School District appreciates the Colorado State Library's submission and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration's consideration of this application.

Sincerely,


Mark MacHale

Superintendent, Dolores RE-4A School District



331 So. Camino del Rfo. Ste. C, Durango, CO 81303

970-247-0308

March 03, 2010

Eugene Hainer, Assistant Commissioner
Colorado State Library
201 E. Colfax Avenue
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Mr. Hainer:

I am the Regional Supervisor of the SW Colorado Workforce Centers, which include Cortez, Durango and Pagosa Springs Workforce Centers. On behalf of my organization, I am writing in support of the Colorado State Library's Public Computing Center application for the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program. I am particularly excited about the benefits, such as increased computer knowledge for people looking for work, that enhanced computing and Internet access at the Dolores Public Library will bring to our community.

In these tough economic times, competition is great in any job opening. Having computer knowledge increases an individual's possibilities of finding and/or keeping employment. With this grant, the Dolores Public Library will be able to provide additional access to the world of computers and the World Wide Web. There is current access available, but it is limited and is not completely meeting the needs of our community as many people are seeking to increase the computer knowledge to add to their job search toolbox.

Each of the SW Colorado Workforce Centers does have a resource area with computers available to the community to use in their job related endeavors and periodically we can provide basic computer training, however, we have limited staff and limited computers as well as an influx of individuals needing the computers to address their unemployment needs. With the addition of new computers and equipment, as well as training and support, at the local library, most community members will be able to assess the technology they need to become more employable which in turn improves our community as a whole.

At the present time, Colorado Workforce Centers has initiatives available that will allow eligible individuals to take advantage of free online learning, however our centers, in the SW region, do not have computers available for individuals to use for their online classes. Knowing our local library may

have the equipment and space available for this use enables us to provide better customer services by sharing this resource with them.

Workforce Centers provide a variety of free services to assist employers and job seekers alike. These include but are not limited to: job listings, computer & internet access for job related tasks including resume' writing, labor market information, recruitment of workers, pre-screening & referral services, tax credits information and Federal Bonding information. I can envision the SW Workforce Centers and the Library collaborating on offering computer classes to address peoples' needs to fill out on line applications, create resumes and search for jobs. The Cortez and Durango Workforce Centers each have a conference room in which we could hold job related workshops in when the room is available. The Workforce Center staff could help facilitate the workshops.

Working with Dolores Public Library, a library participating in the Colorado State Library proposal, we hope we are awarded these funds because of the significant impact on both our community and others throughout Colorado.

Our mission is to deliver a workforce system that enhances employer growth and customer success by providing employment and training opportunities that achieve and sustain economic prosperity. The CEWA Project fits perfectly into our workforce mission, and we strongly support and endorse this project.

When agencies collaborate, customers benefit.

The SW Colorado Workforce Centers appreciates the Colorado State Library's submission and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration's consideration of this application.

Sincerely,



Chloe I. Wiebe
SW Colorado Workforce Centers
331 S. Camino del Rio, Ste. C
Durango, CO 81303

March 1, 2010

Eugene Hainer, Assistant Commissioner
Colorado State Library
201 E. Colfax Avenue
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Mr. Hainer:

I am the District Library Media Coordinator for Brush Public Schools RE-2J. On behalf of my organization, I am writing in support of the Colorado State Library's Public Computing Center application for the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program. I am particularly excited about the benefits of having the capability of accessing employment opportunities and training opportunities that enhanced computing and Internet access at the East Morgan County Library will bring to our community.

As a rural, agriculturally based community, our community is often behind other communities in terms of technology. We have only a few employers who hire large numbers of people, with the majority of people working either for themselves or for small businesses. The economics of the past two years have not helped. Many community members are forced to look for work elsewhere and this hurts the community. Purchases of computers are often outside the reach of many of our families, particularly our large Hispanic population, who use the public library as their means of connecting to the rest of the world. Many of our families have cut internet access to their homes due to cost. I see this daily at the schools I work in. We have more and more students staying after school to use the computers than ever before.

Our organization is here to educate future citizens. We are currently connected to the Internet on all school computers, but we lack staffing to open the computer labs to the public. Our public library helps us out currently by staffing a lab one night a week, but that will end at the end of this month when their facility reopens. Due to filtering issues that schools face, the public is reluctant to use our computers and turns to the public library instead. Increased access there will be a tremendous boon to our community being able to access the world-wide-web.

Having this increased access at the public library will make it possible for more people to look for employment outside of our region. Additionally, with the increase of on-line classes, more of our community will be able to access those educational opportunities. Disabled members of the community will be able to use these computers with the help of ADA Compliant work stations, giving them access they themselves cannot afford. This will be of help to many of our students as well as they often do not have the technology they need at home.

Our school and public libraries have always had a good working relationship. Together we strive to meet the needs of our students both at school and at home. The increase in technology at the public library will give me the opportunity to encourage students to use

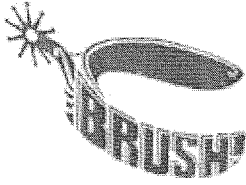
the public library in their off school time to meet their academic needs. I currently just have to send students home when it is time for staff to go home. The few computers at the public library are in almost constant use and that makes it difficult for students to complete assignments. Increased access at the public library will help my students who need that access. We plan to place ads in the monthly newsletters about the public library's increased access and encourage parents to take their students there to complete assignments. While we cannot help with financing, we can send patrons their way.

Working with East Morgan County Library, a library participating in the Colorado State Library proposal, has always been a part of our commitment to educating future citizens. We hope they are awarded these funds because of the significant impact on our community and others throughout the state.

The Brush Public Schools RE-2J appreciates the Colorado State Library's submission and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration's consideration of this application.

Sincerely,

Sandra J. Jordet
District Library Media Coordinator
Brush Public Schools RE-2J
PO Box 585
Brush CO 80723
970-842-5171 x4101



Brush! Great People! Quality Living!

Brush Area Chamber of Commerce / Main Street Project

218 Clayton Street • Brush, Colorado • (970) 842-2666 or 1-800-354-8659 • Fax: (970) 842-3828

February 26, 2010

Eugene Hainer, Assistant Commissioner
Colorado State Library
201 E. Colfax Avenue
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Mr. Hainer:

I am the Executive Director of the Brush Area Chamber of Commerce. On behalf of my organization, I am writing in support of the Colorado State Library's public computing center application for Broadband Technologies Opportunities Program. I am particularly excited about the benefits such as opening the rural internet communication and use of computers at the East Morgan County Library. Many of our residents do not have computers and internet connections.

During our library's construction phase, many people have come to the Brush Chamber asking to use our internet connections. The average yearly salary in Brush is less than \$40,000. Therefore, a substantial part of our population cannot afford computers and internet service.

If computer internet service is expanded at the East Morgan County Library, the Brush Area Chamber of Commerce commits to helping communicate this opportunity to our residents.

I do feel that the Brush community would use the Library as a public computing center. This is based on the fact that when visiting the library I have seen people using their computer and internet service and based on during their construction phase having more people come to the Chamber wanting to use our computers here.

As a partner agency we would be willing to have presentations on the library at Chamber luncheons. The library is an important part of Brush and is held in high esteem as evidenced by the mil levy increase on a recent election.

Working with the East Morgan County Library, a library participating in the Colorado State Library proposal, we hope we are awarded these funds because of the significant impact on

both our community and others throughout Colorado . The Brush Area Chamber of Commerce appreciates the Colorado State Library's submission and the National Telecommunication and Information Administration's consideration of this application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ron Prascher". The letters are cursive and connected, with a large initial "R" and "P".

Ronald Prascher
Executive Director

March 1, 2010
Eugene Hainer, Assistant Commissioner
Colorado State Library
201 E Colfax Avenue
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Mr. Hainer,

I am the Secretary for the Friends Organization of East Morgan County Library in Brush, CO. On behalf of my organization, I am writing in support of the Colorado State Library's Public Computing Center application for the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program. I am particularly excited about the benefits, such as an increase in the number of computers we can offer our patrons and the ability to move the computers to any area of the building to offer more privacy, accommodate physical disabilities and lessen the wait time for use.

Our community in Morgan County (according to City-Data.com) had an average AGI reported in 2004 of \$34,357 compared to the state average of \$55,014. Our population density is 21 people per square mile, also very low, reflecting our rural setting. A large number of our patrons depend on the library computers for everything from job searches, basic e-mail & school work. Many patrons live in a very rural area where high speed internet is not attainable yet.

The acquisition of additional laptop computers would enable us to offer our patrons a more quiet, private spot for better concentration while doing research. Plus we would be able to conduct classes such as Beginning Computers for our senior population and genealogy research for the Morgan County Genealogy Society which meets here once a month.

Having the increased internet availability will give our library the opportunity to provide our community with additional technology for those patrons who would not otherwise be able to have access to computers and the world they open to us.

Working with East Morgan County Library, a library participating in the Colorado state Library proposal, we hope we are awarded these funds because of the significant impact on both our community and others throughout Colorado.

The Friends Organization of East Morgan County Library appreciates the Colorado state Library's submission and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration's consideration of this application.

Sincerely,

Judith E Taylor
Secretary, Friends of East Morgan County Library



AGATE SCHOOL DISTRICT #300

P.O. Box 118 41032 2nd Ave.

Agate, CO 80101

Phone: 719-764-2741 Fax: 719-764-2751

Kendra Ewing - Superintendent/Principal

February 22, 2010

Eugene Halner, Assistant Commissioner
Colorado State Library
201 E. Colfax Avenue
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Mr. Halner:

As an educator and administrator for Agate School District, I would like to offer a letter of support for the Colorado State Library's Public Computing Center application for the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program. The enhanced computing and Internet access at the Simla Branch Library will bring a needed service to our community.

Agate School is located in the small, unincorporated town of Agate, Colorado just off Interstate 70. Agate consists of the school, a post office, a church, a small phone company, and a few houses. The school has experienced a steady decline in enrollment over the years and currently has only 43 students in grades K-12. In recent years, several small subdivisions have been platted and a few homes have been constructed in the general area. People move into these homes because they are attracted to the rural lifestyle on the eastern plains of Colorado; however, many families do not stay for long due to a lack of economic opportunities. Our schools and libraries are essential cornerstones for learning for all age groups.

Our local libraries provide an extremely important service for our families. Families in our rural area usually utilize the public library in closest geographic proximity. Several families in the Agate School District drive their children to the town of Simla to take advantage of the resources at the Simla Branch Library.

As a public school administrator, I am acutely aware that many families in our area do not have the requisite broadband resources they need to seek information and to learn. I believe in the premise of building better broadband infrastructure in underserved areas such as ours. By enhancing our public computer centers, we can make a difference in the future of all our residents regardless of their socio-economic standing.

Public schools are natural partners with their local libraries. Agate's teaching staff will encourage our students and their families to utilize the resources at the Simla Branch Library. The computer classes offered to our students at Agate School can augment the use of computers by our students when they are at the library. Our school is happy to support the Simla Branch Library by passing along information about their resources and programs in our monthly newsletter, *The Sparkler*, to our constituents.

Agate School District #300 applauds the Colorado State Library's submission and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration's consideration of this application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kendra Ewing".

Kendra Ewing
Superintendent/Principal

"Striving for Excellence"
BOARD OF EDUCATION

Lyndon Burnett
President

Laurie Dyson
Secretary/Treasurer

Kevin Stocking
Vice President

John Diller
Director

Jolene Chambers
Director

BIG SANDY SCHOOL DISTRICT 100-J

(719) 541-2291 Fax (719) 541-2443 or (719) 541-2186 Administration

P.O. Box 68
619 Pueblo Avenue
Simla, CO 80835

Steve Wilson, Superintendent

Ken Bailey, Middle School/High School Principal
Al Snyder, Activities Director

Greg Mitchell, Elementary Principal

February 24, 2010

Eugene Hainer, Assistant Commissioner
Colorado State Library
201 E. Colfax Avenue
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Mr. Hainer:

I am the Superintendent at the Big Sandy School District 100-J in Simla, Colorado. On behalf of my organization, I am writing in support of the Colorado State Library's Public Computing Center application for the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program. I am particularly excited about the benefits, such as new computers and equipment, training and support, ADA Compliant work station and a mobile laptop lab, that enhanced computing and Internet access at the Simla Branch Library will bring to our community.

The challenges facing our community are many:

- a) Higher gas prices causing people to move closer to their jobs in Colorado Springs and Denver.
- b) Declining enrollment (down 17 students from 2 years ago) and revenue for the school; state budget cuts of \$260 million next year resulting in school budget decreases, a recession of \$70 thousand this year and \$220 thousand next year.
- c) Agriculture jobs have declined.
- d) Sofa Mart closed.

Student learning is our main goal. Technology assists us with this goal. Students having access to the library's technology and computers after school hours, in the evenings, on weekends and holidays would greatly assist us in our mission. We have 20 students currently taking online classes. Our student population has over 50% free and reduced lunch which indicates a high level of poverty. The lack of online capabilities at home indicates a great need for online capabilities through the library.

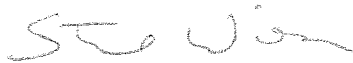
Our community utilizes the library's public computing center now, with its limited resources, and would greatly benefit from the added equipment. Student learning will increase by students being able to do more research and homework after school hours. Not only will our K-12 school benefit, but adults will be able to have access to college credit.

Our students and families partner with the school and it will be exciting to also partner with our library to increase student learning. Our school will support this project by way of assistance in training and personnel resources. We closely monitor student learning through assessments, college readiness and students and family entering the work force with employment opportunities.

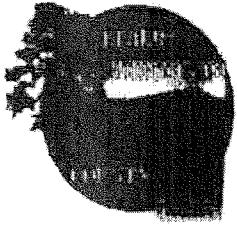
Working with the Simla Branch Library, a library participating in the Colorado State Library proposal, we hope we are awarded these funds because of the significant impact on both our community and others throughout Colorado.

The Big Sandy School and the Simla community appreciate the Colorado State Library's submission and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration's consideration of this application.

Sincerely,



Steve Wilson, Superintendent
Big Sandy School District 100-J



COUNTY OF ELBERT

OFFICE OF THE BOARD
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

P.O. BOX 597
KIOWA, COLORADO 80117
Administrative Assistant 303-621-3138

Del Schwab
District 1
Hope Goetz
District 2
John Shipper
District 3

March 1, 2010

Eugene Hainer, Assistant Commissioner
Colorado State Library
201 E. Colfax Avenue
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Mr. Hainer:

I am writing on behalf of the Elbert County Board of County Commissioners, to support the Colorado State Library's Public Computing Center application for the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program. The upgrading of the technology in Elbert County is long overdue. Due to the economic down turn, many of our citizens have found themselves out of work. With the rural nature of our county there are limited opportunities to a public computing center.

Elbert County has received publicity in recent years for being one of the fastest growing counties in the nation. However, most of our growth has been residential and county services have not kept up with the demand. The county's commercial and industrial tax base, necessary to support those services, is almost non-existent.

Our county is one of Colorado's older counties. In fact, Elbert County could almost be called the Father of Colorado's Central Plains, as much of the land in other counties in our region was originally part of Elbert County. Like Lincoln, Kit Carson and Cheyenne counties, Elbert County has a rich heritage of sprawling ranches and famous cattle barons, historic trails and railroad history.

We wholly support the Simla Library in applying for grant funding for the Colorado State Library's Public Computing Center. This would be a benefit for all Elbert County citizens.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Hope Goetz".

Hope Goetz
Chairman, Board of County Commissioners

Colorado East Community Action Agency

"PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE"

THE COUNTIES OF: ELBERT, LINCOLN, KIT CARSON, AND CHEYENNE

P.O. BOX 416 STRATTON, CO 80836

(719) 348-5303 cecna@centurytel.net FAX (719) 348-5305

Rebecca A. Carter
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Gary Beedy
CHAIRPERSON

February 23, 2009

Eugene Hainer, Assistant Commissioner
Colorado State Library
201 E. Colfax Avenue
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Mr. Hainer:

I am the Executive Director of the Colorado East Community Action Agency. On behalf of my organization, I am writing in support of the Colorado State Library's Public Computing Center application for the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program. I am particularly excited about the benefits, such as the increased ability to service rural clients, that enhanced computing and Internet access at the Simla Branch Library will bring to our community.

As an agency that serves low income, elderly and handicapped citizens in the four rural Colorado counties of Cheyenne, Elbert, Kit Carson and Lincoln it is a challenge for our staff to be able to supply services to geographically remote locations. These rural residents do not have ready access to free income tax preparation and Medicare counseling. Often these residents are in need of advocacy when in need of various services. While we have an Outreach Worker in Elbert County, the need for her services is often beyond what one counselor can provide. We are increasingly developing ways we can improve service delivery via technology.

Our current services include free income tax preparation as well as Medicare insurance counseling. We also provide linkages to other available services, federal, state, local or private.

The Simla Library already does an excellent job of attracting community members and providing a centralized location for community needs. In our own case, for the past two years the Simla Library has allowed us to use their facilities to provide free income tax preparation for low income residents. The support the library staff

has given us has allowed us to come into the community and offer this valuable service in a convenient location.

Enhanced computer access has the potential of allowing us to further expand our services to the community. We could provide more tax help as well as ongoing Medicare counseling. Better computer capabilities would enable us to serve more people more frequently with few staff hours.

With better computer technology we would be able to increase the amount of services we provide to the residents in and around Simla. We would also be willing to work with the Library to increase any services to the target population. We would be open to collaborating on any needed training and would be willing to share any appropriate statistics as requested.

Working with Simla Branch Library, a library participating in the Colorado State Library proposal, we hope we are awarded these funds because of the significant impact on both our community and others throughout Colorado.

The Colorado East Community Action Agency appreciates the Colorado State Library's submission and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration's consideration of this application.

Sincerely,



Rebecca A. Carter
Executive Director

STATE OF COLORADO

Bill Ritter, Jr., Governor

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

DIVISION OF WILDLIFE

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

Thomas E. Remington, Director
 6060 Broadway
 Denver, Colorado 80216
 Telephone: (303) 297-1192
wildlife.state.co.us



*For Wildlife-
For People*

March 3, 2010

Eugene Hainer, Assistant Commissioner
 Colorado State Library
 201 E. Colfax Avenue
 Denver, CO 80203

Dear Mr. Hainer:

I am a local wildlife officer for the Colorado Division of Wildlife (CDOW). My district includes Elbert and El Paso counties. I am writing to express my support for the Elbert County Public Library in applying for the Colorado State Library's Public Computing Center for the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program. I am particularly excited about the benefits it will bring to our community such as enhanced computing and Internet access at the Elbert County Public Library.

Many people who contact CDOW often get directed to the CDOW website to retrieve information relating to wildlife viewing, living with wildlife, hunting and fishing information. Often times, when a person requests information, they like to receive that information as quickly as possible. The information that one had to wait to be received in the mail can now be accessed quickly and easily from the internet. Home internet may not be an option in rural communities because of the cost for satellite service when DSL or cable internet service is unavailable.

The CDOW encourages outdoor enthusiast such as hunters, fishermen, and wildlife watchers to prepare and plan ahead for a trip. Most of the information can be found on the internet, however a significant amount of the information is also found at local libraries. Being able to access both resources at one location will make the planning part of a trip more efficient and enjoyable. CDOW also utilizes websites for online Hunter Education. Hunter Education is a required course one must complete before they can hunt. Hunter Education is not only for those who wish to hunt, but also teaches safe firearm handling. Many Hunter Education instructors have discovered that kids have increased test scores when they take the class online compared to a traditional class setting. This is often because the internet can be used to teach people based on their different learning styles and at one's own pace. Online hunter education courses utilize video, text, interactive demonstrations, and opportunities for text to be read to the student. Once a student completes the online portion, they attend a class where they take a test and have hands on training.

CDOW has experienced and recognizes a decrease in wildlife recreation over the past several years. CDOW relies on license sales as the primary funding source for wildlife management and habitat protection, and is not funded by state tax payers. Rural communities also benefit from wildlife recreation and activity. Often hunters, fishermen and wildlife viewers stay in small town hotels and support local businesses. In attempt to reduce the decline that affects both CDOW and rural communities, CDOW is taking innovative approaches to advertize and market wildlife recreation. Most of the marketing and resources are driven by the internet.

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL REBOURCES, James B. Martin, Executive Director
 WILDLIFE COMMISSION, Tim Glenn, Chair • Robert Stroeter, Vice Chair • Mark Smith, Secretary
 Members, Darnia Buechler • Brad Coors • Jeffrey Crawford • Dorothea Farris • Roy McAnally • John Singletary
 Ex Officio Members, James B. Martin and John Stulp

Mar 04 10 03:09p CO Division of Wildlife

719-683-7537

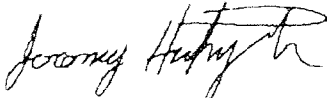
p.2

It is important for everyone to have equal access to the technology in order to access the wealth of information and have better learning opportunities. Library computers and internet can provide equal access to information and resources for the communities in Elbert County. As a local wildlife officer in Elbert County, I have utilized the Elbert County library resources to teach hunter education and other wildlife related classes. Expanded computer resources would expand the local community's opportunity to take advantage of CDOW's and other educational websites, and unlock tremendous learning opportunities.

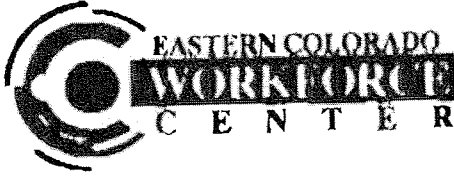
Working with Elbert County Library, a library participating in the Colorado State Library proposal, I hope they are awarded these funds because of the significant impact on both our community and others throughout Colorado.

I appreciate the Colorado State Library's submission and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration's consideration of this application.

Sincerely,



Jeremy Huntington
Colorado Division of Wildlife
District Wildlife Manager



February 23, 2010

To Whom IT May Concern:

I am writing in support of the Colorado State Library's Public Computing Center application for the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program. (Free) computer lab access is at a minimum for the residents of Elbert County. The need to communicate online for preparation of job applications, resumes, searching for availability of current job openings, use of e-mail for applying and online communications with employers are necessary elements in the labor market today. The addition of a computer lab in the Simla area would give residents of the outlying areas access to a local lab as well as alleviate the current over-load of the Elizabeth computer labs (Elizabeth Library and Elizabeth Workforce Center).

The Elizabeth Workforce center appreciates the Colorado State Library's submission and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration's consideration of this application.

Cynthia Rears
 L & E Specialist I - (Office Manager)
 Elizabeth Workforce Center

cc: Karl Bauman
 e-mail: director@elbertcountylibrary.org

Burlington
 1490 A Martin Ave
 Burlington, CO
 80807
 For more info
 719-348-6331

Elizabeth
 240 Elizabeth St
 Suite A-1
 Elizabeth, CO 80107
 For more info
 303-648-2783

Fort Morgan
 411 Main
 Suite 200
 Fort Morgan, CO
 80701
 For more info
 970-887-0401

Limon
 285 D Avenue
 PO Box 875
 Limon, CO 80828
 For more info
 719-775-2387

Sterling
 100 College
 Walker Hall #22
 Sterling, CO 80751
 For more info:
 970-522-9340

Yuma
 528 N. Albany
 Suite 1210
 Yuma, CO 80759
 For more info:
 970-848-3780



Town of Simla
323 Pueblo Ave. P.O. Box 237
Simla, CO 80835
719-541-2468

February 26, 2010

Eugene Hainer, Assistant Commissioner
Colorado State Library
201 E. Colfax Avenue
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Mr. Hainer:

I am the Mayor for the Town of Simla. On behalf of the Town, I am writing in support of the Colorado State Library's Public Computing Center application for the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program. I am particularly excited about the benefits, such as having facility for our citizens to grow in both education and financially, that having enhanced computing and Internet access at the Simla Branch Library of Elbert County will bring to our community.

Simla is a small town on the plains of Colorado. Our Town has seen some hardships in the past few years but the citizens continue to be strong and believe in our small town. Small towns have a way of sticking together during times of need. Even our local library is looking at ways to help with the struggles of our citizens by finding this grant. This grant will not only help with the citizens inside the Town of Simla but all the citizens in the area.

With the loss of our biggest company in town (closed due to the economy) a majority of citizens were left without jobs. Some of citizens are not able to commute to the city (48 miles away) and continue to struggle to find income. Many of these citizens are now on government funding. Some of our citizens have not used a computer before and could extremely benefit from classes that this grant would provide. This type of education can only improve the chances for local citizen to receive that job they are looking for. Even the possibility to take classes online to get the college education needed. This grant is hugely needed for this community. Without jobs or the means to get a job we will not have citizens. Without citizens we will not have a Town.

These computers can also help local businesses with any training needed. Having a computer center gives local business the opportunity to train multiple people at the same time and also with online training. This is a great resource for the whole town and those around us.

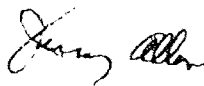
March 2, 2010
Page 2 of 2

Our library has shown to be a great asset to our Town by providing classes to the citizens to get their GED, which they could not achieve before. Bringing the community together with different events. Having reading programs that interest the kids with bringing in a dog to read to. Having a facility for different groups to meet such as; gardening club, knit and crochet ladies. Teen activities to keep them busy and out of trouble. There is not a day on the calendar that is not filled with something to help our community to be a closer, more educated community. This grant would allow the library to continue to help those in this community.

Working with Simla Branch Library of Elbert County, a library participating in the Colorado State Library proposal, we hope we are awarded these funds because of the significant impact on both our community and others throughout Colorado.

The Town of Simla appreciates the Colorado State Library's submission and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration's consideration of this application.

Sincerely,



Jerry Allen
Town of Simla, Mayor

February 26, 2010

Eugene Hainer, assistant Commissioner

Colorado State Library

201 E. Colfax Ave.

Denver, CO 80203

Dear Mr. Haner:

I am a City Councilman for the town of Fleming, Colorado. On behalf of the Council, I am writing in support of the Colorado State Library's Public Computing Center application for the Broadband Technology Opportunity Program. I am particularly excited about benefits such as increased public access to the world that enhanced computing and Internet access at the Fleming Community Library will bring to our community.

Fleming, a town of 400 citizens and community center for another 200 doesn't have a doctor or hospital, but makes do with the nurse practitioner. The nearest hospital and clinic utilize a medical service provider which provides "the doctor of the week" resulting in the need for patients to be highly informed about their family's and their own health and medications. Our students are falling behind in acquisition of 21st-century skills because our hardware and Internet facilities are outdated. The primary objective of Fleming Schools is to educate tomorrow's citizens, a lofty goal crippled by last decade's-old technology. Because Fleming is a tiny remote rural community, access to a university library or another in-depth research facility is difficult. Our population demographic is a reverse bell curve with aging grandparents caring for young children while working adults live wherever they find paying jobs. The commuter adults try to work on skill upgrade, while here over weekends and are hampered by the technology available in the library. The only large employers in the area are the Colorado Department of Corrections (DOC) and local agricultural cooperatives. The DOC is undergoing budget cuts in local cooperatives are automating. Residential property values have remained relatively steady, but low. The combination of few jobs, fewer well-paying jobs, and low tax revenues have limited the ability of the Fleming Library to meet patron needs.

The goal of Fleming Community Library is to facilitate the learning, training, and enjoyment of student and adult town residents and those in the surrounding community. The library is wheelchair accessible and allows patrons easy access to all areas of the library, including computer stations. The library acts as a community education center, and all library patrons may access Internet information and library materials for their personal and professional growth. Because of its location and isolation, Fleming does not receive daily delivery of newspapers from any metropolitan center. These newspapers must be accessed via the Internet for those wishing access to the news and any job or retail information from

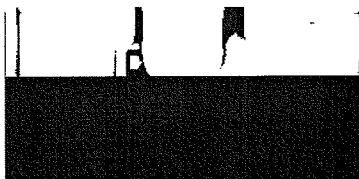
outside the Fleming area. Many goods and services are not available locally, and residents must research and diagnose their needs, determine the procedures and products necessary to meet those needs and make the orders themselves over the Internet. Many library patrons do without because they don't have adequate technology at home and the technology at the library is outdated and our library staff has limited training in assisting patrons with technology.

There are no training facilities, easily accessible to community members without extensive travel. Access to training by Internet is the only viable training opportunity available to numerous library patrons. Applications for many jobs are accessible only online and access to them will allow Fleming, community members better opportunities to seek employment in a difficult economic environment. New and upgraded computers and Internet access will allow those seeking 21st-century skills the opportunity to fulfill their needs in our global economy. Library patrons will have access to the latest in government information and will be able to find out what is happening at the city, county, state and national level. Important information concerning the workings, processes, programs, and procedures of government are often unknown to community members due to the lack of printed resources that reach our community. New computing power and Internet access will allow citizens to find information that is of vital import or interest to them.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Clayton F. Gorman". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial 'C'.

Clayton F. Gorman



March 1, 2010

Eugene Hainer, Assistant Commissioner
Colorado State Library
201 E. Colfax Avenue
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Mr. Hainer:

I am the president of the Library Association of the Fleming community. I am writing in support of the Colorado State Library's Public Computing Center application for the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program. I am particularly excited about the benefits which will reach out to many more individuals that enhanced computing and Internet access will bring to our library and to our community.

Our rural community is facing the loss of several businesses which have consolidated in larger towns. Our local grocery store closed and our grain elevator facilities have merged to a larger facility in another community. This leaves a population lacking in funding for important programs as well as searching for jobs at greater distances.

The Fleming Library Association is composed of representatives from the school, town and community. Our goals and objectives are to provide all people in the library service the opportunity to access and use information for education, enlightenment, entertainment and lifelong learning. To develop partnerships with community groups to understand better the needs of its diverse citizens and to use every practical means to satisfy them. This includes providing every resident free basic service to holders of Colorado Library Cards. To exploit all reasonable opportunities for utilization of information systems, identifying community needs and exerting deliberate efforts to inform non-users the advantages of available library service.

Our Association works closely and compatibly with all three entities to provide each of these services. However, our budgets are limited, especially at the present time due to our economy. Our local library is the community hub and an enhanced computing capability would serve very effectively in reaching our purpose and goals.

The Library Association will support the library using these computers to meet the goals of our organization and will assist in training and financially, if possible, to receive the Broadband Technology Opportunity Program. This will provide job accessibility, educating computer use and availability for health services as well. The impact will be measured by increased usage, opening the doors of technology to many more in our area as well as providing rural communities to become better educated citizens.

Working with the Fleming Community Library, a library participating in the Colorado State Library proposal, we hope we are awarded these funds because of the significant impact on both our community and others throughout Colorado.

The Fleming Community Library appreciates the Colorado State Library's submission and the National Telecommunications and Information and Administration's consideration of this application.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Laurel Williams". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely".

Laurel Williams
President
Fleming Community Library Association

March 3, 2010

Eugene Hainer, Assistant Commissioner

Colorado State Library

201 E. Colfax Avenue

Denver, CO 80203

Dear Mr. Hainer:

I am a Council Member of the Fleming Town Council. On behalf of my organization, I am writing in support of the Colorado State Library's Public Computing Center application for the Broadband Technologies Program. I am particularly excited about these benefits, such as high speed internet, that enhanced computing and Internet access at the Fleming Community Library will bring to our community.

The Fleming Community Library has become a hub to a variety of people within the community. The staff at the library has made it a priority to welcome all people of all ages and backgrounds. Often patrons of the Fleming Community Library do not have internet access at home. Thus, Fleming Community Library has become the place where people who cannot afford internet can gain access to it.

The economy of Fleming is tied to farming and the school district. Therefore, many families within Fleming do not have very high socio-economic backgrounds. In fact, the school district includes about 30-35% of its population that qualify for free lunches. As we become more interconnected to the world, we feel that of community members must have adequate technology skills and access. From our summer reading programs to the retirees that frequent the library, we have made it a goal to provide people with opportunities to use technology at the Fleming Community Library. Given our distance from major cities and libraries, our patrons particularly rely on internet access to find educational and economic resources hundreds of miles away.

The community already uses what resources we have as a public computing center, and we would greatly appreciate the opportunity to expand this dynamic. We believe that people in our community must have technology skills to compete in a global economy. If granted more computer access, we would like to develop workshops and other opportunities for people for learn these skills. We would especially plan to partner with our school district, Frenchman RE-3, and Northeastern Junior College to provide technological support and classes for the people of Fleming.

The Fleming Town Council will continue to insist the Fleming Community Library provide technological opportunities. We plan to provide training opportunities for our library staff, and we would be willing to dedicate some matching funds in our upcoming budgets. We would also seek further opportunities to work with existing institutions in providing training and classes for the patrons that would be using this technology.

Working with our Fleming Community Library, a library participating in the Colorado State Library Proposal, we hope we are awarded these funds because of the significant impact on both our community and others throughout Colorado.

The Fleming Community Library appreciates the Colorado State Library's submission and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration's consideration of this application.

Sincerely,

Daniel R. Conn

Fleming Town Council

February 24, 2010

Eugene Hainer, Assistant Commissioner
Colorado State Library
201 E. Colfax Avenue
Denver CO 80203

Dear Mr. Hainer:

I am the Superintendent of the Frenchman RE-3 School District located in Fleming, Colorado. On behalf of my District, I am writing in support of the Colorado State Library's Public Computing Center application for the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program. I am particularly excited about the benefits, such as increased access to our rural community and school populations that enhanced computing and Internet access at the Fleming Community Library will bring to our community.

Our community is a rural – somewhat isolated farming/ranching community. Many of our students and population do not have Internet access or access to reading materials except through our library. The library also provides for a summer reading program and is open during the summer for our patrons.

Our community provides the only School and Community Library in our area of the state. This cooperative effort was created in 1995 and it formed a partnership between the Fleming Library Association, the Town of Fleming, and the Frenchman RE-3 School. We provide library services not only during school hours, but also after hours and in the summer through this cooperative. The populations that use our library are students, parents, and the senior citizens of our community. The Library Association accepts donations and does fundraising to provide the adult collection of the library. The school provides the student collections for the Library. We have just added wireless capabilities to our Library so that community members who might have laptops are able to bring them to the Library and access the Internet.

Our patrons already use the Library for Internet access. If we had the increased capabilities that this grant would provide, then that use would expand. We could also make the use of the Library available to groups who could use a computing center in the evenings as needed. Access to the Internet makes it possible for our patrons to do

research for college classes or distance learning, and indeed would increase our capability to provide for online class opportunities. We already have a partnership with the Town and Library Association in the operation of the Library. Therefore, activities could be planned and coordinated very easily between the three entities.

Working with the Fleming School and Community Library, a library participating in the Colorado State Library proposal, we hope we are awarded these funds because of the significant impact on both our community and others throughout Colorado.

The Fleming Community Library appreciates the Colorado State Library's submission and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration's consideration of this application.

Sincerely,

Jim D. Copeland
Superintendent

Main Campus
920 Barlow Road
Fort Morgan, CO 80701
970-542-3208
FAX 970-542-3115



OFFICE OF INSTRUCTION

Vice President of Instruction
Betty J. McKie

March 3, 2010

Eugene Hainer, Assistant Commissioner
Colorado State Library
201 E. Colfax Avenue
Denver, CO 80807

Dear Mr. Hainer:

I am writing in support of the Colorado State Library's Public Computing Center application for the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program that will enhance the Fort Morgan Public Library. This facility is the first contact for many of our new community members and these funds would help provide the technical service that many of our new residents expect when they move here. The enhanced computing and internet access will be such a plus for this community as we need to be able to get reliable internet service in eastern Colorado.

From a higher education perspective, students at Morgan Community College (MCC) would benefit greatly as this would add to our student's options for computer use if they are unable to afford a home computer. The Fort Morgan Public Library is open on Saturdays when our labs are not available – many students have expressed the need for Saturday hours but staffing and budget do not allow us to provide this service at this time. MCC students are now required to have a current e-mail address in order to enroll. Unfortunately, many of the students in the high needs population do not own their own computer. The addition of the computers at the Fort Morgan Public Library will give them one more place to access their course requirements and participate in online distance learning opportunities with other universities and colleges.

As the economy continues to change, we have seen an increase in the number of students coming back for training and retraining, in order to enhance their job skills. MCC has partnered with the Colorado Work Force Center and their clients in eastern Colorado to provide classes in critical areas such as; job skills, resume building and the job application process. Again, most of the targeted population does not have access to computer services, outside of our computer labs.

Working with The Fort Morgan Public Library and the other public libraries across our service area in eastern Colorado has been a great partnership for Morgan Community College. We hope they will be awarded the funds because of the significant impact on the community of Fort Morgan as well as others throughout eastern Colorado.

Morgan Community College appreciates the Colorado State Library's submission and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration's consideration of this application.

Sincerely,

Betty J. McKie

Betty J. McKie
Vice President of Instruction
Morgan Community College



Morgan County Administration Building * 231 Ensign Street, #B-102 * Fort Morgan, CO 80701 * (970) 542-3527 or 1-800-522-4333 * Fax: (970) 542-3528

February 19, 2010

Eugene Hainer, Assistant Commissioner
Colorado State Library
201 E. Colfax Avenue
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Mr. Hainer:

I am the Executive Director of Morgan County Economic Development Corporation (MCEDC). On behalf of my organization, I am writing in support of the Colorado State Library's Public Computing Center application for the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program. I am particularly excited about the benefits and opportunities that enhanced computing and Internet access at the Fort Morgan Public Library will bring to our community.

Morgan County is a community where there are households that do not have computers or computer capabilities. Thus, leaving a large population not being able to access the internet. Having access to this technology within our library system will allow this population to be able to partake in the internet world ranging from school work assignments to addressing healthcare questions.

MCEDC has a strong focus to make Morgan County a great place to live and to do business in. So any infrastructure to help support or make the community a better place is important to us. This addition to our public library will allow the entire population to improve themselves in whatever capacity they need. In order to set Morgan County apart we have to have assets that we can build upon, this library and its future technology outlet helps us achieve this.

As MCEDC is a non-profit corporation we cannot put funds toward this program but we fully endorse its importance and will continue to refer persons to this facility for support as needed.

Working with Fort Morgan Public Library, a library participating in the Colorado State Library proposal, we hope we are awarded these funds because of the significant impact on both our community and others throughout Colorado.

MCEDC appreciates the Colorado State Library's submission and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration's consideration of this application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kari Linker".

Kari Linker



City of Fort Morgan

P.O. Box 100 • Fort Morgan, CO 80701
www.cityoffortmorgan.com

March 3, 2010

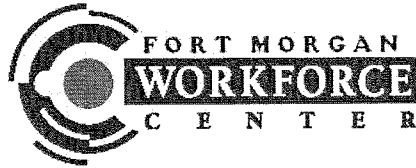
The Fort Morgan Public Library offers many programs to the community. I feel this grant for laptop computers would benefit the Senior Citizens of this community in a way that has not been available to them in the past. As the Fort Morgan Senior Center Coordinator, I have received several requests to offer classes at the Senior Center from basic to advanced computer applications. These laptop computers would provide that opportunity. Bringing computers to the Senior Center could serve yet another group of Fort Morgan's citizens.

Research has shown that Older Adults that use a computer even an hour a day create new paths in the brain known as "growing dendrites" which wards off Alzheimer's.

Best Regards,

Jane Perkins
Senior Center Coordinator

PEOPLE • PARTNERSHIP • PROGRESS



March 8, 2010

Eugene Hainer, Assistant Commissioner
Colorado State Library
201 E. Colfax Avenue
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Mr. Hainer:

I am the Veterans Representative/Employment Specialist at the Fort Morgan Workforce Center. On behalf of my organization, I am writing in support of the Colorado State Library's Public Computing Center application for the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program. I am particularly excited about the benefits, such as additional computer access for job seekers in the community, that enhanced computing and Internet access at the Fort Morgan Public Library will bring to our community.

The customers of the Workforce Center encompass a broad section of the area community and include people from all levels of education and economic status. Since all persons on Unemployment Insurance must be registered with the Workforce Center, and the unemployment rate has been much higher for the past eighteen months, we have seen a sharp increase in folks in very dire economic circumstances. There are far more people seeking self-sufficient entry level jobs in the area than there are job openings.

The primary objective for the Workforce Center regarding job seekers is to either directly provide them with the tools to find a job, or refer them to agencies that can further that goal. Internet access is very important to this population. Many jobs can only be applied for online, and with out internet access the job seeker does not have the opportunity for those positions. We do have a resource room, but we only have four computers with internet access. It is common that we have to ask people to wait because all of the computers are busy. Additional internet access would be a great help to the job seekers. The location of the Library is directly across the street from the Workforce Center, making it an ideal location for our customers.

The Workforce Center has partnered with the Fort Morgan Public Library in the past by utilizing the current computer lab for computer job search workshops. The additional computers would be a great help to us in expanding those workshops to job seekers. The numbers of people that have very limited computer skills but are looking for jobs that require some computer background is a constant challenge for us. A resource like the additional computer access at the library would be a very valuable tool for the marketing of the computer workshops. The hours of the library could accommodate people who work during the day. The Workforce Center could track those attending the workshops and also collect surveys to better focus the topics of the classes.

Overall, the additional resource of an expanded computer access will lead to more people able to obtain employment that they may not have been able to do so without it. That fits in directly with our mission as a Workforce Center.

Working with Fort Morgan Public Library, a library participating in the Colorado State Library proposal, we hope we are awarded these funds because of the significant impact on both our community and others throughout Colorado.

The Fort Morgan Workforce Center appreciates the Colorado State Library's submission and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration's consideration of this application.

Sincerely,

Kirk Woerner
Veterans' Representative
Fort Morgan Workforce Center
411 Main St. Suite 200
Fort Morgan, CO 80701
(970) 867-9401 ext. 13

February 26, 2010

Colorado State Library
201 E Colfax Avenue
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Committee Members

The Fowler Chamber of Commerce would like to acknowledge its support of the Fowler Municipal Library. The library is an important part of our community. One of the needs of our library that has increased dramatically is the need for current technology. As you are aware, computers are necessary for research, communication, and a variety of uses. Whereas the income level in our community is low, up-to-date technology at our public library is essential. We sincerely hope that you will consider the Fowler Municipal Library's grant request.

Sincerely,


Shawn Pagnotta
Fowler Chamber Secretary



200 Main Street
Fowler, CO 81039
(719) 263-4461
Fax (719) 263-5845

February 22, 2010

Colorado State Library
201 E Colfax Avenue
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Committee Members

The Town of Fowler would like to acknowledge its support of the Fowler Municipal Library. The library is an integral part of our community. One of the needs of our library that has increased dramatically is the need for current technology. As you are aware, computers are necessary for research, communication, and a variety of uses. Whereas the income level in our community is low, up-to-date technology at our public library is essential. We sincerely hope that you will consider the Fowler Municipal Library's grant request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ray Wards".

Ray Wards
Mayor

"A GOOD PLACE TO GROW"



Tri-County Housing & Community Development Corporation
Serving Bent, Crowley & Otero Counties

February 23, 2010

Eugene Hainer, Assistant Commissioner
Colorado State Library
201 E. Colfax Avenue
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Mr. Hainer:

I am the Assistant Director at the Tri-County Housing Inc. On behalf of my organization, I am writing in support of the Colorado State Library's Public Computing Center application for the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program. I am particularly excited about the benefits, such as technology that enhanced computing and Internet access at the Fowler Public Library will bring to our community.

Paragraph #1: Description of Community Needs – consider answering the following questions as appropriate

- What challenges – such as economic, education, and health – does your community face? Please provide any statistical evidence or anecdotes to illustrate this. Indicate the target populations with high need. *Tri-County Housing assists low to moderate income groups with opportunities to obtain or improve affordable housing. Over 60% of the households in our County fall in the income categories below 80% area median income.*
- What are the reasons your community has had difficulty tackling these challenges? Examples may include lack of funding for important programs, the recent loss of a major employer, etc. *We are located in a rural area thirty five miles to the nearest large city. The employment opportunities just are not available and/or not cost effective for individuals who might get only a minimum wage job to commute to. The economy has affected everyone but we are limited to what can be improved here.*

Paragraph #2: Brief description of how your organization addresses these needs for its constituents – consider answering the following questions as appropriate

- What are your organization's primary goals and objectives with regard to the targeted need-population? *In addition to improving the living conditions of low to moderate income families, families have a lot of negative credit issues that prevent them from obtaining favorable interest rates or insurance. We counsel households on what they can do to improve their credit and in doing that they must get the credit report at least every six months to monitor any changes.*
- How do you use computers and Internet access currently or how could they potentially help you facilitate these goals and objectives?. *They need to have access to the web, which our library could have available for them to use.*

Paragraph #3: Envisioning the local library with enhanced computing capability, as the community hub – consider answering the following questions as appropriate

- How do you think your community and/or organization's constituents would use the library as a public computing center? *The adults need a place where they can get familiar with computers and the center would meet that need. Children have access to computers while at school, but not at home, the center can be open for after school hours.*
- What will the resulting benefits be for the local community and/or your organization's constituents? *There would be opportunities for on line trainings that would be a benefit to health improvements, educational sites as well as entertainment.*
- What other agencies or partnerships do you or will you develop to make valuable use of the computers? *The Senior Citizens Center and the Schools.*


Paragraph #4: Partnership with the library on this grant – consider answering the following questions as appropriate:

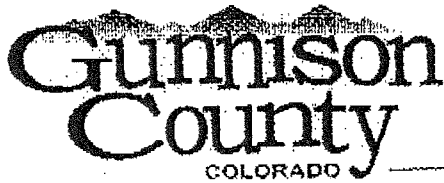
- As appropriate, how will you work with the library on using these computers to meet the goals of your organization *We would have a location where our clients can have use of the computers.*
- What type of training/support/financial match will you contribute at a partner agency?
We are a non profit organization with focus toward affordable homeownership, the library can refer inquires to our office.
- How will you determine the impact?

Working with Fowler Library, a library participating in the Colorado State Library proposal, we hope we are awarded these funds because of the significant impact on both our community and others throughout Colorado.

The Tri-County Housing Inc. appreciates the Colorado State Library's submission and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration's consideration of this application.

Sincerely,


Ramona J. Stites
Assistant Director



Gunnison County Board of County Commissioners
Phone: (970) 641-0248 • Fax: (970) 641-3061
Email: boccc@gunnisoncounty.org • www.GunnisonCounty.org

March 2, 2010

Eugene Hainer, Assistant Commissioner
Colorado State Library
201 E. Colfax Avenue
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Mr. Hainer:

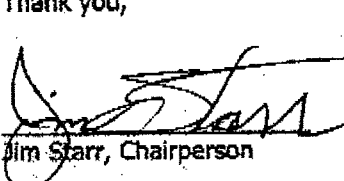
The Gunnison County Board of County Commissioners strongly supports the Colorado State Library's Public Computing Center application for the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program.


With these funds, the Gunnison Public Library will purchase new computers and equipment, as well as training and support, so that our community members have greater access to information such as employment postings, health information and government websites. These funds will also provide the opportunity for the library to obtain ADA compliant work stations that will support library patrons who may have difficulty using standard public computer stations.

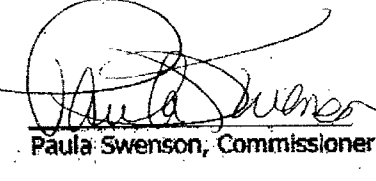
Working with the Gunnison County Library District and the Gunnison Public Library, a library participating in the Colorado State Library proposal, we hope we are awarded these funds because of the significant positive impact on both our community and our visitors from throughout Colorado.

We appreciate the Colorado State Library's submission and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration's consideration of this application.

Thank you,


Jim Starr, Chairperson


Hap Channell, Commissioner


Paula Swenson, Commissioner

cc: Gunnison County Library District Executive Director Larry Meredith



GUNNISON COUNTRY
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

500 E. Tomichi Ave. • P.O. Box 36 • Gunnison, CO 81230 • 970.641.1501

March 1, 2010

Eugene Hainer, Assistant Commissioner
Colorado State Library
201 E. Colfax Avenue
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Mr. Hainer:

On behalf of the Board of Directors and Staff of the Gunnison Country Chamber of Commerce I am writing in support of the Colorado State Library's Public Computing Center application for the Broad and Technology Opportunities Program. We are very excited about the benefits, that enhanced computing and Internet access that this will bring to our community, thought the Gunnison Public Library.

Gunnison is a community were many of our residents and a high number of our visitors that are just passing through need access to a computer and to the internet to look for information or to check their emails. The only place in our community that offers this service is our public library. Because we also manage the Visitor Center for the Gunnison Country I can tell you that we refer 5 to 10 groups a day in the summer to our Library for the usage of their system. We have become very depend on what they can offer our community!

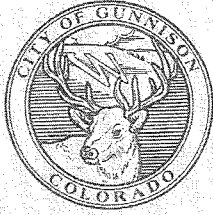
We work closely with the Gunnison Public Library, a library participating in the Colorado State Library proposal, and we hope they are awarded these funds because of the significant impact on both our community and others throughout Colorado.

The Gunnison Country Chamber of Commerce appreciates the Colorado State Library's submission and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration's consideration of this application.

Sincerely,

Tammy Scott

Executive Director



City of Gunnison

March 1, 2010

Eugene Hainer, Assistant Commissioner
Colorado State Library
201 E. Colfax Avenue
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Mr. Hainer:

The City of Gunnison would like to express their support for the Gunnison Public Library grant application concerning the Colorado State Library's Public Computing Center for the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program. They are requesting American Recovery and Reinvestment Act federal stimulus funds to expand their Public Computer Center.

If these funds are awarded, the Gunnison Public Library will receive new computers and equipment, as well as training and support, so that our community members can get more support for job searching, educational support for high need populations and access to reliable health information and e-government websites. In addition, our community will have, for the first time, ADA Compliant work stations in our library to support those who are blind, visually impaired, or have other challenges to using standard public computer stations.

The request includes laptop labs which can not only be set up in the library but also in other agencies so that more of our community can take advantage of this technology for training and access to information.

We have a demonstrated local need and demand for enhanced computing and Internet access to provide the aforementioned resulting benefits. We agree that this is a valuable program that will benefit Gunnison County and encourage you to strongly consider this request.

Sincerely,

Ken Coleman
City Manager



March 8th, 2010

Eugene Hainer, Assistant Commissioner
Colorado State Library
201 E. Colfax Avenue
Denver, CO 80203

**Gunnison County
Extension**

275 South Spruce Street
Gunnison, Colorado 81230
(970) 641-1260
Fax: (970) 641-8553
gunnison@mail.ext.colostate.edu
www.gunnison.colostate.edu

Dear Mr. Hainer:

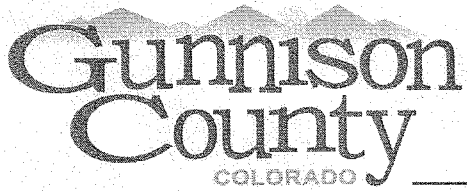
I am an Outreach Coordinator at Colorado State University Gunnison County Extension. On behalf of my organization, I am writing in support of the Colorado State Library's Public Computing Center application for the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program. I am particularly excited about the benefits, such as, partnering with the library to deliver health programs, and family education classes that enhanced computing and Internet access at the Gunnison County Library will bring to our community.

- The challenges our community faces are health, education, and economic. Our underserved community consisting mostly of immigrant families and transient families are at high risk and need of researched based programming.
- One of the reasons the Gunnison County Community has difficulty tackling these tasks is lack of computers and at times scheduling venues that have internet access.
- Gunnison County Extension provides information, education, and encourages the application of research-based knowledge in response to local and national issues affecting individuals, youth, families, and agricultural enterprises.
- An innovative way that we attract an audience is to provide Basic Computer Classes, and in exchange the participants learn about Diabetes Awareness and Prevention, Personal Budgeting, Parenting Workshops and Food Safety.
- The library as a Family Center hub will make it more attractive and approachable to families.
- CSU Gunnison County Extension will deliver research-based education.

Working with the Gunnison County Library, a library participating in the Colorado State Library proposal, we hope we are awarded these funds because of the significant impact on both our community and others throughout Colorado. The Colorado State University Gunnison County Extension appreciates the Colorado State Library's submission and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration's consideration of this application.

Sincerely,

Sylvia Bonham, Outreach Coordinator



HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENTS

Human Services Phone: (970) 641-3244 Fax: (970) 641-3738

Public Health Phone: (970) 641-0209 Fax: (970) 641-8346

225 N Pine St, Gunnison, CO 81230

Website: www.GunnisonCounty.org

March 5th 2010

Eugene Hainer, Assistant Commissioner
Colorado State Library
201 E. Colfax Avenue
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Mr. Hainer:

I am the Coordinator for two programs at the Gunnison County Department of Health and Human Services; The Foster Care Program and The Early Childhood Council. On behalf of my organization, I am writing in support of the Colorado State Library's Public Computing Center application for the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program. I understand the importance of providing quality Internet access to our community. It is a valuable and integral part of the lives of community members that helps them succeed in their professional and personal lives. Enhanced computing and Internet access at the Gunnison County Public Library will bring increased access to services in our community. It is highly important to bring enhanced computer and Internet services to Gunnison County Public Library for the following reasons:

One of Gunnison County's largest populations in need of increased computing and Internet access is the large migrant and immigrant populations. Many individuals come to the Gunnison Valley to seek employment from the ski and tourism industry. This population is at risk because they are disenfranchised by poverty, lack of social network, lack of knowledge of services and resources in this community, and above all- language barriers. Access to Internet and computers would provide them with valuable information about health and other resources in our community, as well as allowing them to search for information in their language. As our world becomes increasingly more computerized, many job applications are only accepted by electronic submission, thus forcing one to use a computer. For Gunnison's migrant and immigrant populations, one of the only points of access to a computer is the Gunnison County Library.

My program, the Early Childhood Council, partners with the Gunnison County Multi Cultural Resource Office. For this reason, I am aware of this need. It would greatly serve one of Gunnison's most venerable populations, and increase the probability that this at risk group would achieve employment, communication, increase their knowledge of health, and available services, if the Gunnison County Library is awarded funding for enhanced computing and Internet access.

Not only would enhanced computing and Internet access serve Gunnison County's migrant and immigrant populations, but there are many other community members who would greatly benefit from this service. As Coordinator for the Early Childhood Council, I am an advocate and supporter of the importance of high quality early childhood care and services for young children. Providing quality early childhood settings is one of the most important ways that we can strengthen our community. According to the Bell

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Policy Institute, for every dollar invested in early childhood, seven dollars is returned in the long run.

The Early Childhood Council has a web site with information for parents about local licensed child care providers, education about the importance of quality early childhood care, and many other resources for parents. Information for Family Home Care Providers as well as Child Care Centers is also accessible on our web site. As many Family Home Care Providers do not have access to Internet in their homes, and are not computer literate, the library is an important resource for these professionals to obtain information about training, rules and regulations governing child care homes, and help them to grow their businesses through internet and email marketing.

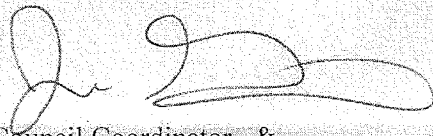
I envision the library with enhanced computing capability as a community destination. With appealing services such as high quality computers and Internet access, community members will be drawn to the library, thus promoting a safe, healthy, and educational place where people can meet to grow positive interactions with literacy and technology. The library will be able to offer it's self to more community agencies for partnering opportunities, such as the Multi Cultural Resource Office and the larger umbrella of the Gunnison County Department of Health and Human Services.

Working with Gunnison County Library, a library participating in the Colorado State Library proposal, we hope we are awarded these funds because of the significant impact on both our community and others throughout Colorado.

The Gunnison County Department of Health and Human Services appreciates the Colorado State Library's submission and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration's consideration of this application.

Sincerely,


Joan Grant



Early Childhood Council Coordinator &

Foster Care Coordinator

Gunnison County Department of Health and Human Services



◀ Literacy Action Program ▶
GUNNISON COUNTY LIBRARY DISTRICT

March 1, 2010

Eugene Hainer, Assistant Commissioner

Colorado State Library

201 E. Colfax Avenue

Denver, Co. 80203

Dear Mr. Hainer:

I am the GED/ABE (Adult Education) Coordinator for the Gunnison Library District. On behalf of my students I would like to express my support of the Colorado State Library proposal for acquiring laptop computers for our community.

It would be of great value for these often low-income students to have access to computer instruction. As it is now, my students need to take turns using the dinosaur computers that we now have in the classroom. Accessing computer instruction as a class would truly benefit my struggling students. Most of them have limited access to computers and could use computer technology instruction not only for their personal studies but as a way to help them with their life skills in acquiring employment.

Please consider Gunnison County Library as a well-deserved option for those seeking to improve their education and life skills.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,



Therese Trantow

GED/ABE/ESL Instructor