

Project Title: *Development of the Townend Computer Centre*

Name of Organization: *Townend Citizens' Association*

Introduction

Since October 2001 the Townend Citizens Association, hereafter referred to as the "Association," has been focused on the goal of offering HEART certified training classes, introductory computer training, and community access to computers and the internet at the Townend Training Centre. Townend is a District of Glorytown, a rural community twelve miles north of Paradise Pen. The Association has an active member list of 61 residents who meet and work in the Training Centre (See Addendum A for Executive Committee member list) and a structurally sound building of solid block and concrete with an interior space of four rooms approximating 2,000 square feet. The Association's Executive Committee solicited quotes to determine costs for refurbishing and equipping the building with regard to electrical, security, plumbing, and technical services. Funds associated with the proposed Computer Centre have been raised. TELECOMMUNICATIONS PROVIDER has donated internet service and a phone line that will allow for an alarm system to be connected to the Glorytown Police Station. As well, Food for the Poor has provided workstation furniture for the computer room. The Association requests that Universal Access Fund Company, Limited support us with a J\$983,777.02 donation for the purchase of ten computers, server, laser multifunction printer, accessories for operations and linking the computers, warranties, and necessary software.

The community of Glorytown (pop. 3,500) is seriously lacking in technology. For example, the Glorytown Community Hospital is only one of two left in Clarendon that has to rely solely on manual record keeping for its patients. The Townend District, a densely populated planned housing scheme and the largest District in Glorytown (pop. 1,250), is void of any technology resources for residents. One mile away the Parish Community Library has four computers with internet service available for residents. A recently opened Internet Café has six computers on a fee-for-use basis. On most days there are lengthy waiting lines at both sites.

Glorytown has a large youth population; there are ten schools in the area. All but the basic school students are required to do some level of research and prepare reports. Unfortunately, the local library has a small 2,000 volume collection of dated books. Townend has the greatest youth population, yet is forced to rely on these limited town resources. As well, Townend suffers from the common rural Jamaican circumstances of high unemployment (60%), including large numbers of illiterate youth "with the males of that group under-occupied" (SDC report, May 2001).

Project Concept

To provide technology training and services for a severely underserved population.

Project Impact

A threefold impact is expected: increased computer literacy for residents; improved school performance for students; and opportunities for the under-educated/under-employed to gain valuable skills. Each element will contribute to increasing the work productivity and efficiency of participants.

Project Plan

The Townend Citizens' Association expects to open its Computer Centre with ten computers at their Training Centre, Glorytown, Clarendon on April 1 2002. A wide range of services will be provided including free internet and email, instructional classes and training, and support services like printing, copying, and scanning. Instruction, classes and support services will carry a fee. The Computer Centre operational hours will be 9 AM to 7 PM, Monday through Saturday. Management will be provided by the Citizens' Association's Management Team and its advisors.

Timeline for Development & Operation of the Townend Citizens' Association Computer Centre

Actions required	Project Months																							
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	24	
Grilling and Securing the Site	■																							
Equipment, Fixtures & Services Installations	■	■																						
Computer Centre Operations																								
Initial Start-up Report			■																					
Year 1 Report																								
Year 2 Report																							■	

Funds Request and Cash Requirements Projection

The total project cost for a ten station computer centre is approximately J\$2,679,317.02. The Association has raised and will provide J\$1,695,540.00 in cash and in-kind services and is requesting supplemental funding of J\$983,777.02.

SUPPLEMENTAL UNIVERSAL ACCESS FINANCING BUDGET

QTY.	ITEM	YEAR 1	YEAR 2	TOTAL	AMOUNT REQUESTED
10	PCs w/software, warranty, mouse keyboard & DVD Burner	280,650.00	0	280,650.00	280,650.00
10	Flat Screen Monitors	120,000.00	0	120,000.00	120,000.00
1	16 port network switch	5,234.60	0	5,234.60	5,234.60
20	Cab-Connectors	400.00	0	400.00	400.00
50	Cab-Networking	750.00	0	750.00	750.00
1	Trunking pack of 20	9,300.00	0	9,300.00	9,300.00
1	Laser Printer w/ necessary accessories	131,664.74	0	131,664.74	131,664.74
1	Server, Monitor & Café Software	73,421.15	0	73,421.15	73,421.15
1	Technical Set-up Services	27,500.00	0	27,500.00	27,500.00
5	Battery Back-up Systems	36,000.00	0	36,000.00	36,000.00
1	Power Point Projector	105,600.00	0	105,600.00	105,600.00
1	Projector Screen	35,200.00	0	35,200.00	
22	1 Yr. Extended PC Warranties [for additional 2 years beyond initial 1 Yr. warranty, i.e. total 3 yr. warranty]	116,446.00	0	116,446.00	116,446.00
1	Additional 3 yr. printer warranty	10,500.00	0	10,500.00	10,500.00
1	10% Discount	-88,830.00	0	-88,830.00	-88,830.00
1	Sales Tax	119,346.53	0	119,346.53	119,346.53
	TOTAL	983,777.02		983,777.02	983,777.02

BUDGET OF ASSOCIATION'S CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE PROJECT

QTY.	ITEM	YEAR 1	YEAR 2	TOTAL	AMOUNT REQUESTED
1	Plumbing repairs [in progress]	38,540	0	38,540	0
1	Construction and painting [completed]	11,000	0	11,000	0
1	Electrical repairs [in progress]	77,000	0	77,000	0
1	Grilling & security [funds raised]	30,000	0	30,000	0
1	Alarm system [funds raised]	26,000	0	26,000	0
1	Phone/internet service [TELECOMMUNICATIONS PROVIDER donated]	60,000	60,000	120,000	0
11	Workstations [Food For The Poor donated]	44,000	0	44,000	0
	Course Development	48,000	48,000	96,000	0
	Training Materials	26,000	26,000	52,000	0
	Course Delivery	400,000	400,000	800,000	0
	Promotion & Public Relations	10,000	10,000	20,000	0
	Supplies	25,000	25,000	50,000	0
	Administrative Costs	100,000	100,000	200,000	0
	Contingency	78,000	78,000	156,000	0
	TOTAL	973,540	722,000	1,695,540	0

TOTAL COST OF THE PROJECT

	FUNDING SOURCE	Year 1	Year 2	Total Cost	AMOUNT REQUESTED
	Townend Citizens' Association			1,695,540.00	0
	Universal Access Fund Co. Ltd.	983,777.02	0	983,777.02	983,777.02
	TOTAL PROJECT			2,679,317.02	983,777.02

Sustainability Plan

Much of the sustainability is built into the project with technical services provided by the equipment supplier, a 36 month warranty on each PC unit and the multifunction printer, and community volunteers. As well, a HEART certified computer technician who lives in the community has already contributed his services and is eager to continue. Electric and water utility costs will be funded by rental fees paid by users of the Training Centre. For example two parties rent the space on a monthly basis for professional purposes. As well, those offering and taking classes will be charged fees and printing services will also carry fees. On the programming side, HEART Trust has a long history of successful certification programs that Jamaicans have put to use for many years. Additionally, the Association has formed a Management Committee to handle the administrative, scheduling, and marketing aspects of the total project.

Conclusion

The Townend community, and by association Glorytown, will benefit enormously from the support of Universal Access Fund Company, Limited. More technology will mean a great deal for all aspects of the population. Citizens from all generations are expecting to learn how to use computers and the internet; artists have inquired about graphic design training; students will have tools to improve their performance in school, and the under-educated and unemployed will have a ready tool to improve their circumstances.

Addendum A

Executive/Management Committee Members:

Mr. Tom Strokes, President

Steve Lloyd, Vice President

Mary Jane, Secretary

Angella Johnson, Treasurer

James Beckford, Public Relations Officer

Technical Advisors to the Management Committee for Computer Centre Operations:

Dudley Bailey

Carmen Haywood