BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS
OF RUTHERFORD COUNTY

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to convey my organization's support of Connected Tennessee's Broadband Technology Opportunity Programs (BTOP) grant application benefiting their Computers 4 Kids (C4K) program.

Our organization will partner with Connected Tennessee through their proposed project to ensure that at-risk kids across Tennessee see the benefits of broadband and technology. Through their efforts, the children served by our organization will receive updated computers as well as much needed computer literacy and educational opportunities.

Our organization, Boys & Girls Clubs of Rutherford County will partner with Connected Tennessee in the following ways:

- Developing a detailed strategic plan for installation of the computers into the computer lab areas at our 2 Club sites and 2 Teen Centers, with guidance and input from Connected Tennessee.
- Having the staff, who is responsible for technology maintenance at our organization, to work with the professionals from Connected Tennessee, to install the computers and software on each of the computers in each site's computer lab.
- Having the staff, who is responsible for technology at our organization, to provide year-round updates and maintenance on the computers as needed.
- Having our full-time and part-time Club professionals at each Club site deliver computer literacy and educational opportunities year-round to the at-risk youth who attend the Club.
- Implementing our Club Tech, Digital Arts, and NetSmartz Internet safety programs at the Club, using the new computers at the Club site.
- Working with Connected Tennessee to ensure internet connectivity and access using the new computers, so that at-risk youth may access to the internet.

Led by Governor Phil Bredesen, Connected Tennessee is a public-private partnership that is working with key entities across the state to ensure better broadband access and computer literacy. To accomplish this, Connected Tennessee uses collaborative broadband mapping, local research, grass roots technology planning in every county and computer connectivity programs.

To date, the C4K program has distributed more than 2,000 computers to children, families and community-based organizations in need across Tennessee. With the support of funds made available through the BTOP program, many more children will be impacted, including children from our community.

As we work together toward economic recovery, it is critical for the federal government to offer funding and support to existing programs which have proven effective in making computers and technology a reality for all Tennesseans, regardless of income and age.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

[redacted]

Chief Professional Officer

[redacted]

BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS
OF THE TENNESSEE VALLEY

[redacted]

March 9, 2010

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to convey my organization's support of Connected Tennessee's Broadband Technology Opportunity Programs (BTOP) grant application benefiting their Computers 4 Kids (C4K) program.

Our organization will partner with Connected Tennessee through their proposed project to ensure that at-risk kids across Tennessee see the benefits of broadband and technology. Through their efforts, the children served by our organization will receive updated computers as well as much needed computer literacy and educational opportunities.

Our organization, Boys & Girls Clubs of the Tennessee Valley will partner with Connected Tennessee in the following ways:

- Developing a detailed strategic plan for installation of the computers into the computer lab areas at our 13 club sites, with guidance and input from Connected Tennessee.
- Having the Director of Information Technology, who is responsible for technology maintenance at our organization, to work with the professionals from Connected Tennessee, to install the computers and software on each of the computers in each site's computer lab.
- Having the Director of Information Technology, who is responsible for technology at our organization, to provide year-round updates and maintenance on the computers as needed.
- Having our full-time and part-time Club professionals at each Club site deliver computer literacy and educational opportunities year-round to the at-risk youth who attend the Club.
- Implementing our Club Tech, Digital Arts, and NetSmartz Internet safety programs at the Club, using the new computers at the Club site.
- Working with Connected Tennessee to ensure internet connectivity and access using the new computers, so that at-risk youth may access to the internet.

Led by Governor Phil Bredesen, Connected Tennessee is a public-private partnership that is working with key entities across the state to ensure better broadband access and computer literacy. To accomplish this, Connected Tennessee uses collaborative broadband mapping, local research, grassroots technology planning in every county and computer connectivity programs.

To date, the C4K program has distributed more than 2,000 computers to children, families and community-based organizations in need across Tennessee. With the support of funds made available through the BTOP program, many more children will be impacted, including children from our community. As we work together toward economic recovery, it is critical for the federal government to offer funding and support to existing programs which have proven effective in making computers and technology a reality for all Tennesseans, regardless of income and age. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

[redacted]

President & CEO

[redacted]

March 10, 2010

The Honorable Lawrence E. Strickling
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information
National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA)
U.S. Department of Commerce
Herbert C. Hoover Building
1401 Constitution Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20230

Dear Assistant Secretary Strickling:

ciber

I am writing to convey CIBER's support of Connected Tennessee's Broadband Technology Opportunity Programs (BTOP) grant application benefiting their Computers 4 Kids (C4K) program. We are committed to supporting their application and will work together should the Computer 4 Kids application be funded through their application to the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) at the US Department of Commerce under the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP) Round 2 funding cycle.

Over the past year and a half, CIBER, Inc. has worked with Connected Tennessee's Computer 4 Kids program to create computer labs for deserving recipients. To expand the program, it will take the support of additional funds. This application will allow Connected Tennessee to partner with various state and private entities to ensure that at-risk kids across Tennessee continue to see the benefits of broadband and technology. Through our joint efforts, our state's most vulnerable children will receive updated computers as well as much needed computer literacy and educational opportunities.

Pending the approval of Connected Tennessee's application for the Round 2 funding cycle of NTIA's Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) for the BTOP program, CIBER agrees to commit $10,000 towards the project.

Sincerely,

[redacted]

STATE OF TENNESSEE
DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES
Office of Interdependent Living
436 6th Avenue North
8th Floor, Cordell Hull
Nashville, Tennessee 37243

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to convey my organization's support of Connected Tennessee's Broadband Technology Opportunity Programs (BTOP) grant application benefiting their Computers 4 Kids (C4K) program.

The Department of Children's Services (DCS) will partner with Connected Tennessee through their proposed project to ensure that at-risk kids across Tennessee see the benefits of broadband and technology. Through their efforts, the children served by our organization will receive updated computers as well as much needed computer literacy and educational opportunities.

DCS supports Connected Tennessee's critical mission of providing computers and other technological resources to underprivileged families to help sustain broadband adoption in Tennessee communities. Over the past 3 years, this program, through the help of its partners, has made immense progress in digital literacy by donating more than 2,000 new computers to low-income children and families, libraries, schools, non-profit after-school programs and community organizations that serve underprivileged families. Children and youth in the custody of the Department of Children's Services have been and remain a primary target for this collaborative effort. We have seen great things happen through our partnership in supporting youth entering post-secondary programs and continuing education. Reaching out to underprivileged families is imperative in closing the digital divide and developing a digitally savvy workforce that can help drive the state's economy.

With the support of funds made available through the BTOP program, many more children will be impacted, including children served by the Department of Children's Services. If granted this funding, the Computers 4 Kids program will advance the BTOP statutory purposes of 1) providing broadband education, awareness, training, access, equipment, and support to community anchor institutions, job-creating strategic facilities, and vulnerable populations and 2) stimulating demand for broadband. It is in this accord that I respectfully request that the NTIA give Connected Tennessee's Computers 4 Kids program full consideration and support. As we work together toward economic recovery, it is critical for the federal government to offer funding and support to existing programs which have proven effective in making computers and technology a reality for all Tennesseans, regardless of income and age.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Sharilyn M. Sage

Sharilyn M. Sage
InTERdependent Living
Program Specialist

STATE OF TENNESSEE
DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES
Office of Interdependent Living
436 6th Avenue North
8th Floor, Cordell Hull
Nashville, Tennessee 37243

To Whom It May Concern:

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With the support of funds made available through the BTOP program, many more children will be impacted, including children served by the Department of Children's Services. If granted this funding, the Computers 4 Kids program will advance the BTOP statutory purposes of 1) providing broadband education, awareness, training, access, equipment, and support to community anchor institutions, job-creating strategic facilities, and vulnerable populations and 2) stimulating demand for broadband. It is in this accord that I respectfully request that the NTIA give Connected Tennessee's Computers 4 Kids program full consideration and support. As we work together toward economic recovery, it is critical for the federal government to offer funding and support to existing programs which have proven effective in making computers and technology a reality for all Tennesseans, regardless of income and age.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Cheryl Buford
Post Custody FSW, Knox Region

STATE OF TENNESSEE
DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES
Office of Interdependent Living
436 6th Avenue North
8th Floor, Cordell Hull
Nashville, Tennessee 37243

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to convey my organization's support of Connected Tennessee's Broadband Technology Opportunity Programs (BTOP) grant application benefiting their Computers 4 Kids (C4K) program.

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With the support of funds made available through the BTOP program, many more children will be impacted, including children served by the Department of Children's Services. If granted this funding, the Computers 4 Kids program will advance the BTOP statutory purposes of 1) providing broadband education, awareness, training, access, equipment, and support to community anchor institutions, job-creating strategic facilities, and vulnerable populations and 2) stimulating demand for broadband. It is in this accord that I respectfully request that the NTIA give Connected Tennessee's Computers 4 Kids program full consideration and support. As we work together toward economic recovery, it is critical for the federal government to offer funding and support to existing programs which have proven effective in making computers and technology a reality for all Tennesseans, regardless of income and age.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Audrey Corder
Assistant Commissioner

STATE OF TENNESSEE
DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES
Office of Interdependent Living
436 6th Avenue North
8th Floor, Cordell Hull
Nashville, Tennessee 37243

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to convey my organization's support of Connected Tennessee's Broadband Technology Opportunity Programs (BTOP) grant application benefiting their Computers 4 Kids (C4K) program.

The Department of Children's Services (DCS) will partner with Connected Tennessee through their proposed project to ensure that at-risk kids across Tennessee see the benefits of broadband and technology. Through their efforts, the children served by our organization will receive updated computers as well as much needed computer literacy and educational opportunities.

DCS supports Connected Tennessee's critical mission of providing computers and other technological resources to underprivileged families to help sustain broadband adoption in Tennessee communities. Over the past 3 years, this program, through the help of its partners, has made immense progress in digital literacy by donating more than 2,000 new computers to low-income children and families, libraries, schools, non-profit after-school programs and community organizations that serve underprivileged families. Children and youth in the custody of the Department of Childrens Services have been and remain a primary target for this collaborative effort. We have seen great things happen through our partnership in supporting youth entering post-secondary programs and continuing education. Reaching out to underprivileged families is imperative in closing the digital divide and developing a digitally savvy workforce that can help drive the state's economy.

With the support of funds made available through the BTOP program, many more children will be impacted, including children served by the Department of Children's Services. If granted this funding, the Computers 4 Kids program will advance the BTOP statutory purposes of 1) providing broadband education, awareness, training, access, equipment, and support to community anchor institutions, job-creating strategic facilities, and vulnerable populations and 2) stimulating demand for broadband. It is in this accord that I respectfully request that the NTIA give Connected Tennessee's Computers 4 Kids program full consideration and support. As we work together toward economic recovery, it is critical for the federal government to offer funding and support to existing programs which have proven effective in making computers and technology a reality for all Tennesseans, regardless of income and age.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Gwendolyn Covington

Gwendolyn Covington, MS
DCS Team Leader

Fax From : [redacted] 03-10-10 15:53 Pg: 2

STATE OF TENNESSEE
DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES
Office of Interdependent Living
436 6th Avenue North
8th Floor, Cordell Hull
Nashville, Tennessee 37243

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to convey my organization's support of Connected Tennessee's Broadband Technology Opportunity Programs (BTOP) grant application benefiting their Computers 4 Kids (C4K) program.

The Department of Children's Services (DCS) will partner with Connected Tennessee through their proposed project to ensure that at-risk kids across Tennessee see the benefits of broadband and technology. Through their efforts, the children served by our organization will receive updated computers as well as much needed computer literacy and educational opportunities.

DCS supports Connected Tennessee's critical mission of providing computers and other technological resources to underprivileged families to help sustain broadband adoption in Tennessee communities. Over the past 3 years, this program, through the help of its partners, has made immense progress in digital literacy by donating more than 2,000 new computers to low-income children and families, libraries, schools, non-profit after-school programs and community organizations that serve underprivileged families. Children and youth in the custody of the Department of Childrens Services have been and remain a primary target for this collaborative effort. We have seen great things happen through our partnership in supporting youth entering post-secondary programs and continuing education. Reaching out to underprivileged families is imperative in closing the digital divide and developing a digitally savvy workforce that can help drive the state's economy.

With the support of funds made available through the BTOP program, many more children will be impacted, including children served by the Department of Children's Services. If granted this funding, the Computers 4 Kids program will advance the BTOP statutory purposes of 1) providing broadband education, awareness, training, access, equipment, and support to community anchor institutions, job-creating strategic facilities, and vulnerable populations and 2) stimulating demand for broadband. It is in this accord that I respectfully request that the NTIA give Connected Tennessee's Computers 4 Kids program full consideration and support. As we work together toward economic recovery, it is critical for the federal government to offer funding and support to existing programs which have proven effective in making computers and technology a reality for all Tennesseans, regardless of income and age.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Chrystelyn M. Hall, MBA
IL Program Coordinator

Fax From [redacted] 03-10-10 15:53 Pg: 3

STATE OF TENNESSEE
DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES
Office of Interdependent Living
436 6th Avenue North
8th Floor, Cordell Hull
Nashville, Tennessee 37243

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to convey my organization's support of Connected Tennessee's Broadband Technology Opportunity Programs (BTOP) grant application benefiting their Computers 4 Kids (C4K) program.

The Department of Children's Services (DCS) will partner with Connected Tennessee through their proposed project to ensure that at-risk kids across Tennessee see the benefits of broadband and technology. Through their efforts, the children served by our organization will receive updated computers as well as much needed computer literacy and educational opportunities.

DCS supports Connected Tennessee's critical mission of providing computers and other technological resources to underprivileged families to help sustain broadband adoption in Tennessee communities. Over the past 3 years, this program, through the help of its partners, has made immense progress in digital literacy by donating more than 2,000 new computers to low-income children and families, libraries, schools, non-profit after-school programs and community organizations that serve underprivileged families. Children and youth in the custody of the Department of Childrens Services have been and remain a primary target for this collaborative effort. We have seen great things happen through our partnership in supporting youth entering post-secondary programs and continuing education. Reaching out to underprivileged families is imperative in closing the digital divide and developing a digitally savvy workforce that can help drive the state's economy.

With the support of funds made available through the BTOP program, many more children will be impacted, including children served by the Department of Children's Services. If granted this funding, the Computers 4 Kids program will advance the BTOP statutory purposes of 1) providing broadband education, awareness, training, access, equipment, and support to community anchor institutions, job-creating strategic facilities, and vulnerable populations and 2) stimulating demand for broadband. It is in this accord that I respectfully request that the NTIA give Connected Tennessee's Computers 4 Kids program full consideration and support. As we work together toward economic recovery, it is critical for the federal government to offer funding and support to existing programs which have proven effective in making computers and technology a reality for all Tennesseans, regardless of income and age.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Gwen T. Jones
Interdependent Living Program Specialist, Knox Region

3/11/2010

STATE OF TENNESSEE
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
220 French Landing Drive
Nashville, Tennessee 37243

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to convey my organization's support of Connected Tennessee's Broadband Technology Opportunity Programs (BTOP) grant application benefiting their Computers 4 Kids (C4K) program.

The Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development will partner with Connected Tennessee through their proposed project to ensure that at-risk kids across Tennessee have access to classroom-based career training, teaching them vital career skills such as resume building, interviewing and job searching. Through their efforts, these children will receive this training coupled with updated computers as well as much needed computer literacy and educational opportunities.

Led by Governor Phil Bredesen, Connected Tennessee is a public-private partnership that is working with key entities across the state to ensure better broadband access and computer literacy. To accomplish this, Connected Tennessee uses collaborative broadband mapping, local research, grassroots technology planning in every county and computer connectivity programs.

The Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development supports Connected Tennessee's critical mission of providing computers and other technological resources to underprivileged families to help sustain broadband adoption in Tennessee communities. Over the past 3 years, this program, through the help of its partners, has made immense progress in digital literacy by donating more than 2,000 new computers to low-income children and families, libraries, schools, non-profit after-school programs and community organizations that serve underprivileged families. Reaching out to underprivileged families is imperative in closing the digital divide and developing a digitally savvy workforce that can help drive the state's economy.

With the support of funds made available through the BTOP program, many more children will be impacted, including children served by the Department of Children's Services. If granted this funding, the Computers 4 Kids program will advance the BTOP statutory purposes of 1) providing broadband education, awareness, training, access, equipment, and support to community anchor institutions, job-creating strategic facilities, and vulnerable populations and 2) stimulating demand for broadband. It is in this accord that I respectfully request that the NTIA give Connected Tennessee's Computers 4 Kids program full consideration and support. As we work together toward economic recovery, it is critical for the federal government to offer funding and support to existing programs which have proven effective in making computers and technology a reality for all Tennesseans, regardless of income and age.

Respectfully,

James G. Neeley
Commissioner
Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to encourage your approval of Connected Tennessee as a recipient of funds under the sustainable adoption category of the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP).

Internet Keep Safe Coalition (iKeepSafe) is fully committed to working with Connected Tennessee to make sure that every child and every parent who is benefiting from computing tools provided by Connected Tennessee has access to educational resources concerning Internet safety, security, ethics, and the healthy use of connected technologies.

The iKeepSafe Coalition is a broad partnership of governors and/or first spouses, attorneys general, public health and educational professionals, law enforcement, and industry leaders working together for the health and safety of families online. iKeepSafe's mission is to give parents, educators, and policymakers information and tools which empower them to teach children the safe and healthy use of technology and the Internet.

Accordingly, IkeepSafe will be awarding Connected Tennessee's Computers 4 Kids Program an in-kind contribution worth $15,000 in the form of electronic resources and training. Furthermore, it will provide 2,000 licenses for DVDs worth $15,900.

We urge your funding support for a project that will become a model for responsible computer donation as our nation moves forward in its effort to build a globally competitive twenty-first century digital economy.

Should you have questions or need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you for your time and consideration.

With high regard,

[redacted]

[redacted]

SENATE MEMBERS
DIANE BLACK
CHARLOTTE BURKS
MIKE FAULK
DOLORES GRESHAM
THELMA HARPER
ROY HERRON
BEVERLY MARRERO
DOUG OVERBEY
JAMIE WOODSON

HOUSE MEMBERS
TOMMIE BROWN
JOHN DeBERRY
LOIS M. DeBERRY
CHAD FAULKNER
BETH HARWELL
SHERRY JONES
DEBRA MAGGART
RICHARD MONTGOMERY
JANIS SONTANY

COMMITTEE STAFF
CINDY M. PERRY
Executive Director
DEBBIE GAZZAWAY
Legislative Aide
ANASTASIA CAMPBELL
Staff Attorney
ELIZABETH INSOGNA
Staff Attorney

Select Committee on Children and Youth
Tennessee General Assembly
7th Floor, Rachel Jackson Building
320 - 6th Avenue North
Nashville, Tennessee 37243-0061
615-741-6239 or 1-800-449-8366 ext. 16239
615-741-5471 (fax)

March 9, 2010

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to convey my support of Connected Tennessee's Broadband Technology Opportunity Programs (BTOP) grant application benefiting their Computers 4 Kids (C4K) program.

Connected Tennessee will partner with various state entities through their proposed project to ensure that at-risk kids across Tennessee see the benefits of broadband and technology. Through their efforts, our state's most vulnerable children will receive updated computers as well as much needed computer literacy and educational opportunities.

Led by Governor Phil Bredesen, Connected Tennessee is a public-private partnership that is working with key entities across the state to ensure better broadband access and computer literacy. To accomplish this, Connected Tennessee uses collaborative broadband mapping, local research, grassroots technology planning in every county and computer connectivity programs.

As co-chair of the Independent Living Oversight Committee, I fully support Connected Tennessee's critical mission of providing computers and other technological resources to underprivileged families to help sustain broadband adoption in Tennessee communities. Over the past 3 years, this program, through the help of its partners, has made immense progress in digital literacy by donating more than 2,000 new computers to low-income children and families, libraries, non-profit after-school programs and community organizations that serve underprivileged families. Reaching out to underprivileged families is imperative in closing the digital divide and developing a digitally savvy workforce that can help drive the state's economy.

With the support of funds made available through the BTOP program, many more children will be impacted, including children served by the Department of Children's Services and the Boys & Girls Clubs of Tennessee. If granted this funding, the Computers 4 Kids program will advance the BTOP statutory purposes of 1) providing broadband education, awareness, training, access, equipment, and support to community anchor institutions, job-creating strategic facilities, and vulnerable populations and 2) stimulating demand for broadband. It is in this accord that I respectfully request that the NTIA give Connected Tennessee's Computers 4 Kids program full consideration and support. As we work together toward economic recovery, it is critical for the federal government to offer funding and support to existing programs which have proven effective in making computers and technology a reality for all Tennesseans, regardless of income and age.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Sherry Jones

Rep. Sherry Jones
Chair, Select Committee on Children and Youth

Department of Economic and Community Development
William Snodgrass/Tennessee Tower Building, 11th Floor, 312 Rosa L. Parks Avenue North, Nashville, Tennessee 37243-1102
615-741-1888 / FAX: 615-741-7306

Matthew Kisber
Commissioner

Phil Bredesen
Governor

March 14, 2010

The Honorable Lawrence E. Strickling
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information
National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA)
U.S. Department of Commerce
Herbert C. Hoover Building
1401 Constitution Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20230

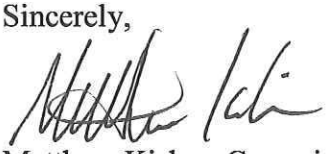
Dear Assistant Secretary Strickling:

In May 2007, the Department of Economic & Community Development for the State of Tennessee entered into a three-year contract with Connected Nation, through its subsidiary Connected Tennessee, to implement a comprehensive broadband planning program including a program known as Computers 4 Kids focused on providing computers to at-risk children across Tennessee.

Pending the approval of Connected Tennessee's Sustainable Broadband Adoption application for second round of the National Telecommunications and Information Administration's (NTIA) Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) for the Broadband Technology Opportunity Program (BTOP), our department agrees to commit $369,600, from our existing contract, towards the match for this application.

Broadband continues to be a vital component for enhancing Tennessee's current and future workforce. Connected Tennessee's Computer 4 Kids program and its other broadband adoption programs are initiatives that the State of Tennessee supports. To expand these programs additional funds are needed. However, due to our fiscal constraints, the State is not able to provide new funds to support Connected Tennessee's efforts in the areas of sustainable adoption or Computers 4 Kids. Additional funding requested through Connected Tennessee's application would further our desire to bring broadband to all of our residents, especially through provision of computers, computer literacy and educational opportunities to our most vulnerable children.

Sincerely,



Matthew Kisber, Commissioner
Department of Economic & Community Development
State of Tennessee

STATE OF TENNESSEE
DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES
Office of Interdependent Living
436 6th Avenue North
8th Floor, Cordell Hull
Nashville, Tennessee 37243

March 9, 2010

To Whom It May Concern:

Please consider this letter of support in considering Connected Tennessee's Broadband Technology Opportunity Programs (BTOP) grant application benefiting their Computers 4 Kids (C4K) program. My agency, and specifically the Program of Interdependent Living, has been fortunate to work with this agency in exploring and utilizing better broadband access and computer literacy. To accomplish this, Connected Tennessee uses collaborative broadband mapping, local research, grassroots technology planning in every county and computer connectivity programs. It has been a true pleasure seeing a public-private partnership working with key entities across the state to ensure better outcomes and brighter futures for at-risk and disadvantaged youth in this state.

The Department of Children's Services (DCS) will partner with Connected Tennessee through their proposed project to ensure that at-risk kids across Tennessee continue to see the benefits of broadband and technology. Through their efforts, the children served by our organization will receive updated computers as well as much needed computer literacy and educational opportunities. We are fully in support of Connected Tennessee's critical mission of providing computers and other technological resources to underprivileged families to help sustain broadband adoption in Tennessee communities. Over the past 3 years, this program, through the help of its partners, has made immense progress in digital literacy by donating more than 2,000 new computers to low-income children and families, libraries, schools, non-profit after-school programs and community organizations that serve underprivileged families. Reaching out to underprivileged families is imperative in closing the digital divide and developing a digitally savvy workforce that can help drive the state's economy.

With the support of funds made available through the BTOP program, many more children will be impacted, including children served by the Department of Children's Services. If granted this funding, the Computers 4 Kids program will advance the BTOP statutory purposes of 1) providing broadband education, awareness, training, access, equipment, and support to community anchor institutions, job-creating strategic facilities, and vulnerable populations and 2) stimulating demand for broadband. It is in this accord that I respectfully request that the NTIA give Connected Tennessee's Computers 4 Kids program full consideration and support. As we work together toward economic recovery, it is critical for the federal government to offer funding and support to existing programs which have proven effective in making computers and technology a reality for all Tennesseans, regardless of income and age, possibly the most powerful tool we can give for the future.

Respectfully,

Lane Simpson
Director, Interdependent Living

State of Tennessee

30th SENATORIAL DISTRICT
SHELBY COUNTY
sen.beverly.marrero@capitol.tn.gov

SENATOR BEVERLY MARRERO

CORY BRADFIELD
Legislative Assistant

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to convey my support of Connected Tennessee's Broadband Technology Opportunity Programs (BTOP) grant application benefiting their Computers 4 Kids (C4K) program.

Connected Tennessee will partner with various state entities through their proposed project to ensure that at-risk kids across Tennessee see the benefits of broadband and technology. Through their efforts, our state's most vulnerable children will receive updated computers as well as much needed computer literacy and educational opportunities.

Led by Governor Phil Bredesen, Connected Tennessee is a public-private partnership that is working with key entities across the state to ensure better broadband access and computer literacy. To accomplish this, Connected Tennessee uses collaborative broadband mapping, local research, grassroots technology planning in every county and computer connectivity programs.

Over the past 3 years, this program, through the help of its partners, has made immense progress in digital literacy by donating more than 2,000 new computers to low-income children and families, libraries, non-profit after-school programs and community organizations that serve underprivileged families. Reaching out to underprivileged families is imperative in closing the digital divide and developing a digitally savvy workforce that can help drive the state's economy.

With the support of funds made available through the BTOP program, many more children will be impacted, including children served by the Department of Children's Services and the Boys & Girls Clubs of Tennessee. If granted this funding, the Computers 4 Kids program will advance the BTOP statutory purposes of 1) providing broadband education, awareness, training, access, equipment, and support to community anchor institutions, job-creating strategic facilities, and vulnerable populations and 2) stimulating demand for broadband. It is in this accord that I respectfully request that the NTIA give Connected Tennessee's Computers 4 Kids program full consideration and support. As we work together toward economic recovery, it is critical for the federal government to offer funding and support to existing programs which have proven effective in making computers and technology a reality for all Tennesseans, regardless of income and age.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Senator Beverly Marrero

CAPITOL HILL OFFICE:
312 War Memorial Building, Nashville, TN37243 (615) 741-9128 FAX (615) 253-0291

DISTRICT OFFICE
3294 Poplar Ave. Suite 465, Memphis, TN 38111 (901) 324-5231 FAX (901) 312-5667

STATE OF TENNESSEE

DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES

Office of Interdependent Living
436 6th Avenue North
8th Floor, Cordell Hull
Nashville, Tennessee 37243

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to convey my organization's support of Connected Tennessee's Broadband Technology Opportunity Programs (BTOP) grant application benefiting their Computers 4 Kids (C4K) program.

The Department of Children's Services (DCS) will partner with Connected Tennessee through their proposed project to ensure that at-risk kids across Tennessee see the benefits of broadband and technology. Through their efforts, the children served by our organization will receive updated computers as well as much needed computer literacy and educational opportunities.

DCS supports Connected Tennessee's critical mission of providing computers and other technological resources to underprivileged families to help sustain broadband adoption in Tennessee communities. Over the past 3 years, this program, through the help of its partners, has made immense progress in digital literacy by donating more than 2,000 new computers to low-income children and families, libraries, schools, non-profit after-school programs and community organizations that serve underprivileged families. Children and youth in the custody of the Department of Childrens Services have been and remain a primary target for this collaborative effort. We have seen great things happen through our partnership in supporting youth entering post-secondary programs and continuing education. Reaching out to underprivileged families is imperative in closing the digital divide and developing a digitally savvy workforce that can help drive the state's economy.

With the support of funds made available through the BTOP program, many more children will be impacted, including children served by the Department of Children's Services. If granted this funding, the Computers 4 Kids program will advance the BTOP statutory purposes of 1) providing broadband education, awareness, training, access, equipment, and support to community anchor institutions, job-creating strategic facilities, and vulnerable populations and 2) stimulating demand for broadband. It is in this accord that I respectfully request that the NTIA give Connected Tennessee's Computers 4 Kids program full consideration and support. As we work together toward economic recovery, it is critical for the federal government to offer funding and support to existing programs which have proven effective in making computers and technology a reality for all Tennesseans, regardless of income and age.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Viola P. Miller
Commissioner

Boys and Girls Club of Morristown, Inc.

[redacted]

Thursday, March 04, 2010

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to convey my organization's support of Connected Tennessee's Broadband Technology Opportunity Programs (BTOP) grant application benefiting their Computers 4 Kids (C4K) program.

Our organization will partner with Connected Tennessee through their proposed project to ensure that at-risk kids across Tennessee see the benefits of broadband and technology. Through their efforts, the children served by our organization will receive updated computers as well as much needed computer literacy and educational opportunities.

Our organization, the Boys and Girls Club of Morristown as well as our Hawkins County Unit will partner with Connected Tennessee in the following ways:

- Developing a detailed strategic plan for installation of the computers into the computer lab at our **Morristown and Hawkins County** club sites, with guidance and input from Connected Tennessee.
- Having a Technology Director, who is responsible for technology maintenance at our organization, to work with the professionals from Connected Tennessee, to install the computers and software on each of the computers in each site's computer lab.
- Having a Technology Director, who will be responsible for technology at our organization, to provide year-round updates and maintenance on the computers as needed.
- Having our Full or Part-time Club Professional at each club site deliver computer literacy and educational opportunities year-round to the at-risk youth who attend the Club.
- Implementing our Club Tech, Digital Arts and Netsmartz safety programs at the Club, using the new computers at the Club site.
- Working with Connected Tennessee to ensure internet connectivity and access using the new computers, so that at-risk youth may access to the internet.

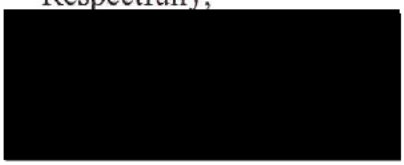
Led by Governor Phil Bredesen, Connected Tennessee is a public-private partnership that is working with key entities across the state to ensure better broadband access and computer literacy. To accomplish this, Connected Tennessee uses collaborative broadband mapping, local research, grassroots technology planning in every county and computer connectivity programs.

To date, the C4K program has distributed more than 2,000 computers to children, families and community-based organizations in need across Tennessee. With support of funds made available through the BTOP program, many more children will be impacted, including children from our community.

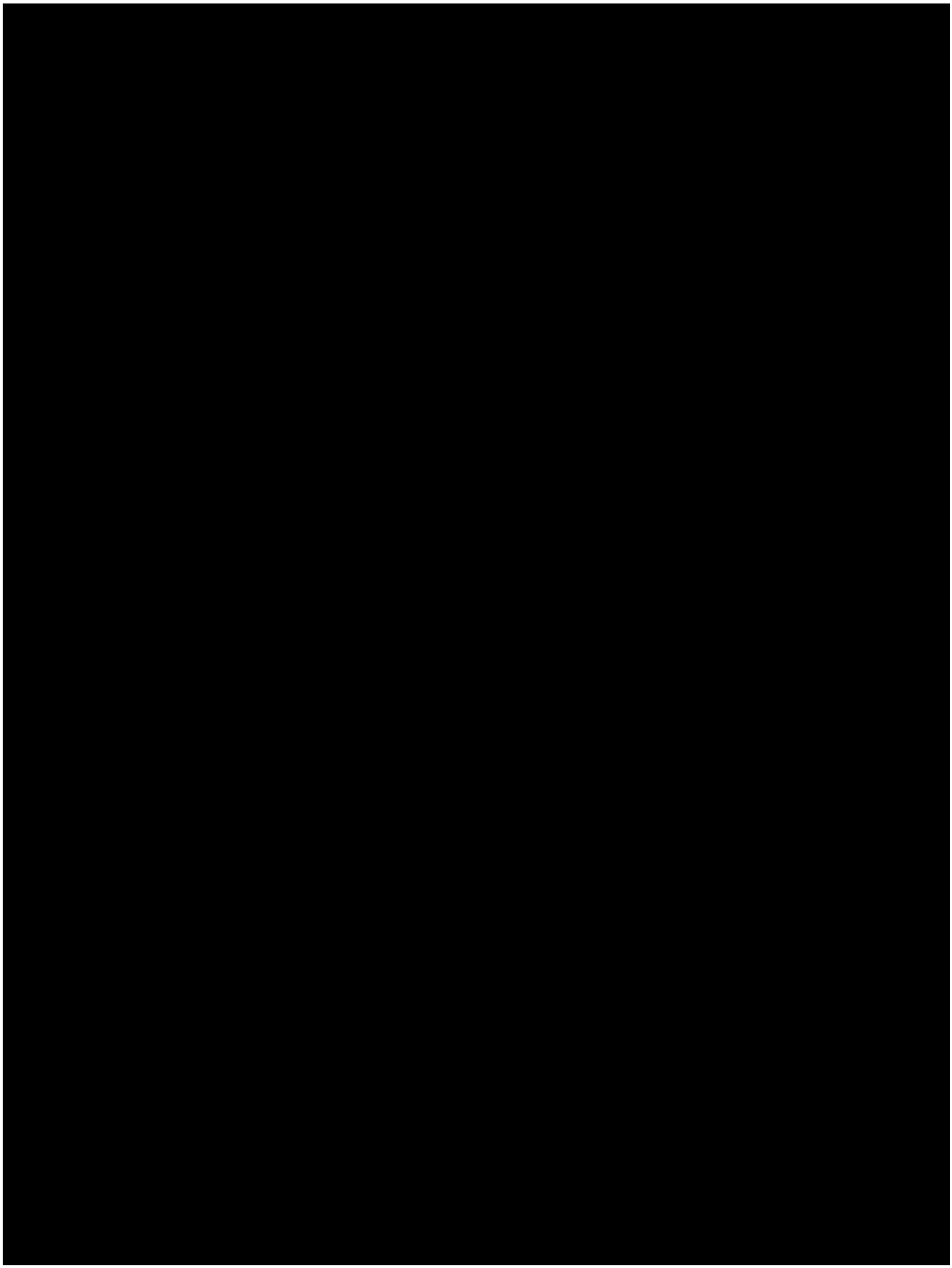
As we work together toward economic recovery, it is critical for the federal government to offer funding and support to existing programs, which have proven effective in making computers and technology a reality for all Tennesseans, regardless of income and age.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,



Management Team Resumes



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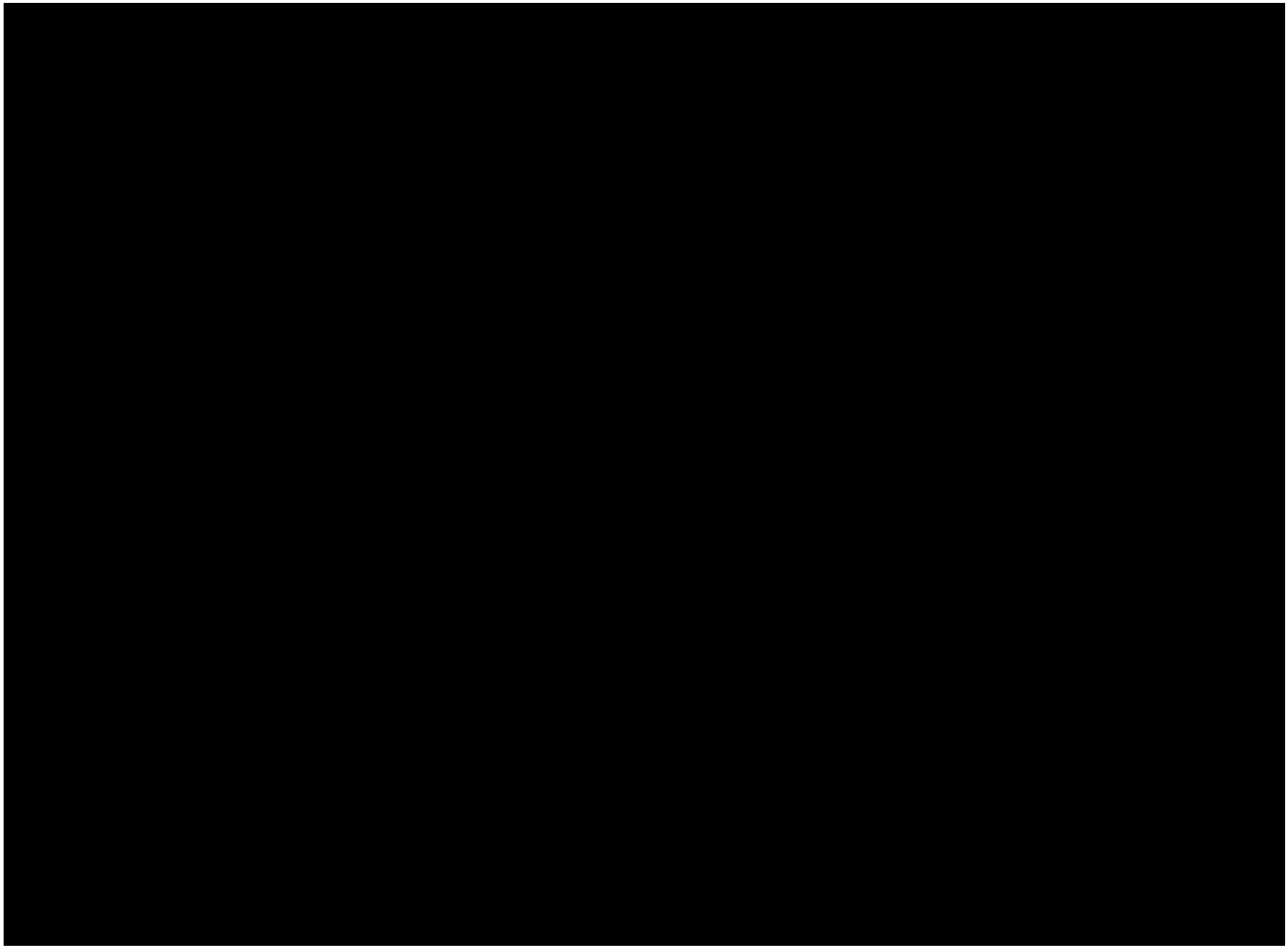
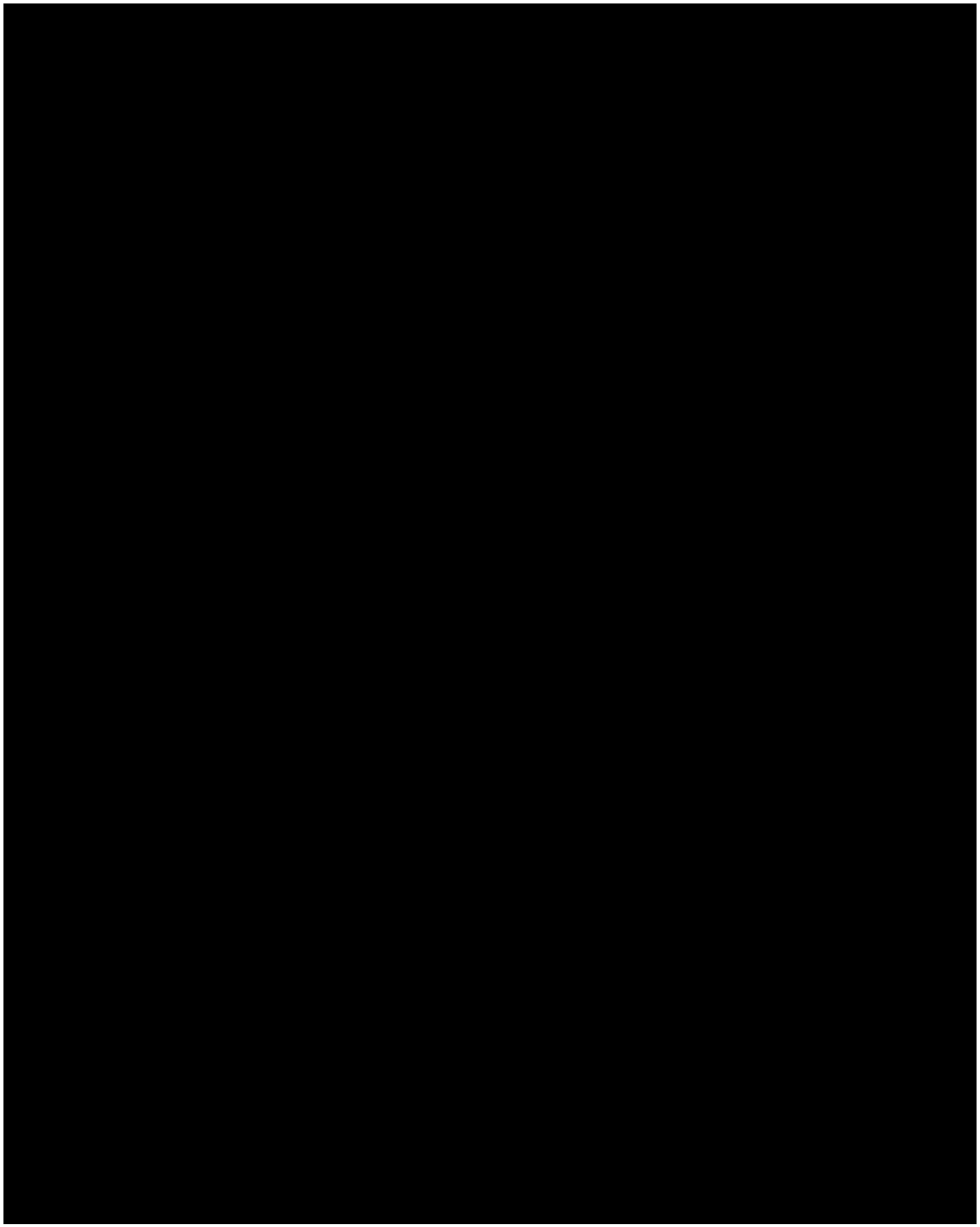
Computers 4 Kids: Preparing Tennessee's Next Generation for Success

BTOP Sustainable Broadband Adoption Grant Organizational Chart



Fundamental Steps / Milestones or Datapoints