Broadband Opportunity Coalition

Letters of Match & Support

1. National Urban League

2. Asian American Justice League

3. National Council of La Raza

4. League of United Latin American Citizens

5. Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies

6. Minority Media Telecommunications Council



120 Wall Street New York NY 10005

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August 11, 2009

Broadband Technology Opportunities Program National Telecommunications and Information Administration U.S. Department of Commerce HCHB, Room 4812 1401 Constitution Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20230

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter to confirm the commitment of the National Urban League to partner with One Economy in support of the implementation of its programs as described in the enclosed proposal to the National Telecommunications and Information Association (NTIA) Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP) for Public Computer Centers and Sustainable Adoption.

Like One Economy, we are deeply committed to expanding broadband access and adoption to communities who need it most. We are pleased and excited to offer our support to One Economy as it creates and expands Public Computer Centers, drives Sustainable Adoption through a national media campaign, increases the reach of the widely-acclaimed Digital Connector program, conducts leadership training for non-profit leaders and works to research and create awareness about the positive consequences that Sustainable Adoption will bring to communities of color.

As a partner of this grant, the National Urban League, Inc. will commit to:

- Expanding 10 Public Computer Centers
- Operating 31 Digital Connector Programs
- Conducting Leadership Training for Non-Profit Leaders about the importance of Sustainable Adoption
- Communicating the importance of Sustainable Adoption in National Urban League events and marketing and communication tools
- Implementing a national media campaign focusing on empowering communities
 of color to embrace Sustainable Adoption
- Harnessing its Policy Institute to measure and raise awareness about the critical impact of Sustainable Adoption.

We appreciate this opportunity to support One Economy in its endeavor to continue to expand its record of success in digital access issues for the underserved in rural and urban

National Urban League

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communities. With the support of BTOP, One Economy and the National Urban League, Inc. together will significantly expand access to broadband service in communities across the nation and provide broadband education, awareness, training, and support in communities across the nation.

Sincerely,

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Marc H. Morial President and Chief Executive Officer National Urban League

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A D V A N C I N G E Q U A L I T Y

August 8, 2009

Broadband Technology Opportunities Program National Telecommunications and Information Administration U.S. Department of Commerce HCHB, Room 4812 1401 Constitution Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20230

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter to confirm the commitment of the Asian American Justice Center (AAJC), whose mission is to advance civil and human rights for Asian Americans and to build and promote a fair and equitable society for all and is the nation's leading expert on issues of importance to the Asian American community, to partner with One Economy in support of the implementation of its programs as described in the enclosed proposal to the National Telecommunications and Information Association (NTIA) Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP) for public computer centers and sustainable adoption.

Like One Economy, our organization is deeply committed to expanding broadband access and adoption to communities who need it most. We are working on developing and expanding several public computer centers in our network of nearly 100 Community Partners that provide an array of services to members of the Asian American community. We are also pleased to offer our support to One Economy on the launch of a Digital Connectors program in several states. AAJC seeks to expand the capacity and development of its Community Partners public computer centers in two strategic areas of focus:

First, AAJC has identified Community Partners that are positioned to increase the engagement of Asian Americans in workforce development by creating opportunities to use broadband to increase English literacy through online delivery of English Language Learner opportunities and to use access to broadband develop additional educational skills and workforce opportunities. To undertake this work, AAJC has identified its strongest partners in established and emerging areas of Asian American populations.

Second, AAJC will assist several of its Community Partners in developing a comprehensive approach to increasing access to broadband to the greater community, with an emphasis on youth and the elderly in the Asian American ethnic groups, which experience the greatest difficulty in accessing broadband, e.g., Hmong, Vietnamese, Laotian, communities. To undertake this work, AAJC will engage in research in determining the underserved Asian American communities and use that research to target further development of its broadband program work.

As a partner of this grant, AAJC will commit to:

 Expanding public computer centers in 16 community-based organizations. These organizations work with varied segments of the Asian American population, from school-aged children to the elderly. The identified organizations could include: Asian American Leadership Empowerment and Development, Washington, DC; Fresno Center for New Americans, Fresno CA; Asian Americans for Community Involvement, Santa Jose, CA; Self Help for the Elderly, San Francisco, CA; Asian

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Pacific American Legal Resource Center, Washington, DC; Stone Soup Fresno, Fresno, CA; Center for Pan Asian Community Services, Doraville, GA; Chinese American Service League, Chicago, IL; Asian American Civic Association, Boston, MA; Hmong American Partnership, St. Paul, MN; Asian Community and Cultural Center, Lincoln, NE; Asian American Federation of New York, New York, NY; Cambodian Association of Greater Philadelphia, Philadelphia, PA; Boat People SOS, Houston TX; Asian Counseling and Referral Service, Seattle, WA; and National Asian Pacific Center on Aging, Seattle, WA.

- Create Digital Connectors programs in at least 6 community-based organizations in 6 states.
- AAJC will work with the identified Community Partners to ensure that the 20% match is met; totaling at least per site or per site or for the total support of the identified computer centers.

We appreciate this opportunity to support One Economy in its efforts to continue to expand its record success in digital access issues for the underserved in rural and urban communities. With the support of the BTOP, One Economy and AAJC will significantly expand access to broadband service in selected underserved Asian American communities across the nation and provide broadband education, awareness, training and support to our partner organizations and the areas in which they provide serves across the country.

Januti fren

Karen K. Narasaki President and Executive Director



National Office Raul Yzaguirre Building 1126 16th Street, NW Washington, DC 20036

TEL 202.785.1670 FAX 202.776.1792 WWW.ncleorg

August 8, 2009

Broadband Technology Opportunities Program National Telecommunications and Information Administration U.S. Department of Commerce HCHB, Room 4812 1401 Constitution Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20230

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter to confirm the commitment of the National Council of La Raza (NCLR), the largest national Hispanic civil rights and advocacy organization in the U.S., to partner with One Economy in support of the implementation of its programs as described in the enclosed proposal to the National Telecommunications and Information Association (NTIA) Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP) for public computer centers and sustainable adoption.

Like One Economy, our organization is deeply committed to expanding broadband access and adoption to communities who need it most. We are working on expanding several public computer centers in our network of nearly 300 Affiliates- community-based organizations and schools that together provide an array of social services to millions of people annually- targeted to youth and those seeking to improve their job skills. We are also pleased to offer our support to One Economy on the launch of an Escalera/Digital Connectors program in several states such as California, Illinois, Missouri, New Mexico, New York, and Texas.

NCLR seeks to expand the capacity of its Affiliates' public computer centers in two strategic areas of focus:

First, NCLR's Workforce Development Program seeks to ensure the Latino community's ability to contribute to, and share in, the nation's economic opportunities by focusing on increasing Latinos' entry into the workforce, creating career pathways, and promoting career mobility. NCLR's workforce development program bridges the education, skills, and technology gaps to advance Latino workers from low-wage, low-skills occupations to more advanced, upwardly mobile careers. To undertake this work, NCLR leverages its expertise and resources and establishes impact-oriented partnerships with Affiliates and strategic partners in areas with significant or growing Hispanic populations.

Second, NCLR will assist several Affiliates in its School Network. NCLR has supported the development of nearly 100 community-based schools that span all grades levels, from pre-kindergarten to 12th grade. Most of the schools are charter schools and all are focused on increasing educational outcomes and high school graduation rates for Latinos. This network is the largest of its kind in the country (covers 18 states and the District of Columbia) and has the

potential for broad dissemination of best practices, leverage of resources, and growth in students reached.

In addition, we believe that NCLR's acclaimed *Escalera* program, which promotes economic mobility for Latino youth by increasing educational attainment, career planning, and access to information about advanced careers, is an ideal vehicle to implement One Economy's Digital Connectors program.

As a partner of this grant, NCLR will commit to:

- Expanding public computer centers in 19 community-based organizations and/or charter schools. These centers work with students at all grade levels and/or adults seeking better employment and serve thousands of clients annually. The organizations are: Academia Cesar Chavez, St. Paul, MN; Albuquerque Hispano Chamber of Commerce, Albuquerque, NM; AltaMed Health Services Corporation, Los Angeles, CA; Alta Vista Charter High School, Kansas City, MO; American Youthworks, Austin, TX; Avenida Guadalupe, San Antonio, TX; Calexico Community Action Council, Calexico, CA; Camino Nuevo, Los Angeles, CA; Center for Training and Careers, San Jose, CA; El Barrio, Cleveland, OH; Erie Charter School, Chicago, IL; Friendly House, Phoenix, AZ; Guadalupe Centers, Kansas City, MO; HELP– NM, Las Vegas, NM; Instituto del Progreso Latino, Chicago, IL; KIPP Houston, Houston, TX; Promesa Systems, Inc., New York, NY; Santa Fe South High School, Oklahoma City, OK; and Spanish Speaking Citizens' Foundation, Oakland, CA.
- Guaranteeing the funding match necessary for all participating Affiliates to implement these programs. NCLR will commit to providing a match to each site which will each receive over a two-year period for a total grant of match.
- Create Digital Connectors programs in 7 community-based organizations in six states.

We appreciate this opportunity to support One Economy in its endeavor to continue to expand its record of success in digital access issues for the underserved in rural and urban communities. With the support of BTOP, One Economy and NCLR together will significantly expand access to broadband service in selected underserved Hispanic communities across the nation and provide broadband education, awareness, training, and support to our partner organizations and the areas in which they provide services across the nation.

Sincerely,

Murquía

Janet Murguía President and CEO



League of United Latin American Citizens

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August 11, 2009

Broadband Technology Opportunities Program National Telecommunications and Information Administration U.S. Department of Commerce HCHB, Room 4812 1401 Constitution Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20230

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter to confirm the commitment of the LULAC Institute, Inc. to partner with One Economy in support of the implementation of its programs as described in the enclosed proposal to the National Telecommunications and Information Association (NTIA) Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP) for Public Computer Centers and Sustainable Adoption.

Like One Economy, our organization is deeply committed to expanding broadband access and adoption to communities who need it most. We are pleased and excited to offer our support to One Economy as it relates to the public computer centers and digital connector program in underserved Latino communities.

As a partner of this grant, the LULAC Institute, Inc. will commit to:

- Running 40 public computer centers
- Running 10 digital connector programs to increase broadband adoption

The LULAC Institute, Inc. will commit a grand total of **an an a match** for this two-year proposal. The following describes the break-down of the match:

- cash from the Procter & Gamble Company
- cash from Comcast
- **Include** in-kind match in staff time and program expenses from the LULAC National Educational Service Centers
- **Intersection** in-kind match in staff time and program space to house the technology lab from the LULAC National Community Technology Centers Network

We appreciate this opportunity to support One Economy in its endeavor to continue to expand its record of success in digital access issues for the underserved in rural and urban communities. With the support of BTOP, One Economy and the LULAC Institute, Inc together will significantly expand access to broadband service and provide broadband education, awareness, training, and support in communities across the nation.

Sincerely,

Bront Wilker

Brent A. Wilkes LULAC National Executive Director

2000 L Street, NW, Suite 610 • Washington, DC 20036 • (202) 833-6130 • FAX (202) 833-6135 • www.LULAC.org



Ralph B. Everett President & CEO

August 10, 2009

Broadband Technology Opportunities Program National Telecommunications and Information Administration U.S. Department of Commerce HCHB, Room 4812 1401 Constitution Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20230

To Whom It May Concern:

The Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies enthusiastically supports One Economy's application for funding to the National Telecommunications and Information Association (NTIA) Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP) for Sustainable Adoption. The Joint Center is one of the nation's leading research and public policy institutions and the only one whose work focuses exclusively on issues of particular concern to African Americans and other people of color. For over three decades, our research and information programs have informed and influenced public opinion and national policy to benefit not only African Americans, but every American. As an inaugural partner of the Broadband Opportunity Coalition (BBOC), the Joint Center views this opportunity as a major step in accelerating broadband access for minorities and low-income people that are currently experiencing the digital divide.

Like One Economy, the Joint Center is deeply committed to expanding broadband access and adoption to communities who need it most. We are fully in agreement with the mission of One Economy and other BBOC partners as we seek to help low-income individuals advance their lives. As a partner in the BBOC, the Joint Center will leverage our expertise in research and policy to measure the progress of our initiative, especially as we connect more non-adopters to high-speed broadband and all of its benefits.

As a partner of this grant, the Joint Center will commit to:

- Creating the Broadband Opportunity Index with the National Urban League's Policy Institute that will be used to support a process of continuous improvement;
- Gathering relevant data that assesses the project's success, especially as more people connect to online resources and opportunities; and,
- Providing staff resources to complete the data collection and analysis.

We appreciate this opportunity to support One Economy and be a part of the Broadband Opportunities Coalition in its endeavor to continue to expand its record of success in digital access issues for the underserved in rural and urban communities. With the support of BTOP,

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Broadband Technology Opportunity Program August 10, 2009 Page Two

One Economy and together with the BBOC will provide broadband education, awareness, training, and support in communities across the nation.

Ralph B. Everett



Minority Media & Telecommunications Council 3636 16th Street N.W. Suite B-366 Washington, D.C. 20010 Phone: 202-332-0500 Fax: 202-332-0503 www.mmtconline.org

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Broadband Technology Opportunities Program National Telecommunications and Information Administration U.S. Department of Commerce HCHB, Room 4812 1401 Constitution Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20230

Dear Colleagues:

I am pleased to confirm the commitment of Minority Media and Telecommunications Council (MMTC) to assist One Economy, and its partner and MMTC's client, the Broadband Opportunity Coalition (BBOC), in support of the enclosed proposal to the National Telecommunications and Information Association (NTIA) Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP) for Public Computer Centers and for Sustainable Adoption Programming Activities.

Like One Economy, MMTC is deeply committed to expanding broadband access and adoption to communities who need it most. We are pleased and excited to offer our support to One Economy as it continues to expand its youth technology education and engagement program, Digital Connectors.

To assist One Economy in performing the services it will provide under this grant, MMTC will commit to:

- Marshall the resources and support of MMTC's clients and stakeholders over 70
 national civil rights, minority and religious organizations and their local
 chapters and affiliates to extend the reach of those served by Digital Connectors
- Participate in the drafting and evaluation of substantive content to be transmitted through Digital Connectors
- Provide legal support for implementation and process issues falling within the sphere of the Federal Communications Commission and federal telecom and broadband policy.

We appreciate this opportunity to support One Economy in its endeavor to continue to expand its record of success in digital access issues for the underserved in rural and urban communities.

Sincerely,

Davíd Honíg

David Honig President and Executive Director

National Urban League Affiliates

Letters of Support and Commitment Part 1

1) Atlanta Urban League

2) Chicago Urban League

3) Detroit Urban League

4) Indianapolis Urban League

5) Knoxville Area Urban League

6) Lorain County Urban League

7) Louisville Urban League

8) Milwaukee Urban League

9) Minneapolis Urban League

10) New York Urban League

Atlanta Urban League, Inc.

July 28, 2009

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Broadband Technology Opportunities Program National Telecommunications and Information Administration U.S. Department of Commerce HCHB, Room 4812 1401 Constitution Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20230

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter to confirm the commitment of the Atlanta Urban League, Inc. to partner with One Economy in support of the implementation of its programs as described in the enclosed proposal to the National Telecommunications and Information Association (NTIA) Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP) for Sustainable Adoption.

Like One Economy, our organization is deeply committed to expanding broadband access and adoption to communities who need it most. We are pleased and excited to offer our support to One Economy as it relates to the launch of a Project Ready: Digital Connectors program in the Metropolitan Atlanta area.

Currently, the Urban League operates a signature program and curriculum, Project Ready, which provides enhanced academic and social support to high school students as they prepare for post-secondary success? One Economy operates a national program, Digital Connectors, designed to develop tomorrow's leaders through technology, training and community service. I believe merging these two dynamic programs will result in an innovative and impactful new program. Specifically, the community believes that a combined approach will provide youth participants with a fuller set of supports and opportunities for college and career success by preparing them to compete in a broadband and digital economy.

The Atlanta Urban League is an approved Workforce Investment Act training site. The Atlanta Urban League offers certificate of completion and job placement assistance to students in the following disciplines: Microsoft Office Specialist (MOS) 16 weeks - Intensive training providing instruction in the use of the computer with emphasis on obtaining an industry recognized certificate at the Specialist, Expert or Master level in each Microsoft Office application: Word, Excel, PowerPoint, and Access. MOS training has received recommendation for college credit by the American Council of Education. Banking and Financial Services 12 weeks – Trainees prepare for flexible careers in the financial industry. The curriculum includes Ten-Key by Touch, Proof Operation, Microsoft Word and Customer Service.

"Providing Human Services to Metropolitan Atlanta for Over 89 Years" 100 Edgewood Avenue, N.E., Suite 600 & Atlanta, Georgia 30303 & (404) 659-1150 & Fax (404) 659-5771 & www.atlul.org Broadband Technology Opportunities Program Page 2 July 28, 2009

Approximately 100 youth are served annually through the Anheuser-Busch Green Team, Transitional Employment Services, GED Prep, and the newly implemented Project Ready Program. Students recruited for these programs were from local high schools in the Metro Atlanta area.

The newly established Project Ready: College Access Program served 25, 9th and 10th graders from local Atlanta metro high schools. During the four-week Summer Session, the students reported to the affiliate four days a week where they participated in academics, and social activities. Each Friday they were chaperoned on a field trip, which involved cultural activities.

We believe that a broadband adoption strategy that includes college readiness and a technology focus is the right one for the Atlanta Metropolitan community, and feel strongly that it would enable the League to provide innovative learning and workplace strategies.

As a partner of this grant, the Atlanta Urban League, Inc. will commit to:

- **COMMITMENT:** Operate the Project Ready: Digital Connectors program serving 30 high school age youth annually;
- **COMMITMENT:** Develop resources and strategies that build support for local broadband adoption including engaging other local partners, youth service learning activities, developing computer labs; creating documentaries; training community members on computers and the Internet; using digital media to create interactive tutorials; mapping community assets; and developing wireless hotspots;
- **COMMITMENT**: Report on program progress and success as required by BTOP, One Economy and the National Urban League.

We appreciate this opportunity to support One Economy in its endeavor to continue to expand its record of success in digital access issues for the underserved in rural and urban communities. With the support of BTOP, One Economy and the National Urban League, the Atlanta Urban League, Inc. together will provide effective broadband education, awareness, training, and support in communities across the nation.

Mancy Flake Johnm

Nancy Flake Johnson President and CEO



www.TheChicagoUrbanLeague.org www.DriveChangeNow.org

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An affiliate of the National Urban League

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July 27, 2009

Broadband Technology Opportunities Program National Telecommunications and Information Administration U.S. Department of Commerce HCHB, Room 4812 1401 Constitution Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20230

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter to confirm the commitment of The Chicago Urban League to partner with One Economy in support of the implementation of its programs as described in the enclosed proposal to the National Telecommunications and Information Association (NTIA) Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP) for Sustainable Adoption.

Like One Economy, our organization is deeply committed to expanding broadband access and adoption to communities who need it most. We are pleased and excited to offer our support to One Economy as it relates to the launch of a Project Ready: Digital Connectors program in Chicago, Illinois.

Currently, the Urban League operates a signature program and curriculum, Project Ready, which provides enhanced academic and social support to high school students as they prepare for post-secondary success? One Economy operates a national program, Digital Connectors, designed to develop tomorrow's leaders through technology, training and community service. I believe merging these two dynamic programs will result in an innovative and impactful new program. Specifically, the community believes that a combined approach will provide youth participants with a fuller set of supports and opportunities for college and career success by preparing them to compete in a broadband and digital economy.

Our current technology program approach, Global Tech Biz Camp, is a one-week intense technology-focused, summer youth entrepreneurship program. Program partners include the University of Illinois at Chicago, Google, Microsoft, as well as lead sponsor, Motorola. The program serves a contingent of 25 high school students representing 10 high schools from throughout the Greater Chicago-area.

The instructional basis of the camp is to expose students to the abilities web-based operations offers expeditious means to manage and grow the businesses to reach global scale. In addition, Global Tech Biz Camp teaches participants ways in which innovative technology tools such as social networking, blogs, teleseminars, webinars, and viral marketing can change a product/company's brand image and or increase sales and revenues.

4510 South Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60653-3816 (773) 285-5800 • Fax (773) 285-7772 email: info@TheChicagoUrbanLeague.org

Our current Project Ready / college readiness approach is a 2-year program, which assist 50 high school students with their college preparation, application, and entrance process. The CUL Project Ready program is currently in partnership with two local Chicago-area high schools: Morgan Park Academy and Wells High School. In addition, Project Ready closely works with the University of Chicago's initiative to increase the percentage of African American males in the university's student body. We believe that a broadband adoption strategy that includes college readiness and a technology focus is the right one for Chicago due to the numerous technology-based business headquarters, and a host of exciting business/civic opportunities that are developing in the market, including-a strong bid for the 2016 Summer Olympic Games.

As a partner of this grant, The Chicago Urban League will commit to:

- **COMMITMENT:** Operate the Project Ready: Digital Connectors program serving 30 high school age youth annually;
- **COMMITMENT:** Develop resources and strategies that build support for local broadband adoption including engaging other local partners, youth service learning activities, developing computer labs; creating documentaries; training community members on computers and the Internet; using digital media to create interactive tutorials; mapping community assets; and developing wireless hotspots:
- **COMMITMENT:** Report on program progress and success as required by BTOP, One Economy and the National Urban League.

We appreciate this opportunity to support One Economy in its endeavor to continue to expand its record of success in digital access issues for the underserved in rural and urban communities. With the support of BTOP, One Economy and the National Urban League, the Chicago Urban League together will provide effective broadband education, awareness, training, and support in communities across the nation.

Churgh Jackson Chervle R. Jackson President and CEO



July 24, 2009

Broadband Technology Opportunities Program
National Telecommunications and Information Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce
HCHB, Room 4812
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW
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N. Charles Anderson President/CEO

208 Mack Avenue Detroit. MI 48201

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To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter to confirm the commitment of the Detroit Urban League to partner with One Economy in support of the implementation of its programs as described in the enclosed proposal to the National Telecommunications and Information Association (NTIA) Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP) for Sustainable Adoption.

Like One Economy, our organization is deeply committed to expanding broadband access and adoption to communities who need it most. We are pleased and excited to offer our support to One Economy as it relates to the launch of a Project Ready: Digital Connectors program in Detroit and southeastern Michigan.

The Detroit Urban League currently operates a signature program and curriculum, Project Ready, which provides enhanced academic and social support to high school students as they prepare for post-secondary success? One Economy operates a national program, Digital Connectors, designed to develop tomorrow's leaders through technology, training and community service. I believe merging these two dynamic programs will result in an innovative and impactful new program. Specifically, the community believes that a combined approach will provide youth participants with a fuller set of supports and opportunities for college and career success by preparing them to compete in a broadband and digital economy.

Our current technology program approach has been working to empower our Project Ready participants with increasing their computer competency and gain more knowledge about their post secondary options. During the 2008-2009 program year we worked with Northwestern High School Management Support Class, Denby High School's Maurice Saunders Second Chance Academy and Southeastern High School's Management Support Class. With the aid of their Dell computer labs we were able to incorporate technology through all of our program elements. Through this program we were able to serve 142 students. We also incorporated the Project Ready program with area youth active in our College Club program for students from various high schools. Because of a partnership we have with Comcast, we have been able to regularly access and use technology with the students served. In the Maurice Saunders Second Chance Academy,



A United Way Agency Affiliated with the National Urban League July 24, 2009 Page (2)

students have an opportunity to development skills in Microsoft Office Applications such as Word and Power Point. Through our personal and Social Skills development along with interpersonal skills training and financial literacy components, we assist youth with focusing and identifying their strengths, areas of needed improvement, hopes, and desires to make the snapshot of their sketches complete. Students utilize technology to research future earnings, complete scholarship application and design business plan and presentations. The available technology allows us the opportunity to expand the program offering beyond our initial focus. The final way we utilized technology with Project Ready participants was to complete a case competition utilizing a MAC computer to create a public service announcement using the Garage Band software and I-Movie to edit and create a Project Ready Yearbook that highlights the work we have completed over the 2008-2009 year. We served 54 Project Ready Sessions, or 3,320 minutes of instruction.

We believe that a broadband adoption strategy that includes college readiness and a technology focus is the right one for Detroit and Wayne County, especially considering the great need to ensure that our youth are directed away from a manufacturing mentality.

As a partner of this grant, the Detroit Urban League will commit to:

- **COMMITMENT:** Operate the Project Ready: Digital Connectors program serving 30 high school age youth annually;
- **COMMITMENT:** Develop resources and strategies that build support for local broadband adoption including engaging other local partners, youth service learning activities, developing computer labs; creating documentaries; training community members on computers and the Internet; using digital media to create interactive tutorials; mapping community assets; and developing wireless hotspots;
- **COMMITMENT:** Report on program progress and success as required by BTOP, One Economy and the National Urban League.

We appreciate this opportunity to support One Economy in its endeavor to continue to expand its record of success in digital access issues for the underserved in rural and urban communities. With the support of BTOP, One Economy and the National Urban League, the Detroit Urban League together will provide effective broadband education, awareness, training, and support in communities across the nation.

harles Anderson President/CEO



777 Indiana Avenue Indianapolis, IN 46202

Phone: 317-693-7603 Fax: 317-693-7613 Web Address: www.indplsul.org

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July 28, 2009

Broadband Technology Opportunities Program National Telecommunications and Information Administration U.S. Department of Commerce HCHB, Room 4812 1401 Constitution Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20230

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter to confirm the commitment of the Indianapolis Urban League to partner with One Economy in support of the implementation of its programs as described in the enclosed proposal to the National Telecommunications and Information Association (NTIA) Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP) for Sustainable Adoption.

Like One Economy, our organization is deeply committed to expanding broadband access and adoption to communities who need it most. We are pleased and excited to offer our support to One Economy as it relates to the launch of a Project Ready: Digital Connectors program in the city of Indianapolis Indiana and the surrounding counties.

Currently, the Urban League operates a signature program and curriculum, Project Ready, which provides enhanced academic and social support to high school students as they prepare for postsecondary success. One Economy operates a national program, Digital Connectors, designed to develop tomorrow's leaders through technology, training and community service. I believe merging these two dynamic programs will result in an innovative and impactful new program. Specifically, the community believes that a combined approach will provide youth participants with a fuller set of supports and opportunities for college and career success by preparing them to compete in a broadband and digital economy.

Our current technology program serves both youth and adults. Our three primary youth technology programs are our Career Track Program, our Soon to Make a Difference in the Community (SMD.com), and our LEGO Robotics Program.





Our Career Track Program served approximately 70 young adults in the last fiscal year with this program that provides basic computer skills.

Our Soon to Make a Difference in the Community (SMD.com) program has the capacity to serve 25 youth per class. This program is designed to expose middle school aged students to a career in computer technology. We partner with the Indiana University School of Informatics, which is walking distance from our facility for this program.

The LEGO Robotics Program is also focused on middle school aged students to expose them to potential careers in advanced manufacturing and robotics. We can serve up to 25 students per class. We partner with the Indiana University Purdue University at Indianapolis (IUPUI) School of Technology for this program. We focus these last two programs on middle school aged youth to expose them to these career possibilities while they still have enough time in school to get the courses they need in order to be successful at the post secondary level.

Our current Project Ready College Readiness program is comprised of three (3) key components, academic development, social development and cultural and global awareness, and operated to improve our student's competency in reading comprehension, math and sciences, and to increase their competency to increase their outcomes on standardized tests. In the most recent school year we served over 75 students. We are working with students at two Indianapolis high schools. Every high school in Indianapolis could use this program if funding were available.

We currently enjoy partnership with numerous post secondary institutions with the primary ones being Ivy Tech Community College, Indiana University, Purdue University at Indianapolis (IUPUI), University of Indianapolis, Butler University and several vocational and technical schools in our community.

We believe that broadband adoption strategy that includes college readiness and a technology focus is the right one for Indianapolis because numerous career opportunities that have and are being created in our community require the kinds of knowledge and skill sets that programs like this can help our students obtain.

As a partner of this grant the Indianapolis Urban League will commit to:

- **Commitment:** Operate the Project Ready: Digital Connectors program serving 30 high school aged youth annually;
- **Commitment:** Develop resources and strategies that build support for local broadband adoption including engaging other local partners, youth service learning activities, developing computer labs; creating documentaries; training community members on community assets; and developing wireless hotspots;
- **Commitment:** Report on program progress and success as required by BTOP, One Economy and the National Urban League.

We appreciate this opportunity to support One Economy in its endeavor to continue to expand its record of success in digital access issues for the underserved in rural and urban communities.

With the support of BTOP, One Economy and the National Urban League, the Indianapolis Urban League together will provide effective broadband education, awareness, training, and support in communities across the nation.

Sincerely, 5 losep

Joseph A. Slash President & CEO

JAS/trc



1514 E. Fifth Avenue Knoxville, TN 37917

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www.thekaul.org info@thekaul.org

Empowering Communities Changing Lives

August 6, 2009

Broadband Technology Opportunities Program National Telecommunications and Information Administration U.S. Department of Commerce HCHB, Room 4812 1401 Constitution Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20230

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter to confirm the commitment of the Knoxville Area Urban League to partner with One Economy in support of the implementation of its programs as described in the enclosed proposal to the National Telecommunications and Information Association (NTIA) Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP) for Sustainable Adoption.

Like One Economy, our organization is deeply committed to expanding broadband access and adoption to communities who need it most. We are pleased and excited to offer our support to One Economy as it relates to the launch of a Project Ready: Digital Connectors program in Knoxville, Tennessee.

Currently, the Urban League operates a signature program and curriculum, Project Ready, which provides enhanced academic and social support to high school students as they prepare for post-secondary success. One Economy operates a national program, Digital Connectors, designed to develop tomorrow's leaders through technology, training and community service. I believe merging these two dynamic programs will result in an innovative and impactful new program. Specifically, the community believes that a combined approach will provide youth participants with a fuller set of supports and opportunities for college and career success by preparing them to compete in a broadband and digital economy.

Our current technology program approach is two-fold. One, our after school program for middle schoolers is the Digital Academy, which utilizes a technology based curriculum designed to teach computer and online research skills. Secondly, exploration of technological careers is the ultimate goal of the Digital Academy. We work with 45-60 students in grades 6-8. Partners critical to the real-world curriculum are US Cellular, Comcast, and Scripps Networks. KAUL collaborates with local community colleges as well as the University of Tennessee.

The KAUL National Achievers Program enrolls approximately 120 high school students each year to participate in college preparation activities utilizing our computer center to explore financial aid and scholarship opportunities.

We believe that a broadband adoption strategy that includes college readiness and a technology focus is the right one for Knoxville, Tennessee, because we know that some state and federal financial aid opportunities are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Enrollment is online. Far too many of our students do not have the home connectivity to be one of the first to apply.

The Knoxville Area Urban League is committed to providing access to all of our community.

As a partner of this grant, the Knoxville Area Urban League will commit to:

- **COMMITMENT:** Operate the Project Ready: Digital Connectors program serving 30 high school age youth annually;
- COMMITMENT: Develop resources and strategies that build support for local broadband adoption including engaging other local partners, youth service learning activities, developing computer labs; creating documentaries; training community members on computers and the Internet; using digital media to create interactive tutorials; mapping community assets; and developing wireless hotspots;
- **COMMITMENT**: Report on program progress and success as required by BTOP, One Economy and the National Urban League.

We appreciate this opportunity to support One Economy in its endeavor to continue to expand its record of success in digital access issues for the underserved in rural and urban communities. With the support of BTOP, One Economy and the National Urban League, the Knoxville Area Urban League together will provide effective broadband education, awareness, training, and support in communities across the nation.

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Phyllis Y. Nichols President & CEO

Lorain County Urban League

Empowering Communities. Changing Lives. 401 Broad Street, Suite B Elyria, Ohio 44035 Phone: 440-323-3364 Fax: 440-323-5299 www.lcul.org

July 27, 2009

Broadband Technology Opportunities Program National Telecommunications and Information Administration U.S. Department of Commerce HCHB, Room 4812 1401 Constitution Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20230

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter to confirm the commitment of the Lorain County Urban League (LCUL) to partner with One Economy in support of the implementation of its programs as described in the enclosed proposal to the National Telecommunications and Information Association (NTIA) Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP) for Sustainable Adoption.

Like One Economy, LCUL is deeply committed to expanding broadband access and adoption to communities who need it most. We are pleased and excited to offer our support to One Economy as it relates to the launch of a Project Ready: Digital Connectors program in Lorain County, Ohio.

Currently, the Urban League operates a signature program and curriculum, Project Ready, which provides enhanced academic and social support to high school students as they prepare for post-secondary success. One Economy operates a national program, Digital Connectors, designed to develop tomorrow's leaders through technology, training and community service. I believe merging these two dynamic programs will result in an innovative and impactful new program. Specifically, the community believes that a combined approach will provide youth participants with a fuller set of supports and opportunities for college and career success by preparing them to compete in a broadband and digital economy.

In Lorain County, our current technology program focuses primarily on teaching basic computer skills, office applications, and using the internet to access information through the world-wide web. This past school year, in addition to acquiring basic skills, 45 older youth also used online resources to prepare for state assessments and college admission tests. Potential future partners include the NASA Glen Science Center; which our students visit yearly.

Our current college readiness program uses two approaches to create early college awareness, particularly, among first generation and economically disadvantaged students, and to motivate and support them to prepare for higher education after high school:

 In Careers-to-College, a partnership between Oberlin City School and the Lorain County Urban League, individuals from a variety of professional backgrounds lead workshops that help students to make connections between the choices they are making now (the classes they are taking and extracurricular activities) and emerging careers in the new economy. Some workshops have explored careers in the digital economy; 125 students participated in the Careers-to-College workshops in the past school year.

Equal Opportunity Employer National Urban League Affiliate

A United Way Agency

• The College Bound Project gives our high school students direct exposure to college by taking them on college tours. Pre-college tour activities include college application and Financial Aid workshop, which are facilitated by admissions officers from Oberlin College and Lorain County Community College. Our most recent tour, which took place in March of 2009, took 33 students to six colleges and universities in Pennsylvania and Ohio.

We believe that a broadband adoption strategy that includes college readiness and a technology focus is the right one for Lorain County, because the Northeast Ohio Region is investing heavily in the development of a digital economy through the Third Frontier Project and Fund for Our Economic Future. This initiative will help to ensure that youth from Lorain County are well positioned to take advantage of emerging opportunities in our region.

As a partner of this grant, the Lorain County Urban League will commit to:

- Operating the Project Ready: Digital Connectors program serving 30 high school age youth annually;
- Developing resources and strategies that build support for local broadband adoption including engaging other local partners, youth service learning activities, developing computer labs; creating documentaries; training community members on computers and the Internet; using digital media to create interactive tutorials; mapping community assets; and developing wireless hotspots;
- Reporting on program progress and success as required by BTOP, One Economy and the National Urban League.

We appreciate this opportunity to support One Economy in its endeavor to continue to expand its record of success in digital access issues for the underserved in rural and urban communities. With the support of BTOP, One Economy, the National Urban League, and the Lorain County Urban League will work together to provide effective broadband education, awareness, training, and support in communities across the nation.

gined Wright

Fred Wright President/CEO



Empowering People. Changing Lives.

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www.lul.org

July 27, 2009

Broadband Technology Opportunities Program National Telecommunications and Information Administration U.S. Department of Commerce HCHB, Room 4812 1401 Constitution Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20230

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter to confirm the commitment of Louisville Urban League to partner with One Economy in support of the implementation of its programs as described in the enclosed proposal to the National Telecommunications and Information Association (NTIA) Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP) for Sustainable Adoption.

Like One Economy, our organization is deeply committed to expanding broadband access and adoption to communities who need it most. We are pleased and excited to offer our support to One Economy as it relates to the launch of a Project Ready: Digital Connectors program in Louisville, Kentucky.

Currently, the Urban League operates a signature program and curriculum, Project Ready, which provides enhanced academic and social support to high school students as they prepare for post-secondary success? One Economy operates a national program, Digital Connectors, designed to develop tomorrow's leaders through technology, training and community service. I believe merging these two dynamic programs will result in an innovative and impactful new program. Specifically, the community believes that a combined approach will provide youth participants with a fuller set of supports and opportunities for college and career success by preparing them to compete in a broadband and digital economy.

Louisville Urban League has a 25 station, state-of-the-art computer lab that is fully connected with internet access and is used to support our youth development and adult basic education programs. Also, our Affiliate is a Microsoft certified refurbished, which enables us to re-deploy used computer systems that are donated by our corporate partners. To date, we have installed thirteen (13) computer labs (a total of 120 computer work stations) in local churches and community-based organizations.

LUL has strong collaborative partnerships with the local public schools system, our community's Workforce Investment Board, Jefferson Community and Technical College, various business networks of Greater Louisville, Inc. (the metro Chamber of Commerce), and many others all of which have significant commitments to the growth and advancement of technology programs in our community.



Our youth development services operate year-round, serving over 300 students, grades K thru 12, under the banner of NULITES, which includes Project Ready, Urban Youth Golf Program, Rising 5th Graders, Street Academy, and NCLB Supplemental Education Services.

Project Ready is our high school to college transition program that serves 50 students annually, grades eight through twelve, with academic development support, social skill development and global/cultural awareness. Our Project Ready students have access to computers for homework help, special projects and other educational purposes.

We also operate the Parent Leadership Academy (PLA), a program designed to increase parental involvement in the public schools system. Through the PLA parents are introduced to technology platforms such as the "Parent Portal" which gives Internet access to student data and other school related information.

We believe that a broadband adoption strategy that includes college readiness and a technology focus is the right one for Louisville, because of our community's current focus on becoming a technology leader and global hub for business development in technology.

As a partner of this grant, Louisville Urban League will commit to:

- COMMITMENT: Operate the Project Ready: Digital Connectors program serving 30 high school age youth annually;
- COMMITMENT: Develop resources and strategies that build support for local broadband adoption including engaging other local partners, youth service learning activities, developing computer labs; creating documentaries; training community members on computers and the Internet; using digital media to create interactive tutorials; mapping community assets; and developing wireless hotspots;
- **COMMITMENT**: Report on program progress and success as required by BTOP, One Economy and the National Urban League.

We appreciate this opportunity to support One Economy in its endeavor to continue to expand its record of success in digital access issues for the underserved in rural and urban communities. With the support of BTOP, One Economy and the National Urban League, the Louisville Urban League together will provide effective broadband education, awareness, training, and support in communities across the nation.

Sincerely,

Ben Rill

Benjamin K. Richmond, President/CEO

Cc: Hal Smith, VP of Education and Youth Development



435 West North Avenue Milwaukee, WI 53212-3146 414-374-5850 414-562-8620 fax www.tmul.org

July 27, 2009

Broadband Technology Opportunities Program National Telecommunications and Information Administration U.S. Department of Commerce HCHB, Room 4812 1401 Constitution Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20230

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter to confirm the commitment of the Milwaukee Urban League to partner with One Economy in support of the implementation of its programs as described in the enclosed proposal to the National Telecommunications and Information Association (NTIA) Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP) for Sustainable Adoption.

Like One Economy, our organization is deeply committed to expanding broadband access and adoption to communities who need it most. We are pleased and excited to offer our support to One Economy as it relates to the launch of a Project Ready: Digital Connectors program in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Currently, the Urban League operates a signature program and curriculum, Project Ready, which provides enhanced academic and social support to high school students as they prepare for post-secondary success. One Economy operates a national program, Digital Connectors, designed to develop tomorrow's leaders through technology, training and community service. I believe merging these two dynamic programs will result in an innovative and impactful new program. Specifically, the community believes that a combined approach will provide youth participants with a fuller set of supports and opportunities for college and career success by preparing them to compete in a broadband and digital economy.

The Milwaukee Urban League's Campaign for African American Achievement (CAAA) College Preparation program's goal is to increase the number of students entering colleges, universities or trade schools. The program is open to Milwaukee Public and Choice Schools. The program is geared towards minority students and their parents who are interested in finding a way for their family to participate in the educational process. The Milwaukee program served <u>747</u> students in the 2008 program year.

The Milwaukee Urban League's program provides college preparation workshops for students from the following middle and high schools.

Middle Schools

- Atonement; 6th & 7th grade
- George Washington Carver; 6th grade
- Hope Christian; 6th & 7th grade
- Mt. Lebanon; 6th & 7th grade
- Christ-St. Peter; 6th grade
- Prince of Peace; 6th grade
- Garden Homes; 6th & 7th grade
- St. Marcus; 6th & 7th grade

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- St. Phillip; 6th & 7th grade
- Risen Savior; 6th grade
- Siloah; 6th grade

High Schools:

- Bayview
- Bradley Tech
- Hamilton
- Madison
- Holy Redeemer
- Milwaukee School of Entrepreneurship

In additional to the above schools, the Urban League collaborates with the following post high school institutions:

- Milwaukee Area Technical College
- Wisconsin Lutheran College
- University of Wisconsin Milwaukee

Milwaukee's current approach to technology is to provide access to:

- Basic computer literacy
- On-line application assistance
- On-line Financial Aid assistance and the awarding of Laptops to high school senior's during our National Achievers Society ceremony

We believe that a broadband strategy that integrates academic preparation for college along with life skill development, personal, global and cultural awareness is needed in Milwaukee and will enhance our CAAA. It will provide middle and high school students with the tools necessary to compete in our global technological society.

As a partner of this grant, Milwaukee Urban League will commit to:

- **COMMITMENT:** Operate the Project Ready: Digital Connectors program serving 30 high school age youth annually;
- **COMMITMENT:** Develop resources and strategies that build support for local broadband adoption including engaging other local partners, youth service learning activities, developing computer labs; creating documentaries; training community members on computers and the Internet; using digital media to create interactive tutorials; mapping community assets; and developing wireless hotspots;
- **COMMITMENT**: Report on program progress and success as required by BTOP, One Economy and the National Urban League.

We appreciate this opportunity to support One Economy in its endeavor to continue to expand its record of success in digital access issues for the underserved in rural and urban communities. With the support of BTOP, One Economy and the National Urban League, the **Milwaukee Urban League** together will provide effective broadband education, awareness, training, and support in communities across the nation.

Jalah Hall

Ralph Hollmon, President and CEO Milwaukee Urban League



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August 6, 2009

Broadband Technology Opportunities Program National Telecommunications and Information Administration U.S. Department of Commerce HCHB, Room 4812 1401 Constitution Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20230

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter to confirm the commitment of the Minneapolis Urban League to partner with One Economy in support of the implementation of its programs as described in the enclosed proposal to the National Telecommunications and Information Association (NTIA) Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP) for Sustainable Adoption.

Like One Economy, our organization is deeply committed to expanding broadband access and adoption to communities who need it most. We are pleased and excited to offer our support to One Economy as it relates to the launch of a Project Ready: Digital Connectors program in Minneapolis and throughout Hennepin County.

Currently, the Urban League operates a signature program and curriculum, Project Ready, which provides enhanced academic and social support to high school students as they prepare for post-secondary success. One Economy operates a national program, Digital Connectors, designed to develop tomorrow's leaders through technology, training and community service. I believe merging these two dynamic programs will result in an innovative and impactful new program. Specifically, the community believes that a combined approach will provide youth participants with a fuller set of supports and opportunities for college and career success by preparing them to compete in a broadband and digital economy.

Our current technology program approach targets youth K-12 in our Urban Academy education programs who need to pass basic standards testing, students who are challenged with obtaining their high school diploma before they can seek higher education goals, and our "Campaign for Achievement" scholarship recipients who are in the process of applying to a college or university. We serve an average of 210 students in these areas annually. We also provide a Community Resource Room that provides access to computers for youth and adults who are seeking employment or are researching career paths.

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Glover-Sudduth Center for Economic Development and Urban Affairs 2100 Plymouth Avenue North ● Minneapolis, MN 55411 ● tel. 612.302.3100 ● fax 612.521.1444 www.mul.org Our current Project Ready / college readiness approach is geared toward students who are interested in higher education but need motivational and academic support to help them reach their goals. Many of these students participate in the MUL's annual tour of Historically Black Colleges and Universities, and work intensively on building up portfolios profiling their educational progress, career interests, and extra-curricular experiences. Project Ready served 52 students last year.

We are also in the planning stages of launching a Digital Career Academy that will train and assist students with obtaining the A+ certification skills and license. We believe that a broadband adoption strategy that includes college readiness and a technology focus is the right one for Minneapolis. Many of the students attending schools in this area have limited access to such resources and would benefit immensely as a result of being exposed to such a strategy, both from an academic standpoint and in terms of the opportunity for personal growth and development.

As a partner of this grant, the Minneapolis Urban League will commit to:

- COMMITMENT: Operate the Project Ready: Digital Connectors program serving 30 high school age youth annually;
- **COMMITMENT:** Develop resources and strategies that build support for local broadband adoption including engaging other local partners, youth service learning activities, developing computer labs; creating documentaries; training community members on computers and the Internet; using digital media to create interactive tutorials; mapping community assets; and developing wireless hotspots;
- **COMMITMENT**: Report on program progress and success as required by BTOP, One Economy and the National Urban League.

We appreciate this opportunity to support One Economy in its endeavor to continue to expand its record of success in digital access issues for the underserved in rural and urban communities. With the support of BTOP, One Economy and the National Urban League, the Minneapolis Urban League together will provide effective broadband education, awareness, training, and support in communities across the nation.

Scott Gray President/CEO

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July 27, 2009

Broadband Technology Opportunities Program National Telecommunications and Information Administration U.S. Department of Commerce HCHB, Room 4812 1401 Constitution Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20230

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter to confirm the commitment of New York Urban League to partner with One Economy in support of the implementation of its programs as described in the enclosed proposal to the National Telecommunications and Information Association (NTIA) Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP) for Sustainable Adoption.

Like One Economy, our organization is deeply committed to expanding broadband access and adoption to communities who need it most. We are pleased and excited to offer our support to One Economy as it relates to the launch of a Project Ready: Digital Connectors program in New York City.

Currently, the Urban League operates a signature program and curriculum, Project Ready, which provides enhanced academic and social support to high school students as they prepare for postsecondary success. One Economy operates a national program, Digital Connectors, designed to develop tomorrow's leaders through technology, training and community service. I believe merging these two dynamic programs will result in an innovative and impactful new program. Specifically, the community believes that a combined approach will provide youth participants with a fuller set of supports and opportunities for college and career success by preparing them to compete in a broadband and digital economy.

The New York Urban League has a rich history of providing working with local schools, higher education and the Board of Education. Over forty years ago NYUL created Street Academies where 2,000 students complete high school and the program becomes model for national replication. Thirty years ago NYUL established Youth Enrichment Services program that provided a range of support to court involved youth. Twenty years ago we partnered with the New York City Board of Education to provide parent training. And today we continue to work

with students on Staten Island on leadership development and most recently created a summer program in collaboration with the College of Staten Island to introduce students to careers in entertainment and technology.

We believe that a broadband adoption strategy that includes college readiness and a technology focus is the right one for New York City, because we have so many communities that still do not have regular or consistent access to the information super highway.

As a partner of this grant, New York Urban League will commit to:

- **COMMITMENT:** Operate the Project Ready: Digital Connectors program serving 30 high school age youth annually;
- **COMMITMENT:** Develop resources and strategies that build support for local broadband adoption including engaging other local partners, youth service learning activities, developing computer labs; creating documentaries; training community members on computers and the Internet; using digital media to create interactive tutorials; mapping community assets; and developing wireless hotspots;
- **COMMITMENT**: Report on program progress and success as required by BTOP, One Economy and the National Urban League.

We appreciate this opportunity to support One Economy in its endeavor to continue to expand its record of success in digital access issues for the underserved in rural and urban communities. With the support of BTOP, One Economy and the National Urban League, the New York Urban League together will provide effective broadband education, awareness, training, and support in communities across the nation.

Arva R. Rice President and CEO

National Urban League Affiliates

Letters of Support and Commitment Part 2

11) Quad County Urban League

12) Springfield Urban League

13) Tacoma Urban League

14) Urban League of Broward County

15) Urban League of Central Carolinas

16) Urban League of Hampton Roads

17) Urban League of Greater Cleveland



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Scheketa Hart-Burns City of Aurora, Alderperson



Quad County Urban League

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July 28, 2009

Broadband Technology Opportunities Program National Telecommunications and Information Administration U.S. Department of Commerce HCHB, Room 4812 1401 Constitution Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20230

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter to confirm the commitment of the Quad County Urban League (QCUL) to partner with One Economy in support of the implementation of its programs as described in the enclosed proposal to the National Telecommunications and Information Association (NTIA) Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP) for Sustainable Adoption.

Like One Economy, our organization is deeply committed to expanding broadband access and adoption to communities who need it most. We are pleased and excited to offer our support to One Economy as it relates to the launch of a Project Ready: Digital Connectors program in Kane, DuPage, Kendall and Will counties.

Currently, the Urban League operates a signature program and curriculum, Project Ready, which provides enhanced academic and social support to high school students as they prepare for post-secondary success. One Economy operates a national program, Digital Connectors, designed to develop tomorrow's leaders through technology, training and community service. I believe merging these two dynamic programs will result in an innovative and impactful new program. Specifically, the community believes that a combined approach will provide youth participants with a fuller set of supports and opportunities for college and career success by preparing them to compete in a broadband and digital economy.

QCUL Computer Technology Center

The QCUL's technology program approach is to introduce concepts and training classes that allow clients to build their knowledge and skills at their own pace. Instruction ranges from the basic, such as navigating the Internet, to the advanced. Microsoft Digital Literacy tests are used to assess individual needs and progress and <u>www.4tests.com</u> study materials are used to guide development and course completion. As a Certiport Center partner, the QCUL also offers clients, through its Computer Technology Center (CTC), skills certifications, including Microsoft Office program certificates.

The QCUL has created collaborative projects with community partners and engaged families, youth, neighborhoods, public and private social service agencies that drive clients to its CTC. These community partners provide supportive services to QCUL clients including mental health counseling; alcohol, drug screening and counseling; Sexually Transmitted Disease screening and health education; vocational/educational certificate programs; orientation to and entry to apprenticeships; and job readiness training. Partners include Gateway Mental Health Counseling, Fox Valley United Way, Waubonsee Community College, Marie Wilkinson Child Development Center, Fox Valley Habitat for Humanity, Illinois Tollway, Communities in Schools, and local trade unions.

1685 N. Farnsworth Ave. • Aurora, IL 60505 • 630/851-2203 FAX 630/851-2703 Email: info@qcul.org Website: http://www.qcul.org Equal Opportunity for all Minorities, Disadvantaged and Handicapped Persons Contributions are Tax Deductible The CTC has been supported by corporate foundations and Illinois state grants. Comcast has contributed \$20,000 for new computers and provided free Internet service to the center for the past 24 months. Additionally, the QCUL received a grant in the amount of \$40,000 from the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity Digital Divide Program. The QCUL also received a 2008 Legislative Act Grant, in the amount of \$20,000, from the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, which was sponsored by State Senator Linda Holmes, to support all 13 Urban League Vocational and Educational programs, including the CTC.

Some 950 clients were served through the QCUL's Computer Technology Center in FY 2009, 635 of which were youth.

QCUL Project Ready Program

The **Project Ready** program provides an innovative learning path to 9th and 10th grade students through practical experiences designed to assist them transition to college. The program includes academic support to improve GPAs, peer mentoring and leadership development. Program workshops focus on achieving academic excellence and include test preparation for the PSAT, SAT and ACT. Project Ready additionally offers much needed scholarship opportunities, college tours and exposure to motivational speakers.

Project Ready rebuts the unfortunate notion held by some students that a higher education is unattainable. The program helps students understand the benefits that result from receiving a higher education – better job opportunities and higher earning potential. Students are guided to evaluate personal needs against educational goals to choose a post-secondary environment that best suits them.

When working with Project Ready program participants, CTC instructors begins by surveying skill and knowledge levels. Instructors use a variety of teaching styles and instructional methods to most fully address the collective needs of the youth in the program. Youth may also take advantage of additional time and instruction in the CTC, outside the Project Ready curriculum.

In FY 2009, QCUL served 60 youth through Project Ready. The Project Ready program welcomes students from the Aurora West, Aurora East and Indian Prairie school districts.

As a partner of this grant, the QCUL will commit to:

- COMMITMENT: Operate the Project Ready: Digital Connectors program serving 30 high school age youth annually;
- COMMITMENT: Develop resources and strategies that build support for local broadband adoption including engaging other local partners, youth service learning activities, developing computer labs; creating documentaries; training community members on computers and the Internet; using digital media to create interactive tutorials; mapping community assets; and developing wireless hotspots;
- COMMITMENT: Report on program progress and success as required by BTOP, One Economy and the National Urban League.

We appreciate this opportunity to support One Economy in its endeavor to continue to expand its record of success in digital access issues for the underserved in rural and urban communities. With the support of BTOP, One Economy and the National Urban League, the QCUL together will provide effective broadband education, awareness, training, and support in communities across the nation.

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Theodia Gillespie President & CEO



July 27, 2009

100 North 11th Street Springfield Illinois

217 789 0830 217 789 1989

www.springfieldul.org

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Broadband Technology Opportunities Program National Telecommunications and Information Administration U.S. Department of Commerce HCHB, Room 4812 1401 Constitution Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20230

To Whom It May Concern:

This correspondence confirms the commitment of the Springfield Urban League, Inc. (SUL) to collaborate with One Economy in support of the implementation of its programs as described in the enclosed proposal to the National Telecommunications and Information Association (NTIA) Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP) for Sustainable Adoption. Like One Economy, SUL is deeply committed to expanding broadband access and adoption to communities who need it most. We are pleased and excited to offer our support to One Economy as it relates to the launch of a Project Ready: Digital Connectors program in Sangamon County, Illinois.

Currently, the Urban League operates a signature program and curriculum, Project Ready, which provides enhanced academic and social support to high school students as they prepare for post-secondary success. One Economy operates a national program, Digital Connectors, designed to develop tomorrow's leaders through technology, training and community service. We believe merging these two dynamic programs will result in innovative and impactful new programming. Specifically, the community believes that a combined approach will provide youth participants with a fuller set of supports and opportunities for college and career success by preparing them to compete in a broadband and digital economy.

The current SUL technology program approach consists of administering a twenty-five personal computer (pc) Community Technology and Training Center (CTTC). The CTTC curriculum is designed to address the learning needs of individuals who have not traditionally enjoyed the benefits of technology and therefore have not developed basic computer literacy. Instruction includes practical topics such as an introduction to computers, keyboarding skills, Internet navigation, e-mail, software applications (Word, Excel, Access), and conducting on-line employment searches. To maintain student interest and success in completing the curriculum, the CTTC instructor modifies the curriculum to match the student's pace and knowledge level.

The CTTC uses Microsoft's Digital Literacy curriculum for group sessions. Quick reference guides are developed and distributed to students during each session. The SUL also houses a ten pc computer lab in its School-Aged and Community Youth Services site and an eight pc computer lab in its Workforce Empowerment Division site. All of the computer labs are outfitted with up-to-date computer and class presentation equipment. A total of 43 computers are available for public use.

The School Age and Community Youth Division of the SUL focuses on the social and academic empowerment of youth in grades 6-18 through a variety of academic, recreational, technology and cultural enrichment programs and activities. Academic enrichment activities expand on students' learning in ways that differ from the methods used during the school day. They often are interactive and project-focused. They enhance a student's education by bringing new concepts to light or by using old concepts in new ways. These activities are fun for the student and they also impart knowledge. The activities allow the participants to apply knowledge and skills stressed in school to real-life experiences. Recreational enrichment activities are not academic in nature but rather allow students time to relax or "play." Sports, games, and clubs fall into this category. Occasional academic aspects of recreation activities are evident, but the primary lessons learned in recreational activities are in the areas of social skills, teamwork, leadership, competition, and discipline. Cultural enrichment activities are activities that expand worldviews through participation in activities dealing with the arts and other cultures. It is the mission of the SUL School-Age and Community Youth Programs to strategically assist children and families toward reaching their full potential academically, socially, physically, emotionally, and economically. We aim to ensure that all children and families have access to high quality programs, activities, and opportunities during non-school hours. We believe that these experiences are essential to the healthy development of youth, who then can become productive, responsible, effective, caring, and capable members of society.

The SUL administered a Digital Career Academy entitled, "Digipen", a program geared for local high school students who were interested in the field of technology. Funding for this program was from the National Urban League and the AT&T Foundation. The SUL completed two successful sessions during the 2006-2007 fiscal year. Throughout the course, students learned to create their own video games using the computer application program entitled Project Fun. Utilizing creative art assets and C++ programming, the students then learned how to make their newly created video games come to life. The students took their knowledge, skills and abilities one step further through experimenting with their own animation creations and programming to customize their games. Twenty-one students successfully completed the intense 15 week sessions. Consequently, students have gained a greater appreciation for the academic side of computers and technology. In fact, ninety-five percent of the students reported they were considering pursuing a career in the field of technology as a result of taking this course. The SUL has also operated a Tech Prep Club for the past several years. The Tech Prep Club introduces participants, ages 16-19 to careers in technology. The following topics are covered in nine sessions: creating email accounts, introduction to Microsoft Office products, career development in the technology field, basic interview preparation, resume development, research and analysis on the technology job market, technology job search engines, and web

page design and graphic arts. The Technology, Engineering and Computer Help (TEACH) Academy was also funded by the National Urban League and exposed students, ages 12-14 to technology basics while enhancing their math, science, technology and reading skills. Sixteen students successfully completed the training sessions.

The SUL School-Age and Community Youth Programs serve over 500 youth per year. Anticipated outcomes of the programs are to: improve classroom grades, increase graduation rates, improve attitudes about school, increase college enrollment, improve linkages between parents and schools, improve communication between parents and youth, and increase capacity for the youth to be self-sufficient. Fifteen percent (15%) of the youth are ages 6-10, sixty-four percent (64%) are ages 11-13 and twenty-one percent (21%) are ages 14-17. The majority of participants are female sixty percent (60%). About 83% are African American; 6% are bi-racial or other; and 11% are white.

The SUL also has developed and hosted an Online Learning Management System (LMS) located at: http://classroom.chtc.org since 2002. Broadband technology has allowed the SUL to be able to share large PowerPoint slides, include interactive question and answer sessions (during online training sessions), digitally record and archive events on the LMS web site and share files and applications. This "always on" access to training has allowed SUL staff and outside agency staff to participate in training sessions and to other online materials on a twenty-four hour, seven days per week basis. Due to the high bandwidth of broadband, SUL's provision of distance learning has become much more feasible. Online training has allowed the SUL to improve the way its training courses are administered. This type of learning management has streamlined administration and management, enabling curriculum details and examination results to be delivered efficiently.

The SUL current Project Ready/ college readiness approach has expanded the existing 21st Century Community Learning Centers/GEAR UP program at four school-based sites and includes three community-based sites. The program serves over 150 participants enrolled in 9th and 10th grades. Exceptional program components include intensive tutoring by certified teachers, comprehensive social skills delivered in a variety of settings, and the Historic Black College & University Tour. The SUL benefits from an extensive network of community partners. The Education and Youth Division maintains collaborative agreements with more than 50 faith-and community-based organizations, businesses, and local, county, and state government agencies. The primary partner for the Project Ready/21st Century Community Learning Center Program is the University of Illinois at Springfield.

We believe that a broadband adoption strategy that includes college readiness and a technology focus is the right one for Sangamon County, in that it will lead to positive outcomes for the youth. The SUL is most proud of the positive academic outcomes achieved by the youth who receive tutoring, mentoring, and other educational activities. Based on a comparison of state achievement scores for 74 low-income students enrolled in SUL programs in 2007-2008, 97% of students improved their reading achievement and 100% of students improved their math achievement. Reading gains ranged from 19 to 126 points; math gains ranged from 2 to

112 points. We know that success builds confidence in young people, and confidence transfers to all aspects of their lives.

As a partner of this grant, Springfield Urban League, Inc. will commit to:

- **COMMITMENT:** Operate the Project Ready: Digital Connectors program serving at least 30 high school age youth annually;
- COMMITMENT: Develop resources and strategies that build support for local broadband adoption including engaging other local partners, youth service learning activities, developing computer labs; creating documentaries; training community members on computers and the Internet; using digital media to create interactive tutorials; mapping community assets; and developing wireless hotspots;
- **COMMITMENT**: Report on program progress and success as required by BTOP, One Economy and the National Urban League.

We appreciate this opportunity to support One Economy in its endeavor to continue to expand its record of success in digital access issues for the underserved in rural and urban communities. With the support of BTOP, One Economy and the National Urban League, the Springfield Urban League, Inc. will collaboratively provide effective broadband education, awareness, training, and support in communities across the nation.

Nina M. Harris President & CEO



Empowering Communities. Changing Lives.

August 5, 2009

Broadband Technology Opportunities Program National Telecommunications and Information Administration U.S. Department of Commerce HCHB, Room 4812 1401 Constitution Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20230

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter to confirm the commitment of Tacoma Urban League to partner with One Economy in support of the implementation of its programs as described in the enclosed proposal to the National Telecommunications and Information Association (NTIA) Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP) for Sustainable Adoption.

Like One Economy, our organization is deeply committed to expanding broadband access and adoption to communities who need it most. We are pleased and excited to offer our support to One Economy as it relates to the launch of a Project Ready: Digital Connectors program in Tacoma, WA.

Currently, the Urban League operates a signature program and curriculum, Project Ready, which provides enhanced academic and social support to high school students as they prepare for post-secondary success. One Economy operates a national program, Digital Connectors, designed to develop tomorrow's leaders through technology, training and community service. I believe merging these two dynamic programs will result in an innovative and impactful new program. Specifically, the community believes that a combined approach will provide youth participants with a fuller set of supports and opportunities for college and career success by preparing them to compete in a broadband and digital economy.

Our current technology program "The President's Club" engages 4th through 6th grade girls with technology, mathematics and leadership. They meet with volunteers who specialize in technology and media weekly and participate in group work, blogging, research projects and programming. We have partnered with local Universities, Best Buy Inc. "Geek Squad" and technology companies.

Currently, we are recruiting for and planning our Digital Connectors program in partnership with One Economy, Comcast, and the Evergreen State College. This program will enable High School age youth to increase their knowledge regarding technology, build upon their leadership potential, help their community and plan for their futures. It is scheduled to begin September 2009.

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Tacoma Urban League

Empowering Communities. Changing Lives.

We believe that a broadband adoption strategy that includes college readiness and a technology focus is the right one for Tacoma WA, to enable young people locally for success globally.

As a partner of this grant, Tacoma Urban League will commit to:

- **COMMITMENT:** Operate the Project Ready: Digital Connectors program serving 30 high school age youth annually;
- COMMITMENT: Develop resources and strategies that build support for local broadband adoption including engaging other local partners, youth service learning activities, developing computer labs; creating documentaries; training community members on computers and the Internet; using digital media to create interactive tutorials; mapping community assets; and developing wireless hotspots;
- **COMMITMENT**: Report on program progress and success as required by BTOP, One Economy and the National Urban League.

We appreciate this opportunity to support One Economy in its endeavor to continue to expand its record of success in digital access issues for the underserved in rural and urban communities. With the support of BTOP, One Economy and the National Urban League, the Tacoma Urban League together will provide effective broadband education, awareness, training, and support in communities across the nation.

Sincerely

Dorothy Anderson Ed. D, LMHC President Tacoma Urban League

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