Rural Information Technology Planning Project

Illinois Institute for Rural Affairs

Western Illinois University,   1 University Circle Macomb, IL 61455,   (309) 298-2647 or (800) 526-9943

2003/2004

Program Application

Strategic IT Visioning for Community and Economic Development

1. Name of community _____   Date of application _____

2. Population (2000 Census) _____

3. Does your community have a group of people representing different sectors of the community (business, education, health care, government) who have a demonstrated history of community accomplishments?

             Yes   No

If yes, please describe the nature of the initiative (examples: technology-based, utilities, coops) and discuss the outcomes that have resulted from this interaction, and the timeframe of these activities:

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If no, please describe your plans to develop this group that represents the community:

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4. What do you hope to accomplish through participation in the Rural Information Technology Planning Project (e.g., knowledge-sector jobs, better infrastructure, better access to education and/or health care)?

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5. Our program requires a team leader who will act as an IT champion for the community. The team leader needs to be able to coordinate local efforts and keep the team engaged.

   Team Leader: Name _____   Daytime telephone: _____

    Address _____ E-mail _____

6. Proposed ITART (Information Technology Action Research Team) steering committee:

Name	Occupation/Sector Represented
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

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7. Sponsors who could provide financial and in-kind donations to support the program (program fees, consultant match, VISTA support if applicable, travel expenses):

Name	Contribution expected
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

8. Briefly describe the current state of your local economy and other general conditions in your community:
    (Insert additional pages as necessary, or continue under #15)

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9. Describe the current state of technology within your community, including knowledge sector jobs, telecommuters, telephone companies, high speed access providers:

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Working with the Media

10. For **internal communications**, name key people and organizations *in* your community who should be made aware of the Rural Information Technology Planning Project. List all local organizations that might have an interest in the

resulting IT vision, goals, and projects for community and economic development (do not exclude groups represented in the program itself). Examples include town council, school board, chamber of commerce, church groups, clubs, civic organizations, ISPs, telecommunications companies, electric or water companies, etc.

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11. For **external communications**, name the key people or organizations *outside* of your community who should be made aware of the Rural Information Technology Planning Project. Please list <u>all</u> people, even if you think that they have only a limited interest at this point. This list can include state and federal legislators, community colleges, universities, small business development groups, county economic development agencies, etc.

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12. Has your community conducted citizen surveys, focus groups, town hall meetings, or provided other public forums for community and economic development during the last 2 years? If yes, please explain:

_____

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13. How did you learn about our program?

_____

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Please e-mail, mail or fax the completed application to:

Rural Information Technology Planning Project
c/o Dave Lamie, Program Manager
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Macomb, IL 61455
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