



THE ROTARY CLUB OF TALIPAPA

DISTRICT 3780 QUEZON CITY



MATCHING GRANT PROPOSAL PROJECT OVERVIEW

WINSTON CoW – Rotary’s Community Computer Center on WHEELS is President Winston Sia’s computer literacy initiative.

WINSTON Computer on WHEELS (WINSTON CoW)

Winston’s	Working to
INitiative through	Help
Science &	Elevate
Technology	Education and
Offerings in	Literacy in
Nation-building	Society

Access to technology is an important issue for out-of-school youth and under-educated population across the country. The Rotary Club of Talipapa has tackled the access problem by making the technology mobile. The project is a brainchild of Club Trainer and Club President Winston Sia, who himself is a technology initiator, having pioneered the Internet in the country, and one of the prime movers of the eCommerce and mobile technology in the Philippines.

WINSTON CoW (Computer on WHEELS) is a customized mobile computer classroom housed on a 40-foot bus. It will boast of state of the art computer hardware and software including 11 fully networked Pentium PCs and a provisional ramp for wheelchair access.

WINSTON CoW will primarily serve the urban poor areas of Barangay Talipapa and adjacent communities, as well as rural areas where mobile learning facilities such as the WINSTON COW is mostly needed. It will serve communities where public transportation is limited and access to technology are inadequate. It will serve as a training vehicle for local communities, children, out-of-school youth, unwed mothers and the disabled, and will provide a variety of computer-based learning courses to adults and children.

Through the Computer on WHEELS Program, the community will witness the metamorphosis of a bus into a computer classroom. Truly, community technology works. We would like to help close the digital divide. We can literally drive the information superhighway over to the poor communities.

WINSTON CoW’s mission is to provide the tools, training, and transmission of digital technology to under-served areas in the Barangay Talipapa community, an urban area of Novaliches, Quezon City. This unique but continuing literacy program will do a significant amount of work with area public schools, day care centers and urban poor communities, bringing multimedia and computer equipments and computer instructors the schools and the communities would otherwise not have access to.

The WINSTON CoW Program will offer a variety of programs ranging from basic computer skills instruction and training on computer based programs like Word, to programs focusing on academic subjects like reading and math. It will also offer Internet training and multimedia presentations of various subjects and materials, including mini-documentaries on endangered species and environmental concerns, positive advocacies, and materials that promotes positive family values and spiritual enlightenment, etc.

Why a Mobile Computer Classroom?

Rotary Club President and technology pace setter Winston Sia has a sensitive understanding and assessment of the real needs of its adopted communities and who it is they need to serve. “There are many pockets of urban and rural individuals we want to reach with technology and with the opportunity to gain educational training.” Many of these individuals do not have access to technology or do not have the means to pursue it. How then do you give them the opportunity to fully participate in the technology revolution? Build a computer lab on a bus and drive it to them. There is a large population who didn’t have access to computer technology but who were either unwilling or unable to travel to the labs in the community. In this manner we can serve a wide and diverse population. All with the same equipment!

What else can the community expect of the WINSTON CoW?

The WINSTON CoW is designed not only to provide computer education, but also to serve various other purposes.

It can also serve as a portable **Mobile Clinic for medical and dental** missions. The computer tables are designed to be portable, to shift easily to becoming a mobile clinic, where portable clinical beds and tables, dental chairs, dextrose holders and oxygen tanks can easily be put into place. It can also serve as an **Emergency Operating Room**, if necessary. It may also be used as a **Mobile Diagnostics Clinic** and as a **Mobile Immunization Center**.

It can also serve as a **Mobile Blood Bank**, equipped to collect blood donations. The Philippine National Red Cross, through its arm Quezon City Red Cross, will be helpful partner in these endeavors.

It can also operate as a **Mobile Emergency Response Info Team (MERIT)** for emergency purposes. When there is a disaster, such as fire or typhoons, key decision makers and quick response teams and officials may use the facility as a mobile office or conference room, equipped with a white board, television, computers and sound system, to discuss possible quick response strategies and solutions. This was an idea and concept shared to us by the partner organization *Professional Action Group and Emergency Response, Inc. (PAGER)*.

Mobile Library and Reading Classroom – a read-to-lead area for Day Care students. To bring the most sought after books and reading materials to the Day Care students. To provide students equitable access to advanced library materials, not present in various Day Care Centers.

Classroom-on-Wheels – to provide children-at-risk, street children access to literacy and education. The bus will fetch children on the streets and provide them with an enjoyable learning experience, which hopefully will tickle their interest to study again and encourage them to go back to formal school.

Livelihood Training on Wheels – bringing the various livelihood training programs to the community. Beneficiaries of poor communities will now learn various skills, such as food processing, high-speed sewing, rag-making, sandals-making, décor-making, etc.

Why Computer Literacy?

In an age of globalization, if we are not careful, access to information technology will intensify the tendency for the poor to become poorer and the rich richer. When the price of information was the cost of a textbook, it wasn't a very expensive learning tool to acquire. But most of the poor can't afford computers. So what we're providing with this project is just an entry point. Among the poor, for those who start early, who grow up with the technology and live with it, are most likely to recognize and seize its opportunities. The WINSTON CoW is offering that chance to the urban poor.

Who will help the Rotary Club of Talipapa successfully carry out this sustainable program?

Community support and involvement are also essential to success. Involved in the ideas are groups like PAGER, Sacramento Athletic Club, the Barangay Talipapa Council and other groups and organizations. Donations for equipments, facilities and other peripherals to serve the various purposes of the mobile bus, other than a mobile computer classroom will be very much welcome. It is our aim to partner with a diverse group of community organizations, including the private corporations, who will help carry out the mission of the program. Partners like the QC Council, Phil. National Red Cross, TESDA, DepEd, DOH, DSWD, PAGCOR, PCSO, NDCC, etc. are envisioned to be present in our future undertakings.

What is the expected impact of this program? What will be your performance indicators?

Thorough analysis of program success will take time. WINSTON CoW will take an aggressive approach to evaluating their success and their effects on the community. Students will be required to complete an evaluation after every single class, which will help staff find out what brought them there. We expect that exposure to our vehicle will tend to make people more comfortable with technology as well as more comfortable with going to school. We expect some students and beneficiaries to actually end up enrolling at college or vocational school.

It will be truly gratifying to know that our commitment to help community residents to discover the possibilities that computers offer in upgrading skills and continuing education is appreciated. The greatest returns on our investment will be found in the personal stories of WINSTON CoW students and beneficiaries.

What are the equipments needed and what donations are you willing to receive?

Cash – for fuel and repair maintenance of the bus. ; Personal Computers, laptops, peripherals, printers, scanners, servers, softwares; Television sets, radios, sound systems, public address (p.a.) systems, etc.; Audio-Visual equipments, LCD Projectors, Internet access, wi-fi, wireless lan routers; Aircon, generator sets, batteries; Medical equipments, dental chairs; Educational videos, learning materials, books; Documentary videos, posters, etc. Office supplies, office materials and fixtures (Steel cabinets, safe vaults, drawers); Musical instruments, band instruments; Livelihood training equipments, instructor services, etc. For relief and outreach operations: Coloring books, crayons, toys; Children's clothes, adult clothes, jackets, t-shirts, blankets, pillows, etc.; Food, canned goods, etc.;

Contact Details:

Pres. Winston Sia, Club President - RY 2007-2008, Rotary Club of Talipapa #53347, District 3780, QC
Contact Nos.: Mobile-63920-9383427 / Landline Nos.-(632) 9301030 / (632) 7516380 / Fax#: 8109936
rotarytrainer@yahoo.com / sharingpresident@yahoo.com http://geocities.com/rotaryclub_talipapa/