TRIUMPH GULF COAST, INC. PRE-APPLICATION

APPLICANT INFORMATION:

Name of Individual/Entity/Organization: Socialdesk Enterprises

Brief Description of Background of Individual/Entity/Organization:

Socialdesk Enterprises is a private sector organization established to promote Florida Gulf Coast entrepreneurial and innovation business development through collaboration, coworking and managed business development processes.

David Musselwhite is the former Director of Information Technology for the Escambia County Board of County Commissioners and was the leader of the Escambia Multi-Participant Broadband Technologies Opportunities Program (BTOP) ONEnet grant request (ID 6377) that was recommended for award by the Department of Commerce.

Contact Information:

Primary Contact Information:	David Musselwhite
Title:	Manager
Mailing Address:	3695 North L Street, Pensacola, FL 32505
Telephone Number:	(850) 435-4297
Email Address:	damussel@pensacolasocialdesk.com/damussel@gmail.com
Website:	http://socialdesk.us / http://entrepreneur-alliance.co

Name of co-applicants, partners or other entities, organizations that will have a role in the proposed project or program:

Socialdesk Enterprises, TechFarms and future members of the Gulf Coast Entrepreneur Alliance.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Program Name:	TriNet Middle-Mile Fiber-Optic Network
Project Name:	TriNet Planning
Funding Amount Requested:	$ 600,000.00 in the following progress payments:

           Feasibility study: $150,000
           Detailed GIS Route mapping: $50,000
           Engineering drawings: $250,000
           Legal agreements, interlocals: $50,000
   Rights-of-way/easements: $100,000

Other Sources of Funds:	US Commerce Department – Planning & Assistance Grant

Location of Project:

This project is truly regional and will positively impact each of the 8 disproportionately affected counties. Using preliminary routing the network will include the following miles of fiber-optic cabling, Bay County-122 miles, Escambia County-78 miles, Franklin County-88 miles, Gulf County-61 miles, Okaloosa County-64 miles, Santa Rosa County-73 miles, Walton County-108 miles, Wakulla County-78 miles.

Summary Description:

This project is part of the Gulf Coast Entrepreneur Alliance Innovation and Entrepreneurship Vision which consists of a tight alignment with the University of West Florida Innovation Network, the development of Innovation Locations through-out the Gulf Coast, the development of TriNet (this project) and the Triumph Angel Fund (Access to Capital). More information on this integrated vision can be found on this website: http://entrepreneur-alliance.co
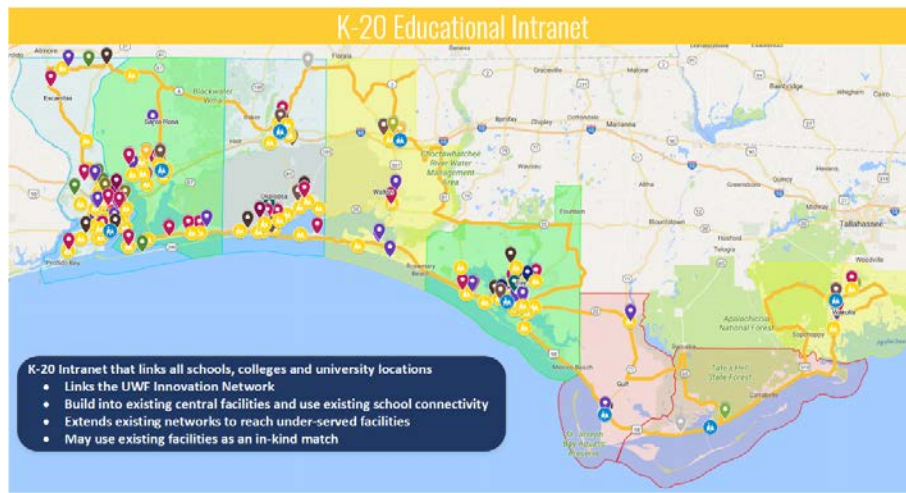
The 670 mile TriNet middle-mile fiber-optic network spans each of the 8 Triumph Counties. This pre-application is for funding to conduct the detailed planning and preliminary engineering required. It is anticipated that the network will be built in multiple phases with the routes generating revenue being built first to provide "matching" funds for future build-out. Using cost information from the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) which is a part of the US Department of Commerce, the total preliminary cost to construct and activate is $42,129,100.

This network is envisioned to build into each County's school district central office and use existing network capacity to reach each school or for under-served schools will build directly into those locations. The network will also use high-fiber count cabling that will allow provisioning of dark fiber strands to each School District and Board of County Commissioners in each county to utilize as they deem necessary.

Alignment with legislative intent, priorities and existing plans:

Alignment with Triumph Legislative Intent:
- Public infrastructure projects for construction, expansion, or maintenance which are shown to enhance economic recovery, diversification, and enhancement of the disproportionately affected counties;
- Grants to support programs that prepare students for future occupations and careers at K-20 institutions that have campuses in the disproportionately affected counties. Eligible programs include those that increase students' technology skills and knowledge

Alignment with Triumph Gulf Coast Priorities:
- Leverage or further enhance key regional assets, including educational institutions, research facilities, and military bases.
- Partner with K-20 educational institutions or school districts located within the disproportionately affected counties as of January 1, 2017.

Alignment with Triumph Gulf Coast Discretionary Priorities:
- Are considered transformational for the future of the Northwest Florida region.
- May be consummated quickly and efficiently.
- Align with Northwest Florida FORWARD, the regional strategic initiative for Northwest Florida economic transformation.
- Provide a wider regional impact versus solely local impact.

- Align with other similar programs across the regions for greater regional impact, and not be duplicative of other existing projects or programs.
- Enhance research and innovative technologies in the region.
- Create a unique asset in the region that can be leveraged for regional growth of targeted industries.
- Demonstrate long-term financial sustainability for Triumph funding.
- Include deliverables-based payment system dependent upon achievement of interim performance metrics.
- Provide capacity building support for regional economic growth

Alignment with Northwest Florida FORWARD Strategies:

(2.6) Support the growth of microenterprises and small businesses in the region, particularly in rural areas and minority communities.
(3.3.2) Support the public/private partnership to develop "The Bluffs"
(3.6) Continue efforts to expand broadband infrastructure and adoption in rural and underserved area of the region.
(4.1) Develop the region's entrepreneurial hubs and connect them with industry clusters, assets, services, networks, facilities, tools and expertise.
(4.5) Promote rural entrepreneurship.
(5.1) Encourage the development of vibrant downtowns, new town centers, and mixed-use developments in the region.
(5.3) Invest in the amenities and infrastructure in underserved communities.

Alignment with the Higher Education Coordinating Council (HECC) Goals below:
Catch Up – Stay Caught Up – Move Ahead – Take the Lead

How the project will be transformational:

This network will provide for a **K-20 education intranet** securely connecting over 230 schools, colleges and university locations to each other enabling services not available when using the public Internet.

The network will also reach into the rural parts of the Counties and will offer an **open access network capability** that can be used by existing incumbent providers and competitive entrants to provide residential and commercial service in those under-served areas. These providers will pay for the service which generates revenue for operations, maintenance and expansion. Funding is available from the USDA Rural Utilities Service (RUS) to facilitate tele-health in rural communities.

The network is designed to **provide inter-connection points** near other northwest Florida counties including the non-Triumph Rural Areas of Opportunity counties (Calhoun, Holmes, Liberty and Washington), to allow those areas to easily connect in the future.

Finally, the network lays the foundation for the Florida Gulf Coast to offer **Internet access that is competitive** with leading cities, like Chattanooga, TN and others through-out the world.

How the project will promote economic recovery, diversification and enhancement:

Because TriNet is part of an integrated vision which includes the development of high quality of place Innovation Locations and will **provide massive connectivity speeds at world-wide competitive prices between these great places**, the Gulf Coast economic development agencies will be able to cooperate in seeking businesses rather than competing because we can offer prospective businesses the ability to locate in multiple areas and tap into multiple workforces without the significant cost of establishing their own private network connections.

Summary Timeline:

Socialdesk Enterprises is ready to begin. This project is anticipated to last approximately 6 months at which time we can provide a more detailed build-out and funding schedule**.**