



ERIE COUNTY
DIVISION OF INFORMATION & SUPPORT SERVICES
MEMORANDUM

DATE: September 19, 2001

TO: Evaluation Committee
21st Century Fund
C/O Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo
712 Main Street
Buffalo, New York 14202

FROM: Arthur F. Telaak Jr.
Erie County
Director, Division of Information & Support Services
95 Franklin St
Buffalo, New York 14202

SUBJECT: WNY Partnership for Regional Internetworking funding request

Erie County Government has over 8,000 employees that provide many services to our residents. These services include but are not limited to public protection, social services, emergency services, libraries, a hospital, the community college, a jail, maintenance of county roads and the like. The Division of Information & Support Services manages the central computer technology utility that is used by County Departments to carry out their missions.

Erie County Government is very interested in the deployment of video conferencing technology. The large geographic area that must be supported plus the numerous agencies that assist the County beg a more efficient method of communication. Currently no such capability exists in the County.

The WNYPRI request for \$150,000 to construct a Multi-Point Video Conferencing Center at the University of Buffalo has the support of Erie County Government. We have reviewed the proposed technology infrastructure and find it to be state-of-the-art and it will be able to serve as the foundation of a larger system as community needs for this technology grow.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.