

## **Summary of Final Report**

**Organization Name: Redwood Technology Consortium (RTC)**

**Project Title: Redwood Technology Consortium Business Plan**

**Amount of Grant Award: \$9,078**

**Date of Final Report: March 7, 2006**

### **1. What were the project goals and were they achieved?**

There were two project goals: to develop a written business plan for RTC and to research what an e-village might look like in Humboldt County

Both goals were achieved. We now have a technology cluster development guide, a paper on what an e-village might look like in Humboldt County and a written RTC business plan. The business plan includes a strategic framework, detailed work plan, marketing plan, revised membership structure, non-profit legal structure comparisons, table of attributes of regional technology groups visited, financial plan, and budget.

### **2. What were the activities undertaken and accomplishments through the completion of this grant?**

RTC traveled to visit 9 different regional organizations with similar goals. RTC also conducted two focus group meetings centered on the Business Plan and an Electronic Village in Humboldt County.

Working on the business plan forced the board to focus on where we want to go as an organization and how we'll get there. During the course of the project, tough decisions were made to discontinue the Tech Expo in favor of concentrating more on forums directed at community leaders, elected officials and specific technology/telecommunications topics. Another outcome of the project was to hire Rhonda Wiedenbeck for contract staff support on a 20 hour a month basis. This has lightened the load on the all-volunteer board members.

### **3. What are the lasting benefits of the project?**

The primary benefit of the RTC business plan is to put the organization on a more sustainable course. RTC had reached a crossroads in terms of what it could do with the current membership structure and with an all-volunteer board doing the work. The e-village work fits nicely with the telecommunications initiatives of the past several years and will help position the region for thinking about how we use technology and telecommunication now that our infrastructure is improving.

### **4. How will you continue work started by this project?**

The project already has catalyzed change in RTC. The board is committed to continuing the work laid out in the business plan.