

# Fact Sheet

## *New York City's Community Technology Centers*



### **What Are Community Technology Centers (CTCs)?**

- In the last 6 years, hundreds of **CTCs** have been built across the country through the assistance of several federal, digital divide initiatives;
- **CTCs** have led the way in forging strong partnerships with government and the private sector;
- **CTCs** are not simply defined by publicly accessible computers in a room;
- **CTCs** provide free/low-cost, unstructured access to multimedia computers and the Internet;
- **CTCs** also offer children, adults, and seniors a wide range of technology training programs;
- Most **CTCs** offer access and training on weekends and evenings.

### **Mapping NYC's CTCs:**

- There are currently 136 **CTCs** across the five boroughs;
- Most **CTCs** are housed in well-established, multi-service CBOs;
- Some **CTCs** are located in NYC Housing Authority, Parks, and Library sites;
- There is an average of 24 computers per **CTC**;
- Each NYC **CTC** serves an average of 184 people per month;
- NYC's **CTCs** offer 27 different types of technology training programs including:

Afterschool Tech	Digital Media Production
Certification - A+	Job Readiness
Certification - Cisco	Literacy – Adult
Certification - Software	Senior Tech
Computer Basics	English as a Second Language
Computer Basics - Spanish	Tech Maintenance
Desktop Publishing	Web Construction

### **What Will The City's Support of a CTC Bank Mean For NYC CTCs?**

- As provided for in New York City's FY2002 budget, NYC will provide \$250,000 to establish a "**CTC Bank**" at ILT;
- The **CTC Bank** will provide Technical Assistance (TA), fundraising expertise, and strategic research/evaluation for all of NYC's 136 **CTCs**;
- The **CTC Bank** will create a block buying association for equipment and access discounts through the construction of a Virtual Online Supply System (VOSS) where vending, TA, needs assessment, data collection, and evaluation will all take place;
- The **CTC Bank** will disseminate information on NYC **CTCs** and **CTC** training programs to city residents and will mount a public information campaign surrounding the searchable web map of technology centers and their low cost/free technology training programs;
- The **CTC Bank** will therefore cut **CTC's** costs and increase organizational efficiency by pooling resources and expertise, helping smaller organizations establish centers, and by better publicizing the tremendous services that **CTCs** offer communities across the five boroughs;
- The **CTC Bank** will also serve as a powerful mechanism for leveraging greater private sector resources and municipal support in the fight to close the digital divide.