



## ELECTRONIC RECYCLING PROJECT

### INTRODUCTION

**Opportunity for Work & Learning** (OWL) is a private non-profit agency that partners within communities to educate and equip individuals with barriers to employment to reach their vocational goals. **ConnectKentucky** is a private non-profit agency that works through public-private partnerships to ensure all Kentuckians have access to broadband and technology. **Blue Grass Community Action Partnership** is a private non-profit organization working with low-income, disadvantaged and disabled families and individuals of all ages and ethnic backgrounds in nine Central Kentucky counties to attain skills, knowledge and motivation to become fully self-sufficient. The three organizations have joined together to ensure Kentucky businesses, government agencies and individuals enjoy a safe reliable venue to dispose of electronic waste, while providing job development and technology resource opportunities to disadvantaged Kentuckians.

### ELECTRONIC MATERIAL RECYCLING

OWL's 100 percent green e-recycling program and facility is approved by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) as a low volume hazardous waste site. Global Environmental Services (GES) of Georgetown, KY, which operates an approved site for e-recycling, is partnering with OWL to ensure all e-recycling for the project meets zero landfill requirements. All electronic material received will be inspected, categorized and logged using the serial and model numbers and general description of condition, promoting safe handling of all materials to protect the privacy of donors. The disposal of electronic material will follow one of three paths:

- **Repairable material**, especially computer equipment, will be refurbished and then donated to local community centers, non-profits, school systems, libraries and related organizations. ConnectKentucky and Lexmark will assist in providing a free printer with each computer.
- **Non-useable and Non-repairable material** will be completely dismantled and transferred to GES to enter their waste stream (monitors, plastics, metals, printed circuit boards, and other material.)

- **Marketable material** components will be tagged, packaged and sent to GES for resale in the secondary market.

## **PROGRAM OUTCOMES**

- Training Kentuckians facing barriers to employment to reenter the workforce;
- Protecting our Earth's ecosystems with zero landfill e-recycling;
- Providing higher skilled employees for local employers;
- Distributing computer and technology resources to disadvantaged families and community centers; and
- Saving natural resources used in the production of electronic materials.

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