THE BENEFITS OF PARTNERING WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI TELECENTER NETWORK

Vivian J. Mason

Dr. Bob R. Stewart, Dissertation Supervisor

ABSTRACT

<u>Purpose</u>: The purpose of this study was to describe the Telecommunication Community Resource Center (TCRC) Collaborative and its participation in collaborations/ partnerships within the community, and examine the benefits to the TCRCs, partners, and the local communities where the Centers are located throughout Missouri.

<u>Procedures</u>: The design of this study was evaluation research. The Wilder Collaboration Factor Inventory which is designed to inventory group strengths and weaknesses was the primary tool used in this study.

Conclusions: The TCRC Collaborative has successfully demonstrated its ability to come together for a unique purpose and establish TCRCs throughout Missouri; the study suggests that the TCRC Collaborative has benefited all of the partners and the local community; and the partners involved in the Collaborative consider partnering/ collaborating to be important to community development.