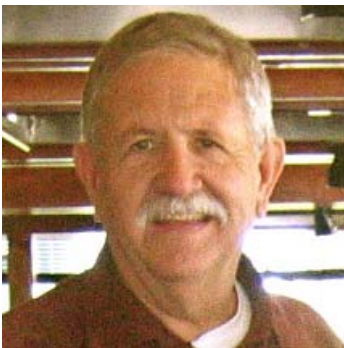




**2012 Don and Rosemary Vial Awards for Digital Inclusion
Exemplary Individual Performance Nominee**

Mr. Bruce Buckelew
Director
Oakland Technology Exchange West



Bruce Buckelew started the Oakland Technology Exchange West (OTX-West) over 15 years ago. Bruce discovered that there were two problems with a common solution: the Digital Divide and the e-waste stream. By building a state of the art refurbishing organization, Bruce has addressed both issues. The organization has refurbished and placed 33,000 computers in Oakland schools, homes and non-profit organizations, while educating the public, mostly low-income Oakland families, on the benefits of computers and broadband. Since its inception, OTX-West has “saved” the environment over \$20,000,000 in environmental impact.

In 2011 OTX-West led the effort to establish GetConnectedOakland.org , bringing together over 20 organizations in Oakland with the goal of closing the Digital Divide. GetConnectedOakland.org is facilitating partnerships between low-cost technology service providers with service organizations that have clients in need of access to computers and the Internet.

Under Bruce’s leadership, OTX-West has established over 40 public access computer labs in the city of Oakland. Bruce has established extensive partnerships throughout Oakland, such as Oakland Mayor, Superintendent Tony Smith, the City of Oakland Parks and Recreation, East Bay Urban Services YMCA, and many others. Bruce works entirely as a volunteer and has contributed over 30,000 hours of his time. Bruce has truly had a major impact in helping to close the Digital Divide in Oakland.