

K-12 Education – Draft Description

(Based on brainstorming session 2/11 with Ann Bishop, Imani Bazzell, Lucia Maldonado, and Janice Mitchell)

1) Description

We identified several models of what is working well to extend K-12 educational support, with digital resources, in CU underserved communities:

- Access:** A system of public computing centers in those locations where families already go, with several additional sites needed, that includes public schools along with libraries, neighborhood community centers, and other educational centers.
- Basic Concept:** Public computing centers with resources and services that emphasize K-12 educational support but are also integrated with other tools, services, and activities that would draw families in and maximize use.
- Content:** A web portal customized for local families that would include K-12 educational resources. Also needed is ready access to a Family Information System to identify other locally available resources to support local families with limited income (directory of social services, health and parenting info and services, food banks, non-profit retail outlets, workforce development and job support, etc.). Another needed directory is of public computing resources themselves Core content should be available in English and Spanish, at minimum.
- Organizational Models:**
 - Content development and access:* Prairienet and United Way Family Services First Call for Help
 - PCCs in schools:* Lighted Schoolhouse pilot program at Unit 4 Garden Hills and SOAR after school program at BTW/Columbia
 - PCCs in neighborhood centers:* Connections Center in Urbana and Salem Baptist in Champaign
 - Training and onsite support:* Create an organizational network that identifies and disseminates best practices, such as those of OJC, Connection Centers, Urbana Free Library, Parkland, Prairienet, IMC, Salem Baptist, etc.
 - Individual tech support:* Community HelpDesk accessible by email, chat, phone
 - Capacity development and networking:* SisterNet model focuses on individuals, especially African-American women; *Community Connections* could be a model to help others develop PCCs; *digital capacity development/training* through integrating best practices noted above in *Training*; *Prairienet's HelpSource Consortium* (which integrated tech and human services organizational development, a spin-off of the Human Services Council) and *Info Providers* network for information sharing and collective action; *Latino Partnership of Champaign County* for service providers focusing on Latino families.
 - An asset-based approach to educational success and youth development:* At-Promise; CU Area Project; GSLIS Youth Community Informatics programs;

WILL Youth Media Workshop

- *Volunteer recruiting and training*: IMC, SOAR (there are probably more).

2) Data

[Data about how many people you currently serve and how many this grant will add. (number of users, workstations, people trained, small businesses helped, jobs created)]

TBA. Much of the data exists in the Round 1 PCC proposal.

3) Budget

[A proposed budget that includes equipment, staff salaries, and any renovation or construction. (If you don't feel comfortable giving dollar amounts, at least list the items, e.g., 30 workstations, 2 part-time staff trainers.)]

TBA. Figures in Round 1 PCC and SA may already cover needs. The organizational and content development aspects need particular attention.