Program Leader
Brent Field
Program Name
Santa Barbara Library: Digital Hub
I. Summary of Activities based on the objectives submitted from the Request for Proposal and Activity Chart. These should reflect the goals of AEBG including but not limited to integrative programming for noncredit pathway bridge courses and certificates, internship/placement programs, integrative learning strategies, progress of program working groups and task forces. List and describe their progress.
Pending delivery of computer equipment and WorkKeys software, we have soft-launched the basic computer training element of our proposal. Clients can make one-hour appointments with one of our library technicians to develop an individualized learning plan oriented to learning how to use computers and office productivity software. We will be using the Learning Express database available from the library, as well as free online resources such as GCFLearnfree.org.
II. Data Reporting: Fall 2016 - Present
We soft-launched the digital learning hub on Tuesday July 18, 2017. To date, there have been no sign-ups, but we expect to have Santa Barbara's Employment Development Department and Department of Social Services refer clients to us in the near future.
III. Budget Narrative. Members are expected to make their best efforts to expend funding by: December 31, 2017 for AEBG Grant Year 1 (2015-2016 programs) and August 31, 2018 for AEBG Grant Year 2 (2016-2017 programs).   **The timeline of activities should reflect expenditures by this deadline.**   **Please describe your efforts to expend these funds. Examples include hiring faculty and/or faculty, narratives, programmatic committee meetings, purchasing of supplies etc.**
We have hired two hourly library technicians to staff the program. At present they each work twelve hours a week staffing the digital learning hub Tuesdays through Thursdays from 10 am to 2 pm. We have ordered the computers and software to fully equip the program but have not yet received or being invoiced for any equipment. When the equipment is delivered we will offer our full suite of career readiness training, including testing for the National Career Readiness certificate, preparation for interviews using Big Interview software.
IV. Marketing Efforts. Please list and describe marketing and outreach efforts to advertise your program.
We have met with representatives of Santa Barbara's Employment Development Department and Department of Social Services to promote the digital learning program here at Central. Their reaction has been almost overwhelmingly positive, as they say we are offering exactly the kind of training their clients need to improve job prospects and/or their underemployed status. At present we offer training in using computers using the Learning Express database, but our intention is to offer more sophisticated training using the ACT WorkKeys and Curriculum software once they become available to us. We expect to have clients referred to us from both departments soon.
V. AEBG Practices with Promise: due no later than the 3rd Quarter Report, September 22, 2017. Please visit the AEBG Practices with Promise webpage for successful submissions at http://aebgpracticeswithpromise.com/.
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