

## **Learn to Drive the Computer Highway**

### **Community Objective**

To provide a computer literacy program for students who then will teach others as well as senior citizens.

### **Background**

The Scott's Run Area of Monongalia County is economically deprived; very few families own computers and their children have limited access to them in school. This program is designed to enhance each student's computer skills and also make computers accessible to family members. Due to welfare reform and the WV Works Program, people are going to need marketable skills to seek employment. Children as well as adults may get these skills at the Computer Lab at Scott's Run Settlement House.

### **Challenged Student Conditions**

~Socially, academically, culturally, and mentally challenged students can be providers in our computer literacy program if we (1) include them in the planning, (2) recruit them to be a part of the program, (3) have them plan how they can act as tutors/instructors with the School-Day Plus participants.

### **Resources**

- ~Facility to set up a computer lab with Internet capability.
- ~Supplies, materials, software, and nutritious snacks.
- ~Students, community, school, and senior citizens volunteers to teach basic computer skills.
- ~Funding through grants to cover staff time for supervisory help and transportation.
- ~Computers for the lab.

### **Timeline of Service Activities**

September-

November

~Contact potential school administrators, counselors, students, and parents to determine the potential for setting up the program.

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- ~Work with Mission West Virginia (or similar organization) to have “rehabbed” computers delivered to an appropriate location for the computer lab.
- ~Make arrangements for separation telephone lines for Internet hook-up.
- ~Plan a schedule for volunteers, teachers, and students.
- ~Plan to contact local senior citizens to determine their desire to learn basic computer skills.
- ~Plan a news release to the local newspaper and radio stations to inform the public of the new computer lab/program.
- ~Work with school administrators, counselors, students, and parents to set up an after school computer program.
- ~Work with West Virginia University through the Kellogg Community Partnership Grant to provide 10 other computers and printers as well as computer literacy tutors.
- ~Organize a mentoring program for each student enrolled so that he or she has a personal tutor.
- ~Set up a schedule for students to share their new knowledge concerning the computer with a senior citizen.
- ~Work with parents, volunteers, and staff for transportation to and from the program.

December-  
September

- ~Have internet connections completed and begin program.
- ~Make program flexible to meet needs of participants.
- ~Continue public service announcements to keep the public informed and to recruit new students.

### **Reflection**

- ~Each participant will maintain a check-off list of computer skills learned.
- ~Each participant will keep an electronic diary of skills learned and experiences of the program.
- ~A comparison document will be kept which demonstrate changes in students’ grades before and after participation in the program.
- ~E-mail exchanges between senior citizens and youth will occur.
- ~Students and seniors will meet once a month away from the computers to share joys and frustrations about working in a multigenerational model.

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## **Celebration**

- ~Certificates of completion will be given to each student once a year.
- ~A party will be provided for a celebration of all involved.
- ~The school will be notified of the time students spent teaching others.
- ~The local news media will be informed of the event so that coverage can be provided to inform the local community of the success of the program.

## **Academic Objectives**

### **WV IGOs**

#### English/Language Arts

- ~Incorporate correct grammar, spelling vocabulary, and graphic presentations for both written and oral multimedia presentations. (11.96)

#### Process/Workplace

- ~Given a set of rules, directions, or instructions, apply them to solve a problem or accomplish a task. (PW.2)
- ~Given an event or activity, identify the resources needed and develop a plan of action. (PW.5)
- ~Demonstrate the ability to set up computer equipment. (PW.26)
- ~Demonstrate the ability to operate computer equipment. (PW.27)
- ~Demonstrate the ability to obtain and exchange information by using online services. (PW.28)
- ~Demonstrate the ability to select and use multiple software packages for specific purposes. (PW.29)
- ~Demonstrate the ability to use a word processor. (PW.30)
- ~Demonstrate the ability to create and use a data base, spreadsheet, and graphics. (PW.31)
- ~Given a problem, assignment, or task, select and use the appropriate technical procedure for a resolution or solution. (PW.33).

## **Contact Information**

Ruth Simmons & Karen Sowell  
Scott's Run Settlement House  
P.O. Box 398, School Street  
Osage, WV 26543 (304) 599-5020