



Grant for Technology Opportunities
Program (GTOPs)

2007 Annual Report

**Office of Telecommunications
and Regulatory Affairs**

Finance and Administrative Services Department

GRANT FOR TECHNOLOGY OPPORTUNITIES PROGRAM 2007 ANNUAL REPORT

The following is a summary report on the Grant for Technology Opportunities Program (GTOPs) for fiscal year 2006-07. Year end results show an average achievement of 138%. Through the \$120,000 grant, awardees were able to raise \$380,008 in matching funds made up of 2,360 volunteer hours, \$39,045 of in-kind donations and \$303,207 cash contributions. At least 1795 individuals were served through the various programs. Specific outcomes for each grantee follow later in the report.

GRANT PROGRAM PURPOSE

Vision: A community where all citizens have access to the facilities and the necessary skills to participate in an emerging digital society.

Mission: To provide matching grant funds to Austin organizations for projects that create digital opportunities and foster digital inclusion.

Goals:

- Support programs that provide public access to computers and information technology, especially among underserved segments of our community.
- Support programs that provide information technology literacy, education, and training.
- Support programs that use information and communication technologies in innovative ways that serve the community.
- Provide seed funding for Austin community and non-profit organizations for their technological outreach efforts.

SELECTION PROCESS

Applications for the 2007 grant were accepted through December 15, 2006. The Austin Telecommunications Commission (“Commission”) appointed a review board comprised of six qualified community representatives. The review board consisted of Christine Berkland, Lisa Hinley, Mark Murdock, Muchere Russ, Bianca Taulman, and Lemuel Williams. The board examined twenty-nine (29) applications, scoring them based on the selection criteria outlined by the Commission including: the ability of the project to reduce disparities and increase technology access and/or literacy; project feasibility; community involvement; community benefit; sustainability beyond the grant period; and a clear plan for success. Applicants were given the opportunity to give a short oral presentation to the review board, followed by a question and answer session.

After the final scores were tallied and discussed, the board voted on their final recommendations for eight awards (full and partial), which were then presented to the Commission by City staff. The Austin Telecommunications Commission voted to accept the award recommendations of the review board on March 14, 2007. The awards were then approved by the City Manager.

A M E R I C A N YOUTHWORKS

AMERICAN YOUTHWORKS

Computer Corps
1901 East Ben White Blvd.
Austin, TX 78741

Amount Requested: \$20,000
Amount Awarded: \$20,000
Percent of Request: 100%
Matching Raised: \$136,674



Summary: American Youthworks (AYW) is a comprehensive human investment organization that transforms young people into self-sufficient adults through education, job training and community service. GTOPs supported AYW's Computer Corps program in which young people complete technology-based service projects in schools, community centers or with partner organizations. The program also refurbishes donated computers to redistribute to low-income families.

Population Served: At-risk youth from Austin, Texas.

Objective	Goal	Actual	% of Goals Achieved
Enroll 15 unduplicated students in C-Corps	15	30	200%
Make 80 hours of training available for each C-Corp student	80	33.5	42%
C-Corp students will refurbish 40 computers for use by American YouthWorks members or distribution to partner organizations	40	30	75%
C-Corp students be available to provide technical assistance to 1200 community members	1200	530	44%
12 C-Corp students will complete 450 hours of service (may include duplicates)	12	11	92%
7 C-Corp students at the high school level will advance one grade or equivalent, complete their high school diploma or GED (may include duplicates)	7	5	71%
Conduct skills assessment for each C-Corp student upon enrollment	100%	79%	79%
Conduct end of term skills assessment for each completing C-Corp student upon exiting program - Incomplete	100%	0%	0%
Evaluation Measures:			
90% of completing C-Corp students will pass an end of term skills evaluation showing proficiency in basic to intermediate technology skills such as computer refurbishment - Incomplete	90%	0%	0%
90% of completing C-Corp students meet or exceed minimum workplace skill expectations in areas such as reliability, conflict resolution, and problem solving	90%	20%	22%

Average % of Goals Achieved: 63%



AUSTIN CHILDREN'S MUSEUM
LEGO MINDSTORMS NXT After-School Program
 201 Colorado Street
 Austin, TX 78701

Amount Requested: \$10,000
 Amount Awarded: \$10,000
 Percent of Request: 100%
 Matching Raised: \$37,323



Summary: The mission of the Austin Children's Museum is to inspire young children and the adults in their lives to experience the joy of learning through the power of constructive play. Through GTOPs funding the museum presented LEGO MINDSTORMS NXT After-School Programs to serve elementary children. This program teaches hands-on science, technology, engineering and mathematics skills through building and programming robots.

Population Served: Elementary age children from title-1 schools.

Objective	Goal	Actual	% of Goals Achieved
Choose schools to participate in program	100%	100%	100%
Distribute marketing materials in participating schools	100%	100%	100%
Hire and train instructors and volunteers	100%	100%	100%
Host after-school program once a week for seven weeks at four Title One schools (28 total program sessions)	28	43	154%
Enroll at least 80 unduplicated students	80	61	76%
Craft evaluation tool	100%	100%	100%
Administer evaluations	100%	100%	100%
Evaluation Measures:			
60% of students will place a greater value on Science Technology Engineering and Math (STEM) in the real world upon course completion	60%	9.5%	16%
60% of students will report a greater interest in STEM upon course completion	60%	14.3%	24%
60% of students will show an increased confidence in their STEM skills upon course completion	60%	14.3%	24%

Average % of Goals Achieved: 79%





AUSTIN GROUPS FOR THE ELDERLY

Cyber Seniors Training Program
 3710 Cedar Street, Box 2
 Austin, TX 78705

Amount Requested: \$15,000
 Amount Awarded: \$15,000
 Percent of Request: 100%
 Matching Raised: \$15,236



Summary: Austin Groups for the Elderly (AGE) works to empower caregivers, the elderly and their families through education, advocacy, resources and support in the greater Austin area. GTOPs funded the Cyber Seniors Training Program which provides hands-on computer learning designed exclusively to increase computer literacy and access for senior citizens.

Population Served: Senior citizens from all areas of Austin, Texas.

Objective	Goal	Actual	% of Goals Achieved
Purchase additional computers for classroom	100%	100%	100%
Finalize Curriculum	100%	100%	100%
Set Class Schedule	100%	100%	100%
Deliver packets of information to recruit new students	1000	1406	141%
Conduct outreach presentations to targeted audiences of seniors	50	96	192%
Enroll students in the SeniorNet Computer Learning Program (duplicated)	300	196	65%
Conduct SeniorNet Computer Classes	40	29	73%
Conduct Pre and Post tests to demonstrate classroom learning	40	99	248%
Offer hands-on computer training to participants in program (hours)	300	708	236%

Average % of Goals Achieved: 139%



AUSTIN YMBL SUNSHINE CAMPS

Computer Center
 PO Box 684980
 Austin, TX 78768

Amount Requested: \$14,946
 Amount Awarded: \$11,100
 Percent of Request: 74%
 Matching Raised: \$19,264

Summary: Founded in 1928, Austin Sunshine Camps seek to teach life skills, self confidence, trust and teamwork. They serve over 700 at-risk and disadvantaged children every summer, and their year-round leadership and mentoring programs serve many more. GTOPs funding facilitated the purchase of new computer equipment for the technology training and literacy component of their programs.

Population Served: At-risk youth from Austin, Texas.

Objective	Goal	Actual	% of Goals Achieved
Purchase and install new equipment for computer lab	100%	100%	100%
Provide free computer lab usage hours to students	256	583	228%
Provide free computer lab usage hours to campers	490	5	1%
Combined number of students and campers to use computer lab	766	353	46%
Provide computer lab usage hours to YMBL staff	100	1730	1730%

Average % of Goals Achieved: 421%



EL BUEN SAMARITANO EPISCOPAL MISSION
 Computer Education Program
 7000 Woodue Drive
 Austin, TX 78745



Amount Requested: \$10,950
 Amount Awarded: \$8,500
 Percent of Request: 78%
 Matching Raised: \$8,587

Summary: At El Buen Samaritano, the mission is to transform lives by engaging the strengths of working-poor Hispanic families to promote their successful participation in society. GTOPs funding helped to support El Buen's Computer Education Program which provides access to technology for job training to its clients in an on-site computer lab.

Population Served: Low-income Hispanic families from Austin, Texas.

Objective	Goal	Actual	% of Goals Achieved
Recruit one bilingual computer teacher	100%	200%	200%
Register 120 unduplicated computer students	120	150	125%
Conduct 100 classes	100	190	190%
Conduct evaluations	100	49	49%
Evaluation Measures:			
70% of students will complete all assigned tasks - Incomplete	70%	0%	0%
70% of students will indicate they are satisfied or very satisfied with the instruction	70%	62%	89%
70% of students will indicate that their goals for the class have been met	70%	57%	82%
70% of students will indicate that the classes were accessible and easy to attend	70%	64%	91%

Average % of Goals Achieved: 103%





GIRLSTART

Summer Camp
 1400 West Anderson Lane
 Austin, TX 78757



Amount Requested: \$20,000
 Amount Awarded: \$20,000
 Percent of Request: 100%
 Matching Raised: \$104,194

Summary: Girlstart’s mission is to empower girls in math, science, and technology. GTOPs provided support for Girlstart’s Summer Camp, where girls in the 4th through 8th grades gain real world technology and science skills through fun and unique hands-on activities. These week-long, summer day camps are specially designed to encourage technology literacy and foster girls’ achievement in math, science, and technology subjects.

Population Served: 4th through 8th grade girls from Austin, Texas.

Objective	Goal	Actual	% of Goals Achieved
Provide summer day camps to students	190	217	114%
Recruit junior volunteers	16	27	169%
Provide 8 weeks of camp	8	9	113%
Finalize Curriculum	100%	100%	100%
Recruit and train camp staff	100%	100%	100%
Conduct camp surveys	100%	100%	100%
Evaluation data:			
100% of campers will build a website, make a digital video, or master the use of a digital microscope	100%	100%	100%
80% of campers will find that Girlstart encourages them to think about career opportunities in math, science and technology	80%	80%	100%
80% of campers will report that Girlstart made them feel more confident about math, science, engineering and technology	80%	90%	113%
80% of students will report that Girlstart helped them realize math, science, engineering and technology are important to their education and career	80%	90%	113%
80% of students will report that after Girlstart, they feel better equipped to make valuable contributions to a team	80%	88%	110%
80% of students will report that they learned something new about a career that they did not know before	80%	87%	109%

Average % of Goals Achieved: 112%



SKILLPOINT ALLIANCE

Community Technology and Training Centers
 201 East 2nd Street, Suite B
 Austin, TX 78701

Amount Requested: \$20,000
 Amount Awarded: \$16,500
 Percent of Request: 83%
 Matching Raised: \$31,450



Summary: Skillpoint Alliance’s mission is to build partnerships among industry, education and the community, leading to college and career success for Central Texans, while meeting employers’ needs for a qualified workforce. Through GTOPs, Skillpoint Alliance expanded its Computer Technology Training Centers (CTTC) program which provides computer access and training in partnership with Austin Community College at the Eastview and South Austin Campuses.

Population Served: Low-income and unemployed adults from Austin, Texas.

Objective	Goal	Actual	% of Goals Achieved
Complete Schedule for Summer 2007	100%	100%	100%
Hire instructor and classroom assistant	2	2	100%
Conduct outreach activities	1	1	100%
Conduct New Client Orientations	5	5	100%
Provide Computer Technology Classes to adult clients	150	156	104%
Teach monthly classes	14	18	129%
Conduct initial assessments on clients	95%	95%	100%
Clients reaching completion	75%	82%	109%
Clients will rate relevance of course content to their needs as “Good” or “Excellent”	75%	98%	131%

Average % of Goals Achieved: 108%



Veteran Tutors

VETERAN TUTORS
 After-School Program
 PO Box 201363
 Austin, TX 78720



Amount Requested: \$18,900
 Amount Awarded: \$18,900
 Percent of Request: 100%
 Matching Raised: \$27,280

Summary: The mission of Veteran Tutors is to generate opportunities for talented children who might not otherwise have access to Science, Technology, Engineering or Mathematics (STEM) careers. Through this program disabled veterans help disadvantaged youth and their parents to master the digital tools necessary for STEM careers such as robotics. GTOPs funding provided materials for the expansion of the program at Webb Middle School.

Population Served: At-risk middle school age youth.

Objective	Goal	Actual	% of Goals Achieved
Purchase and prepare Robotics Kits and other instructional materials	12	12	100%
Identify and hire Project Manager	100%	100%	100%
Identify and hire Curriculum Director	100%	100%	100%
Identify and Hire Lead Technology Instructor	100%	100%	100%
Secure cooperation with partnering organizations and schedule labs	100%	100%	100%
Enroll 30 disabled veterans in program	30	27	90%
Serve at least 300 students	300	75	25%
Provide 690 tutoring sessions	690	528	77%
Evaluation Measures: Incomplete/Never Determined		0	0%

Average % of Goals Achieved: 77%

2007 GRANT RESULTS

Grantee	Average % of Goals Achieved	Grant Awarded	Matching*
American YouthWorks	63%	\$20,000	\$136,674
Austin Children's Museum	79%	\$10,000	\$37,323
Austin Groups for the Elderly	139%	\$15,000	\$15,236
Austin YMBL Sunshine Camps	421%	\$11,100	\$19,264
El Buen Samaritano Episcopal Mission	103%	\$8,500	\$8,587
Girlstart	112%	\$20,000	\$104,194
Skillpoint Alliance	108%	\$16,500	\$31,450
Veteran Tutors	77%	\$18,900	\$27,280
AVERAGE/TOTALS	138%	\$120,000	\$380,008

*The City of Austin requires a 1:1 match of in-kind donations or cash for this grant.

MATCHING DETAIL

Grantee	Volunteer Hours **	In-Kind	Cash	TOTAL
American YouthWorks	\$48		\$136,626	\$136,674
Austin Children's Museum	\$1,528	\$795	\$35,000	\$37,323
Austin Groups for the Elderly	\$15,236			\$15,236
Austin YMBL Sunshine Camps	\$12,464	\$6,800		\$19,264
El Buen Samaritano Episcopal Mission			\$8,587	\$8,587
Girlstart			\$104,194	\$104,194
Skillpoint Alliance		\$31,450		\$31,450
Veteran Tutors	\$8,480		\$18,800	\$27,280
TOTALS	\$37,756	\$39,045	\$303,207	\$380,008

**For the purposes of this grant, volunteer hours were valued at \$16 per hour as per the national average.

NUMBER OF CLIENTS SERVED

Grantee	Clients Served
American YouthWorks	560
Austin Children's Museum	61
Austin Groups for the Elderly	196
Austin YMBL Sunshine Camps	353
El Buen Samaritano Episcopal Mission	150
Girlstart	217
Skillpoint Alliance	156
Veteran Tutors	102
TOTAL	1,795

GTOPs Seven Years of Success

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	Average/Totals
Average Score	121%	114%	142%	129%	105%	125%	138%	125%
Grants Awarded	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$90,000	\$90,000	\$90,000	\$120,000	\$690,000
Matching Total	\$172,903	\$149,920	\$177,741	\$192,707	\$190,529	\$154,294	\$380,008	\$1,418,102
Volunteer Hours	4,123	857	1,963	2,633	4,878	2,951	2,359	19,765
Volunteer Value*	\$49,476	\$10,284	\$23,556	\$31,596	\$78,048	\$47,216	\$37,744	\$277,920
In-Kind Match	\$113,130	\$114,724	\$66,241	\$74,764	\$50,561	\$9,999	\$39,045	\$468,464
Cash Match	\$10,290	\$24,916	\$87,942	\$86,342	\$61,911	\$97,087	\$303,207	\$671,695
Clients Served	4,400	850	2,900	5,200	1,228	1,288	1,795	17,661

*Volunteer hours are calculated using a national average. For 2001-2004 it was \$12 per hour, for 2005-2007 it was \$16 per hour. The values were rounded to the nearest dollar for the purpose of this report.

GTOPs Seven Years of Success

2001 Recipients

Any Baby Can Child & Family Resource Center
Tech Tots Early Childhood Initiative

Austin Eastside Story Foundation
Digital Workforce Academy

The Austin Project
Intergenerational Film Project

Casa Marianella
Computer Lab

Community Web, Inc.
Mobile Computer Lab

Girlstart
Girlstart Technology Program

Hispanic-Connect
Cyber-Community Collaboration Program

Sweet Home Missionary Baptist Church
Computer Lab

TexasNewMedia.org
Texas New Media Program

2002 Recipients

Cine Las Americas
CineByte

Computers for Learning
Mendez Middle School

Girlstart
Saturday Camp

Greater Austin Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
Partnerships in Technology Development

Housing Authority of the City of Austin
Star Tech Labs

Metropolitan Austin Interactive Network
MAIN Program

River City Youth Foundation
Computer Lab/Centro de Tecnologia

Texas New Media
Texas New Media Program

2003 Recipients

American YouthWorks
Computer Corps

The Austin Academy
Workforce Training Program

Cine Las Americas
CineByte

Foundation Communities, Inc.
Learning Center Computer Lab

Girl Scouts - Lone Star Council
The Edge

Girlstart
Camp Girlstart Summer Camps

Katapultz, Inc.
National Technology Coordinator Corps

Knowbility, Inc.
Accessibility Internet Rally

2004 Recipients

BiGAUSTIN
Micro-Tech Project

Cine Las Americas
CineByte

Computers for Learning
Mendez Middle School

Girlstart
Camp Girlstart Summer Camp

Greater Austin Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
Partnerships in Technology Development

Knowbility, Inc.
Accessibility Internet Rally

River City Youth Foundation
Computer Lab/Centro de Tecnologia

2005 Recipients

Austin Groups for the Elderly
Cyber Seniors Training Program

BiGAUSTIN
Micro-Tech Project

Computers for Learning
Mendez Middle School

Hispanic Technology Institute
HTIA Program

Knowbility
Accessibility Internet Rally

LifeChangers
Music Recording Camp

River City Youth Foundation
Youth Television (YTV) Dove Springs

2006 Recipients

Austin Groups for the Elderly
Cyber Seniors Training Program

BiGAUSTIN
Micro-Tech Project

Girl Scouts - Lone Star Council
Groovy Games for Girls

Girlstart
Girlstart Summer Camps

River City Youth Foundation
Youth Television (YTV) Dove Springs

Youth & Family Alliance, dba LifeWorks
Computer Lab

2007 Recipients

Austin Children's Museum
LEGO MINDSTORMS NXT After-School Programs

Austin Groups for the Elderly
Cyber Seniors Training Program

Austin YMBL Sunshine Camps
Computer Center

American Youthworks
Computer Corps

El Buen Samaritano
Computer Education Program

Girlstart
Summer Camps.

Skillpoint Alliance
Computer Technology Training Centers

Veteran Tutors
After-School Program

GTOPs The People

Austin Telecommunications Commission 2006-07:

Commissioner Chad Williams, Chair
Commissioner Chip Rosenthal, Vice Chair
Commissioner Wendell P. Ramsey, Parliamentarian
Commissioner John Andrew Green
Commissioner James C. Howerton
Commissioner Pilar Sanchez
Commissioner Arthur L. Sampson
Commissioner Kedron Touvell

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GTOPs Website:
www.gtops.org