

CONNECTING MINORITY COMMUNITIES PILOT PROGRAM PERFORMANCE (TECHNICAL) REPORT

GENERAL INFORMATION

GENERAL	Recipient Organization:	Bennett College	Award Identification Number:	37-09-C13060
	Recipient Street Address:	900 E. Washington St	Report Submission Date (MM/DD/YYYY):	12/27/2023
	City, State, Zip Code:	Greensboro, NC 27401	Final Report	
	DUNS/UEI Number:	7796WER57798		No
	Period of Performance Start Date (MM/DD/YYYY):	02/01/2023	Period of Performance End Date (MM/DD/YYYY):	01/31/2025
	Report Period Start Date (MM/DD/YYYY):	02/01/2023	Report Period End Date (MM/DD/YYYY):	09/30/2023

GENERAL PROJECT INFORMATION

	What key milestones have been achieved in the past six months?
1a	Bennett College has finalized contractual agreements and hired for the following: Instructional Designers, Instructors, and Advisors. Laptops have been purchased and distributed to all Coding students. We launched both programs, Coding and Entrepreneurship.
	What barriers or challenges have you encountered in the course of achieving your project milestones?
1b	We faced challenges with keeping community members interested in the program for the duration. Most community members did not want to commit to a year long program in entrepreneurship. We also faced scheduling issues with students from Bennett College participating in the program. We faced challenges in hiring lecturers with adequate experience and degrees for coding and entrepreneurship
	Please describe any issues anticipated during the next reporting period that may impact planned progress against the project milestones. In particular, please identify any areas or issues where technical assistance from NTIA may be useful.
1c	We did not meet to scheduled number of students projected to participate in the entrepreneurship courses. Equipment purchases are delayed based on current projects in Information Technology (IT).
	What notable successes have been achieved in the project, thus far?
1d	Community Members and Bennett students are enjoying both coding and entrepreneurship courses. We are getting excellent feedback from both instructors and the students. Students were interested prior to advertisement of the program. Hiring established consultants
	Please describe significant project milestones planned for completion during the next reporting period.
1e	During the next reporting period we will start working on the wifi improvements.
1f	Is this project a consortium project? No

ORGANIZATIONAL PARTNERS

2a	Please use the following table to list your organizational partners, the type of organization, the organization's role in completion of project activities, and whether or not the partner has changed their involvement or role in the project within the past six months.			
	PARTNER NAME	Partner Type	Partner Role	Change in Past Six Months?
	Ron Crozier, Student Freedom Initiative	Non-Funded Partner	Non-Funded Collaborator	No

2b	If you selected "Community Anchor Institution" or "Community-Based Organization" for any of the listed partner organizations, please specify. n/a			
2c	What barriers or challenges have you encountered in the course of working with any of these project partners that may impact the goals or outcomes of the project? I haven't faced any.			
REMOTE LEARNING INFRASTRUCTURE				
3a	What types of technology (hardware, software, online platforms) have you deployed to facilitate and improve remote learning infrastructure?			
	TECHNOLOGY NAME	Technology Type	Technology Description	Total Cost
	Laptops	Hardware	50 HP Zbook firefly 14GB Workstation	\$64,900.00
3b	What types of professional development training have you implemented to facilitate and improve remote learning infrastructure and IT management?			
	Professional Development Training Type	Number of Participants	Professional Development Training Description	
	Entrepreneurship Class	5	Entrepreneurship Course for students and community members to learn and use industry standard tools	
	Coding Class	21	Coding class for students and community members to learn Python	
3c	What percentage of classes are currently offered re0%			
3d	What percentage of classes are currently offered us100%			
ANCHOR COMMUNITY ADOPTION				
	List the anchor community activities your project has completed in the last six months, and the results of those activities.			
	Anchor Community Activity	Census Tract	Target Beneficiary	Target Output for Next Six Months

4a	Provide Coding courses	37081011200	Adult Learners	13		
	Provide Entrepreneurship Courses	37081011200	Adult Learners	2		
4b	Please use the following table to record the requested values for indicators of community broadband adoption. The field "Other outcome not listed here:" may be edited to record an indicator of community adoption you wish to provide to NTIA that may not have been specifically requested.					
	Community Adoption Indicator	Baseline		Current		
	Number of participants enrolled in community-based program	15		15		
	Number of participants who have completed community-based program	N/A		The program is ongoing		
	If applicable, number of participants who have obtained jobs following completion of a community-based program	N/A		The program will be completed May 2023		
	Number of anchor community members with a broadband connection	N/A		N/A		
	Other outcome not listed here:	N/A		N/A		
4c	Did the 15-mile radius present any barriers or challenges in the delivery of services, scope of the project, project outcomes, etc.?					
	Yes, some community based members are outside of the 15 mile radius.					
	How were these barriers or challenges resolved to meet the project's expected goals?					
	Challenges to keep community members interested in program.					
BROADBAND INTERNET AND DEVICES						
5a	Describe the Internet Devices which have been acquired with CMC-provided funds.					
	Number of Devices Purchased	Loaned or Donated?	Device Type	Total Cost	Recipient	
	50 Laptops	Donated	Laptops	\$38,073.00	Participants	
5b	If you defined any Device Type as "Other," please explain.					
5c	Describe the Broadband Subscriptions which have been acquired with CMC-provided funds.					
	Number of Subscriptions	Provider Type	Average Cost to Recipient	Total Cost to Institution (If Applicable)	Recipient	Speed
	No subscriptions have been acquired but some will be acquired depending on participant needs					

5d	Describe the Broadband Deployments which have been undertaken with CMC-provided funds.						
	Location	Location Type	Network Type	Deployment Cost	Ongoing Cost	Description	
	No broadband deployments but will be deployed based on allocated amount						
5e	What barriers or challenges have you encountered in the course of implementing project elements associated with the purchase and distribution of Internet Devices? N/A						
5f	What barriers or challenges have you encountered in the course of implementing project elements associated with the purchase and distribution of broadband subscriptions? N/A						
5g	What barriers or challenges have you encountered in the course of implementing project elements associated with the purchase and deployment of broadband networks? N/A						
DIGITAL SKILLS AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT							
6a	What types of digital skills or workforce development were offered?						
	Type of Training	Number of Participants	Participants Who Completed Training	Participant Type	Training Objectives	Training Objectives Met?	College Credit Awarded?
	Entrepreneurship Class	2	On-going	Community Members	Train community members in	No	No
	Coding Class	13	On-going	Community Members	Train community members in coding	No	No
	Entrepreneurship Class	3	On-going	College Students	Train Bennett students in entrepreneurship	No	No
	Coding Class	7	On-going	College Students	Train Bennett students in coding	No	No
6b	Were participants awarded a certification upon completion of training? If so, describe the certification and the number of recipients? N/A						
6c	What barriers or challenges have you encountered in the course of implementing project elements associated with digital skills training? It was difficult finding qualified instructors to teach coding and entrepreneurship courses.						
MEASUREMENT AND EVALUATION							
	Describe performance measurements utilized to evaluate the project's effectiveness or the benefits delivered to project beneficiaries						
	Project Purpose	Benefit	Beneficiary		How Was This Measured?		

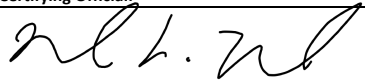
7a	Prepare community members to become entrepreneurs	Increase Entrepreneurship trained individuals	Community Members	Tracking the number participants and completers
	Prepare community members to become coders	Increase the number of Coding and AI trained individuals	Community Members	Tracking the number participants and completers
	Prepare students to become entrepreneurs	Increase the number of Entrepreneurship trained students	Students	Tracking the number participants and
	Prepare students to become coders	Increase the number of Coding trained students	Students	Tracking the number participants and

7b	Describe performance measurements utilized to evaluate the project's impact on digital equity.			
	Project Purpose	Benefit	Beneficiary	How Was This Measured?
	Wireless Internet Access	Upgrade Current Wireless Access	Institution	On-going; Has not been completed yet.

7c	How did these activities align with your CMC project narrative goals? The primary goals for this project is to expand instruction and remote learning opportunities to women of color in our community by providing courses and supplies to improve their internet access. This project is creating opportunity for employment and entrepreneurship by providing the certificate programs in coding and entrepreneurship. The project has also provided an opportunity for community members to have access to internet on campus and provided laptops to community members.
7d	Are these activities on track to meet these goals within the timeline? If not, what is the plan to meet these activities' goals within the timeline? Yes, we are on track to meet these goals within the timeline.
7e	If not, what steps will be implemented to meet those goals and outcomes over the next 6 months and/or by the end of the period of performance? N/A
7f	Describe any best practices or lessons-learned obtained at this point in the period of performance of the project. 1. Provide full information about the program duration to student and community members 2. Work closely with community and Registrar's Office in scheduling courses.

8	Please provide details below on your total budget and total funding expended to date for each budget element, including detailed disbursements of federal funds obligated from project inception through end of this reporting period. Figures should be reported cumulatively from the award start date to the end of the applicable reporting period.		
	Grant Program, Function, or Activity	ACTUAL BUDGET	Total Funds Expended
	8a. Personnel	\$194,165.00	\$31,907.44
	8b. Fringe Benefits	\$10,434.75	\$5,887.14
	8c. Travel	\$32,200.00	
	8d. Equipment		
	8e. Supplies	\$182,400.00	\$38,073.00
	8f. Contractual	\$184,000.00	\$75,547.00
	8g. Construction	\$-	\$-
	8h. Other		\$-
	8i. Total Direct Charges (sum of 8a thru 8h)	\$603,199.75	
	8j. Indirect Charges	\$96,749.94	
	8k. Totals (sum of 8i+8j)	\$699,949.69	\$151,414.58

I certify to the best of knowledge and belief that this report is correct and complete for performance of activities for the purposes set forth in the award documents.			
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CERTIFICATION	Typed or printed name and title of Authorized Certifying Official:	Telephone (area code, number, and extension):	
	Mondrail Myrick		
	Signature of Certifying Official:	Email Address:	mmyrick@bennett.edu
		Date:	12/27/2023

CONNECTING MINORITY COMMUNITIES PILOT PROGRAM PERFORMANCE (TECHNICAL) REPORT

GENERAL INFORMATION

GENERAL	Recipient Organization:	Bennett College	Award Identification Number:	37-09-C13060
	Recipient Street Address:	900 E. Washington St	Report Submission Date (MM/DD/YYYY):	1/6/2024
	City, State, Zip Code:	Greensboro, NC 27401	Final Report	
	DUNS/UEI Number:	7796WER57798		No
	Period of Performance Start Date (MM/DD/YYYY):	02/01/23		01/31/25
	Report Period Start Date (MM/DD/YYYY):	10/01/23	Report Period End Date (MM/DD/YYYY):	09/30/24

GENERAL PROJECT INFORMATION

1a	What key milestones have been achieved in the past six months?
	Bennett College has completed its first cohort of students in the entrepreneurship and coding programs. Bennett College has also started the new cohort of students in the program. We also achieved effective marketing by using a Marketing consultant.
1b	What barriers or challenges have you encountered in the course of achieving your project milestones?
	We faced challenges with keeping community members interested in the program for the duration. Most community members did not want to commit to a year long program in entrepreneurship. We also faced scheduling issues with students from Bennett College participating in the program. Bennett College faced challenges with student participation over the summer for college members. Bennett does not offer summer courses therefore students were not accustomed to having courses during the summer term.
1c	Please describe any issues anticipated during the next reporting period that may impact planned progress against the project milestones. In particular, please identify any areas or issues where technical assistance from NTIA may be useful.
	We expect delays in wireless APs.
1d	What notable successes have been achieved in the project, thus far?
	The completion of our first cohort. The satisfaction of the students that have completed the program. The WIFI improvements in areas on campus.
1e	Please describe significant project milestones planned for completion during the next reporting period.
	We plan to continuously improve the WIFI on campus. We also plan to progress toward the graduation of our second cohort.
1f	Is this project a consortium project? No

ORGANIZATIONAL PARTNERS

2a	Please use the following table to list your organizational partners, the type of organization, the organization's role in completion of project activities, and whether or not the partner has changed their involvement or role in the project within the past six months.			
	PARTNER NAME	Partner Type	Partner Role	Change in Past Six Months?
	Ron Crozier	Non-Funded Partner	Assist with reporting	No

2b	If you selected "Community Anchor Institution" or "Community-Based Organization" for any of the listed partner organizations, please specify.			
2c	What barriers or challenges have you encountered in the course of working with any of these project partners that may impact the goals or outcomes of the project?			
	I haven't faced any.			
REMOTE LEARNING INFRASTRUCTURE				
3a	What types of technology (hardware, software, online platforms) have you deployed to facilitate and improve remote learning infrastructure?			
	TECHNOLOGY NAME	Technology Type	Technology Description	Total Cost
	Laptops	Hardware	50 HP Zbook firefly 14GB Workstation	\$64,900.00
3b	What types of professional development training have you implemented to facilitate and improve remote learning infrastructure and IT management?			
	Professional Development Training Type	Number of Participants	Professional Development Training Description	
	Entrepreneurship Class (Cohort 1)	5	Entrepreneurship Course for students and community members to learn and use industry standard tools	
	Coding Class (Cohort 1)	21	Coding class for students and community members to learn Python	
	Entrepreneurship Class (Cohort 2)	14	Entrepreneurship Course for students and community members to learn and use industry standard tools	
	Coding Class (Cohort 2)	9	Coding class for students and community members to learn Python	
3c	What percentage of classes are currently offered remotely?	50%		
3d	What percentage of classes are currently offered using a hybrid model?	50%		
ANCHOR COMMUNITY ADOPTION				
4a	List the anchor community activities your project has completed in the last six months, and the results of those activities.			
	Anchor Community Activity	Census Tract	Target Beneficiary	Target Output for Next Six Months
	Provide Coding courses	37081011200	Adult Learners	6
	Provide Entrepreneurship Courses	37081011200	Adult Learners	11

4b	Please use the following table to record the requested values for indicators of community broadband adoption. The field "Other outcome not listed here:" may be edited to record an indicator of community adoption you wish to provide to NTIA that may not have been specifically requested.				
	Community Adoption Indicator	Baseline		Current	
	Number of participants enrolled in community-based	15		17	
	Number of participants who have completed community-based programs	13		13	
	If applicable, number of participants who have obtained jobs following completion of a community-based program	N/A		N/A	
	Number of anchor community members with a broadband subscription	N/A		N/a	
4c	Other outcome not listed here:				
	N/A				
	Did the 15-mile radius present any barriers or challenges in the delivery of services, scope of the project, project outcomes, etc.?				
	Yes, some community based members are outside of the 15 mile radius.				
How were these barriers or challenges resolved to meet the project's expected goals?					
Challenges to keep community members interested in program.					
BROADBAND INTERNET AND DEVICES					
5a	Describe the Internet Devices which have been acquired with CMC-provided funds.				
	Number of Devices Purchased	Loaned or Donated?	Device Type	Total Cost	Recipient
	50 Laptops	Donated	Laptop/Computer	\$38,073.00	Participants
5b	If you defined any Device Type as "Other," please explain.				
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Describe the Broadband Deployments which have been undertaken with CMC-provided funds.					
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DIGITAL SKILLS AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

6a	What types of digital skills or workforce development were offered?						
	Type of Training	Number of Participants	Participants Who Completed Training	Participant Type	Training Objectives	Training Objectives Met?	College Credit Awarded?
	Entrepreneurship Class	2	2	Anchor Community Resident	Train community members in Entrepreneurship	Yes	No
	Coding Class	13	3	Anchor Community Resident	Train community members in Coding	Yes	No
	Entrepreneurship Class	3	1	College Student	Train college students in Entrepreneurship	Yes	Yes
	Coding Class	7	7	College Student	Train college students in Coding	Yes	Yes
6b	Were participants awarded a certification upon completion of training? If so, describe the certification and the number of recipients? Yes. 3 Entrepreneurship Certificates; 10 Coding Certificates						
6c	What barriers or challenges have you encountered in the course of implementing project elements associated with digital skills training? It was difficult finding qualified instructors to teach coding and entrepreneurship courses.						

MEASUREMENT AND EVALUATION

7a	Describe performance measurements utilized to evaluate the project's effectiveness or the benefits delivered to project beneficiaries			
	Project Purpose	Benefit	Beneficiary	How Was This Measured?
	Prepare community members to become entrepreneurs	Increase Entrepreneurship trained individuals	Community Members	Tracking the number participants and completers
	Prepare community members to become coders	Increase the number of Coding and AI trained individuals	Community Members	Tracking the number participants and completers
	Prepare students to become entrepreneurs	Increase the number of Entrepreneurship trained students	Students	Tracking the number participants and completers

	Prepare students to become coders	Increase the number of Coding trained students	Students	Tracking the number participants and completers
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	8f. Contractual	\$184,000.00	\$75,547.00	
	8g. Construction	\$-	\$-	
	8h. Other		\$-	
	8i. Total Direct Charges (sum of 8a thru 8h)	\$603,199.75		
	8j. Indirect Charges	\$96,749.94		
	8k. Totals (sum of 8i+8j)	\$699,949.69	\$151,414.58	
CERTIFICATION	I certify to the best of knowledge and belief that this report is correct and complete for performance of activities for the purposes set forth in the award documents.			
	Typed or printed name and title of Authorized Certifying Official: Mondrail Myrick		Telephone (area code, number, and extension):	
	Signature of Certifying Official: 		Email Address:	mmvrick@bennett.edu
			Date:	01/06/2024

