

DANenet Technology Education Proposal

DANenet mission, history and organizational capacity

DANenet's mission is to make information technology accessible and affordable through education and services for nonprofit organizations and individuals with barriers to access and education.

DANenet is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. It has served Dane County nonprofit organizations since 1995 by offering on-site technical support, technical training, and planning and consulting services. In addition to technical support, DANenet partners with community agencies to provide technology education to groups that don't have access to such opportunities. DANenet is committed to helping to close the digital divide in Dane County. We believe that technology, connectivity and the skills to use both are part of a quality of life that all should be able to enjoy.

For 20 years, DANenet has provided technology solutions and educational programming to nonprofits and individuals throughout Dane county. We have successfully partnered with many nonprofit organizations to provide high quality educational programming that helps to increase digital inclusion and brings new knowledge and skills to individuals who would not have access to the programming without DANenet. Recently DANenet has partnered with Goodman Community Center's Girls Inc. program to provide a technology education program that includes learning about Raspberry Pi (a low-cost, high-powered computer) robotics and coding classes using Scratch. DANenet has provided technology education for older adults, youth and adults with limited experience with technology. Our agency has a core staff of six employees with degrees in education and computer science and information technology. Our collective years of teaching technology education and working to close the digital divide sum well over 30 years. DANenet works with a small group of committed, tech savvy volunteers that support and enhance the technology programming.

Overview

DANenet is requesting \$20,000 to fund basic technology education and technology support in four neighborhoods to align with the connectivity work of the city of Madison and the digital technology committee. DANenet would work in partnership with seven community organizations to provide technology education classes and drop in support for technology education and device maintenance.

Need

"Digital Inclusion is the ability of individuals and groups to access and use information and communication technologies. Digital inclusion encompasses not only access to the Internet but also the availability of hardware and software; relevant content and services; and training for the digital literacy skills required for effective use of information and communication technologies. Without access, full participation in nearly every aspect of American society — from economic success and educational achievement, to positive health outcomes and civic engagement — is compromised." (Institute of Museum and Library Services, 2012)

Digital inclusion has three core principles access, adoption and application. The work of the city of Madison and the digital technology committee will result in increased access for a number of Madison's least resourced neighborhoods. DANenet is proposing to provide the programming to support the adoption of technology. This includes digital literacy, relevance and consumer safety. The final principle is application, which is ways people apply information and communication technologies to improve their lives. The first two principles must be in place first.

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Program Proposal

DANenet will provide three core services that increase digital literacy and improve technology adoption within populations that have barriers. These services will be: technology education, drop-in support and maintaining functional community computer labs. The project will target the four neighborhoods from the pilot selected by the digital technology committee. Within those four neighborhood seven community organizations with deep neighborhood ties and locations in the heart of the community would host the project and provide outreach, childcare and translation.

Technology Education: DANenet would work with the community partners to schedule six hours of basic technology education and consumer safety. DANenet will work with the community partner to create a schedule that works for the space and the target community. In Kennedy Height the class will be offered in English and Hmong, at Goodman Community Center and in the Allied neighborhood the class will be offered in Spanish and English. The curriculum will vary depending on the needs of the students in order to strive towards relevance but will cover basic computer skills, consumer safety, Internet and email, and basic office software. DANenet will rely on curriculum developed and curated by digitallearn.org and the community technology network.

Drop-In Support: Drop in support will be provided for eight hours at each site. Any community residents, whether or not they are in the class, will be invited and can get their technology questions answered. This time will included one-on-one technology tutoring and will be an opportunity for community members to bring their devices to an expert for assistance and fixing. This will be a time to help set up email accounts, learn about social media, do a resume, get a digital photo off a device and get personal computing devices fixed. This will be similar to Minnesota's Technology Literacy Collaborative Fix-it Tech events. DANenet will recruit additional volunteers to assist with fix-it events.

Functional Computer Labs: Many community centers have community technology centers with computers that are available to community residents. These labs often fall quickly into disrepair with many computers partially dysfunctional or broken. The agencies lacks the technical skills, time and financial resources to fully maintain their lab. At each partner host site DANenet would spend up to six hours getting the computers operational and functional for the class and for the broader community to use.

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Budget

Locations			Kennedy Heights	Darbo Worthington		Brentwood		Allied Dunn's Marsh	
Item	Description	Project Wide	Kennedy Heights Community Center	Goodman Community Center	Salvation Army	DSS Community Center	Warner Park	Wellness Center & JFF	Boys & Girls Club
Education	6 hours of basic technology education and consumer safety per site		\$600	\$600	\$600	\$600	\$600	\$600	\$600
Drop-in support	8 hours of drop-in for digital literacy tutoring and device repair per site		\$800	\$800	\$800	\$800	\$800	\$800	\$800
Functional community computer labs	6 hours of technology consultant staff time to ensure labs fully operational		\$384	\$384	\$384			\$384	\$384
Marketing	Development of flier and ads and relevant distribution	\$860							
Materials	Class materials, coping, paper, flash drives, fix-it equipment	\$1500							
Mileage	Staff to & from sites	\$520							
Administration	Partnership development, MOU with hosts, fiscal management, reporting, program insurance, volunteer recruitment and placement	\$1300							
DANenet cost		\$4180	\$1784	\$1784	\$1784	\$1400	\$1400	\$1784	\$1784
Cost to community center / host sites									
Childcare	2 provided during education		\$150	\$150	\$150	\$150	\$150	\$150	\$150
Translation	Hmong and Spanish during education		\$200	\$200				\$200	
Space	Use of facility for class		\$150	\$150	\$150	\$150	\$150	\$150	\$150
Outreach	Coordinating registration and outreach		\$200	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$200
Host site cost			\$700	\$700	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$700	\$500
Total cost by site		\$4180	\$2484	\$2484	\$2284	\$1900	\$1900	\$2484	\$2284