Service Learning   A SeaKay Project

SeaKay is a non-profit provider of community networking services to low income communities. Following purchase of computers and software, and installation of internet ready workstations, SeaKay establishes a Service Learning Program at community technology centers with students from Community College Networking programs. Our participating educational institutions have used the centers to provide classes and training at the center. A variety of curricula are offered, both in group and one on one settings.

The community and neighborhood residents obtain knowledge, and the Service Learning students obtain soft skills, learning how to interact with learners and customers as they implement technology solutions and training. Digital opportunity curricula and internet access offered at the Center provide social, educational and technology comfortable opportunities for first time and novice users of computers and the internet. The curricula offered include acclimating residents to MS Office applications, email and access to the following:

- Finding public transportation bus routes
- Skype VOIP talking to friends in overseas hometowns
- IRS tax filings and status of refunds
- Translation of DMV information to native languages
- Prescription medicine price comparison and refilling

- Building personalized home pages in native languages
- Email writing and receiving, Receiving and printing photos
- Online banking, including payments and overseas money transfers
- Word processing of resumes and employment applications
- Tracking status of green cards, citizenship petitions

SeaKay's service learning program provides a wider range of value to the community by reducing staffing costs though student internships and providing a valuable learning experience to the student interns. These services allow programs to continue successfully in an environment of budget cutbacks. This program increases the number of staff and time dedicated to provide services to the community. The service learning team approach allows for a wide range of student experience and abilities to engage the community in group learning classes and individual tutoring.