#### Kentucky Public Libraries

Helping communities during difficult economic times



- Partnership between KDLA and Workforce Office of Employment and Training to expand computer services to help unemployed and underemployed Kentuckians
- Competitive Grant Process awarded \$265,200 in American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Funds to 10 public library systems.



Warren County Public Library - \$19,600 - Update computer terminals and expand computer stations with eight laptops.

<u>Trimble County Public Library</u> - \$14,000 - Add nine laptops and classes to teach job seeking skills.

<u>Pulaski County Public Library</u> - \$8,520 - Offer classes in basic and intermediate computer skills, job interview and job hunting skills and resume writing

McCracken County Public Library - \$18,000 - Increase library personnel to provide assistance with electronic job market.



<u>Louisville Free Public Library</u> - \$100,000 - Provide two librarians to provide workforce training and information at 18 locations in Jefferson County. Staff will provide information, services and training to job seekers

<u>Lexington Public Library</u> - \$50,000 - Expand the existing Skillsville Jobs Program by adding associates dedicated to serving job seekers.

Kenton County Public Library - \$10,830 - Purchase software to help job seekers to update and revise resumes and will offer basic skills computer classes and interview skills classes to patrons.



<u>Daviess County Public Library</u> - \$19,000 - Increase the number of public access computers and purchase software that will increase the computer skills of unemployed users.

<u>Jessamine County Public Library</u> - \$9,250 - Augment mobile computer lab with six additional laptops and offer introductory classes.

Hopkins County-Madisonviile Public Library - \$16,000 - Purchase new software and databases to host workforce information and development classes. Will cover printing costs for study booklets and classes.



#### **Expand capacity at 60 public library Public Computer Centers through**

- technology complemented by educational opportunities across Kentucky, targeting economic growth
- increased opportunities that address challenges of the unemployed, underemployed and undereducated.



- State unemployment is 10.6% compared with a US rate of 9.5%.
  Counties of significant economic distress with library systems
  targeted for participation include: Trigg County 16.5%, Bath County
  - 15.7%, and Lewis Counties 15%.
- According to the Chronicle of Higher Education, Kentucky lagged on key educational attainments metrics for all metrics compared with the rest of the US in 2009, and rated especially poor on graduation from high school and college
- In a 2008 study focused on educational needs, 77% of the Commonwealth's US Census regions were rated as "critical" or "most critical"
- U.S. Census statistics show that poverty is increasing in Kentucky, and the Commonwealth now has the 5th highest poverty rating, up from 6th in 2008. 2008 estimates anticipated poverty rates higher than the U.S. national average in 104 of 120 Kentucky counties



#### **Key Partners**

- Kentucky Dept. for Libraries & Archives
- Kentucky Community and Technical College System (KCTCS)
- Kentucky Office of Employment and Training
- Kentucky Adult Education
- 60 Public Libraries
- Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation

#### Addressing the needs of the unemployed and underemployed through 60 public libraries with

- 298 additional desktop computers
- 231 additional laptops
- 43 laser printers
- New and upgraded servers, routers, switches, firewalls, UPSs
- Public kiosk management software
- Productivity, resume writing, small business planning, and web development software



Development and deployment of the Kentucky Public Library Workforce Opportunity Series will include:

- Basic computing
- Basic resume writing and job searching
- Identifying and utilizing workforce training and available community, state, and federal resources
- Accessing unemployment services and available community, state, and federal resources
- Identifying, applying for and enrolling in education opportunities
- Preparation and training for library-hosted job fairs coordinated with state workforce

The overall cost of this program is \$1,780,383.83. Support for this program is evidenced by the combined 24.18% matching funds commitment, with The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation providing a \$240,000 grant as cash matching and \$168,000 proposal development in-kind contribution, and KDLA providing an additional \$22,558 as in-kind contribution.



#### Kentucky Public Libraries

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