Project Compass Showcase:
Colorado: State and Local Libraries Providing Direction in Tough Economic Times

Colorado State Library

Gene Hainer, State Librarian
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BTOP Public Computer Center
Grant – Focus on Training

- 76 communities
- Partnerships include workforce, ADA, community colleges, immigrant support
- 10,000 trainings over two year period for Colorado libraries.

Economic Gardening
Christine Hamilton-Pennell, Growing Local Economies

- Preconference at State Association
- Keynotes at 3 Regional Conferences

- How can you help stimulate your local economy?
- Why should your library support entrepreneurs?
- How to make your library entrepreneur friendly?
“Libraries Mean Business”

2010 Lobby Day
at the Capitol

- Snapshot Day connection – “Day in the Life of Your Library”
  Posters to all legislators
- Displays with photos and transformational stories relating to business development
- Information on libraries and economic and job development
- Monthly library information pages to legislators
CAL Big Hairy Audacious Goal - Advocacy

- http://bhagcolorado.blogspot.com/
- Round 1 – local non-library advocates give talks
  Libraries change lives.
  Libraries mean business.
  Libraries build community.
  Libraries are a smart investment.

Round 2 – local non-library advocates give information on November election ballot issues & impact on libraries
Partnerships

**Job Support & Skills Improvement**
- Work Force Centers – Regional
- Human Resource Association - Regional
- Community Colleges
- Colorado Career Development Association
- YMCA & other community agencies

**Small Business Development**
- Economic Development Agencies
- Chambers of Commerce
Classes & Presentations

✓ Classes and individualized assistance for job seekers
✓ Assist with all aspects of for a job and interviewing prep
✓ Presentations by area Chambers, economic development, and Workforce Centers
✓ Business database Classes
Online Library Resources

**Job and Education Support**
- Learning Express Library and Ebooks
- Adult Learning Center
- JobNow! (live coaching)

**Small Business Development**
- Business & Company Resource Center (Gale)
- Business Decision Tapestry Data Manual
- Business Plans Handbook
- Business Source Premiere (EBSCO)
New Services for Job Support and Business Development

One-on-one librarian meetings support research needs

- **Arapahoe Library District** - Book a Librarian (includes business and job support)
- **Denver Public Library** - BizBoost
- **Douglas County Libraries** - BizInfo

Outreach

**Pikes Peaks Library District** - What’s New is Business blog about business books.
Jefferson County Public Library’s E-Train

“(The E-Train) helps to bridge the ‘digital divide’ by bringing computers to folks who may not own one, by helping them learn new job skills and employment strategies, and by helping them access the wealth of information provided by the Internet.” Stacy McKenzie
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