



Texas Public Libraries: Serving Communities to Enhance Digital Literacy
Survey Question and Responses

Partnerships

Question: Does your library have any programs or strategic partnerships with local groups, organizations, educational institutions, or governments specifically focused on digital literacy services or training? If your library does have one or more partnerships, please describe them briefly. If your library does not have any partnerships, please go to the next question.

Responses from Library Directors

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| Dallas College |
| We partner with Workforce Solutions |
| Texas Workforce, SOFA, McLennan Community College |
| We have worked with Workforce Solutions on job seeking seminars |
| Cardboard Project: helps provide virtual computer assistance for low-income and unhoused job-seekers; VA: Library offers specific courses for veterans; Dallas Innovation Alliance: working with local partners to create tutorials for using local telehealth portals, participating in benefits, and signing up with local housing authority. |
| <p>We have numerous partners interested in the area of digital literacy, and are considering how partnerships could best serve the needs of our community. We collaborate with Workforce Solutions of North Central Texas, although we have no formal partnership on digital literacy. The library has scheduled a corporate partner to offer Hour of Code for youth in our community, and a university professor presented a program on preparing for virtual job interviews and how applicant tracking systems work. In addition, Microsoft trainers led a series of 9 online training sessions in partnership with Plano Public Library to offer the public an overview of Outlook, Word, Excel, Teams, PowerPoint, OneNote, and LinkedIn.</p> <p>Staff regularly lead programs for the public on Excel, Google Suite, Adobe Creative Cloud tools, open source software, and using LinkedIn for both business and job search purposes. We lead programs about accessing eBooks and eMagazines and introduce various library databases. Additionally staff teach youth movie maker camps, 3D printing classes, 3D modeling software, how to use Google maps to promote a small business, using social media, and podcasting. Staff also lead computer basics classes in the community, collaborating with nonprofit organizations, and we continue to seek out opportunities to reach those with limited technology access or proficiency</p> |
| Texas Workforce Commission |

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| Exxon Girls who Code |
| We partner with the local Texas Workforce Commission office to assist with career readiness and education. |
| We had a partnership with Texas Workforce Commission prior to the COVID shutdown. |
| Workforce Solutions BorderPlex – Home - Housing Authority YISD |
| We received a Digital Navigators grant and will be working on partnerships with local businesses to do outreach computer classes |
| We occasionally host coding programs led by local organizations that teach coding and computer science (wizeacademy.com, icodeschool.com, codeninjas.com). |
| We partner with the Mason High School Spanish instructor to offer English classes and some computer help. |
| Our local school district offers classes in ESL and GED which often help in workforce and employment. As they have trained instructors and they are two blocks away, and offer community education (and it is free) they have asked we sent people to them. |
| Texas Workforce Development |
| Workforce Solutions School District |
| City of San Antonio Department of Human Services Senior Services (iPad Lending Program for Older Adults) San Antonio Food Bank (Deliver digital literacy instruction to Food Bank Clients, partnership to provide Chromebooks to program participants) NTEN/Google Fiber (Digital Inclusion Fellowship - main project is partnership with San Antonio Food Bank) Goodwill (Digital literacy and workforce/employment instruction) OASIS - (iPad Lending Program for Older Adults) Senior Planet/OATS - (iPad Lending Program for Older Adults) |
| We have worked with Start-Up Kid's Club and Texas Workforce Commission in the past. |
| Austin Community College Continuing Education, Community Action, Workforce Solutions Rural Capital Area have joined together to provide free ACC classes. Community Action has provided GED and ESL classes at our library for over 25 years. |

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| We have a partnership with Richardson Adult Literacy Center - they have workforce and employment assistance along with ESL classes |
| Goodwill Job Center, United Way |
| Local Pilot Club has given a donation for use to purchase items to have sensory/technology items geared towards toddler-aged children. |
| Informal partnership with the local Community College, and ISD. |
| A young local architect has offered several free tutorial classes on Word and Excel. We hope to build on this, but response has been limited. |
| Private groups have offered coding for children, Stem/Steam programs. |
| Workforce Solutions |
| Non-Profits: (1) Austin Free-Net Digital Literacy for Adults Workforce Development and (2) Latinitas Digital Media for Youth and Parents Educational Focus |
| We were awarded the TSLAC Digital Navigators grant. With this grant money, we will be providing digital literacy services to the community of Martindale and surrounding areas in the form of computer classes and training. If those attending the classes complete the course, they will receive a free laptop. |
| W.A.V. Project -- help write resumes, teach computer basics and procure laptops for individuals in need |
| We do work with workforce and right now they are helping us to update computers and add a kiosk for their services to the library with a grant they received. |
| Workforce |
| We have made it known to our economic development group that the library will teach basic computer skills to employees of area businesses free of charge. Any adult 18+ years can borrow hotspots and chromebooks. |
| San Antonio Food Bank and Workforce Development |

Responses from Branch Managers

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| In the past we have partnered with Texas Workforce Solutions |
| Literacy Volunteers of Laredo and Laredo College provide computer classes that cover computer basics, basic email skills, office productivity software. |
| We have a partnership with two community centers to provide off-site computer/technology classes to seniors. We have a partnership with a health department to assist ex-felons in creating resumes and applying for jobs, to help them re-enter society. |

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| <p>Workforce</p> |
| <p>The library system does but my specific branch does not.</p> |
| <p>Our partnership with Workforce Solutions of Greater Dallas is more related to using their resources. We moved away from classes as they were a logistical nightmare and our patrons enthusiastically prefer the one on one approach.</p> |
| <p>Yes</p> |
| <p>Occasionally, not since pandemic</p> |
| <p>Goodwill; SAMSAT (San Antonio Museum of Science and Technology), San Antonio Food Bank</p> |
| <p>Workforce Solutions Greater Dallas</p> |
| <p>None that I am aware of but we do not have partnerships at the branch.</p> |
| <p>We have a partnership with the YMCA to lend them laptops for their home school programs.</p> |
| <p>Partnerships are coordinated through the Adult Services department who in turn reaches out to branches including ours to host classes or programs.</p> |
| <p>We have a partnership with El Paso Public Library to offer library services to the community</p> |
| <p>We have organizational partnerships at the departmental level (covered in interviews with other staff), but none currently at the branch level.</p> |
| <p>We will be using NorthStar curriculum for our classes. Our card holders also have access to databases like ancestry.com, JobNow, Wordcat, and LinkedIn Learning among others</p> |
| <p>The El Paso Public Library Literacy Center schedules programs at different branch locations focused on digital literacy/training. UTEP students 4-H Technology Changers also provide computer training.</p> |
| <p>We have partnered with Texas A&M University in Kingsville (TAMUK) engineering department and they have received grants to partner with us. Instructors have planned classes for computer classes and technology training in the past. We have also partnered with TAMUK because they are offering a new aerospace engineering program and they want to offer low-income students in our low economic area to promote their new program in our libraries.</p> |