



ABCD Press

From the Office of Public Information

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Verizon, ABCD Team Up Again to Provide Tech Training, Web Design, to Low-Income Boston Teenagers

15-Week Technology Training Program Expands from Saturdays to After School, with Focus on Improving Community Website

Telecom giant Verizon Communications is collaborating with Action for Boston Community Development, Inc. (ABCD) to launch an information technology training program for teenagers from low-income Boston neighborhoods. This is the fourth year the two have teamed up to offer the program to at-risk, inner-city youths.

This year, the program has expanded to include a project aimed at improving bostonresourcenet.org, a searchable database of Boston area community agencies and service organizations. Teens enrolled in the program will go out into the community to interview staff of various agencies listed on Boston Resource Net and gather information to be used on the website.

Volunteer staff from Verizon will spend two days after school and every Saturday for 15 weeks teaching Web Design skills to 30 area teens, culminating in a six-week paid internship where they will use their newly acquired skills to reach out and provide resources to their own communities.

“Verizon and ABCD have reaffirmed our partnership as this program enters its fourth year,” said David Landry, Executive Director of Sales Support and Billing Services for Verizon Business. “It fulfills an important part of Verizon’s commitment to the community here in Boston.”

“We are very fortunate to team with Verizon again to offer this wonderful program to the teens in our area who need our help the most,” said ABCD President/CEO Robert Coard. “Extending the Verizon program from Saturdays to after school will provide even more opportunities for the at-risk youth served by ABCD. We are very grateful to Verizon for continuing and expanding this program.”

The ABCD/Verizon collaboration is part of ABCD’s Youth Explorations program that offers at-risk Boston youths opportunities in education, employment and career exploration.

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About ABCD:

ABCD serves more than 100,000 low-income Boston-area residents through its central offices and a decentralized network of Neighborhood Service Centers (NSCs), Head Start centers, Family Planning sites and Foster Grandparent sites. Programs and affiliations include Fuel Assistance; Child Care Services; Head Start; Child Care Choices of Boston; Education; Career Development; Housing and Homelessness Services; Health Services; Family Planning; Urban College of Boston; University High – an Alternative High School; Ostiguy High School for high school students in recovery; Weatherization; Foster Grandparents; Elder Services; Intergenerational Programs; a Multi-cultural Independent Living Center serving people with disabilities; management of the Combined Federal Campaign, Commonwealth of Massachusetts, City of Boston, and Keane Inc. employee giving campaigns; advocacy and consumer services.