



The Computerworld Honors Program

Honoring those who use Information Technology to benefit society

Final Copy of Case Study

YEAR:
2012

STATUS:
Laureate

Organization:
Troy University IT

Organization URL:
<http://news.whoswatchingalabama.org/cyberkids/>

Project Name:
Cyberkids Protection Initiative

What social/humanitarian issue was the project designed to address? What specific metrics did you use to measure the project's success?

In 2008, the Troy University IT department launched a community service program with the Alabama Attorney General's Office. The Cyberkids Internet Safety initiative has met tremendous success. Since the first presentation in 2008, the group has traveled more than 40,000 miles and more than 100,000 youth and adults have participated in the event. Troy IT staff has spoken at a wide variety of school, civic and community events. In addition to tailored Cyberkids presentations, the group offers events on identity theft and maintains a public information website.

Please list the specific humanitarian benefits the project has yielded so far.

We believe it starts with a commitment to service above self. Through this program, we are reaching youth in schools and community events that may never learn the dangers of the Internet. We strive to train the educators, so they can guide the youth in the proper direction, and the parents to understand the underlying truth of not using technology properly. Benefits: Educational programs, Ethical programs, safety programs, and many service programs.

Please provide the best example of how the project has benefited a specific individual, enterprise or organization. Feel free to include personal quotes from individuals who have directly benefited from the work.

The Cyberkids Protection Initiative/outreach program has reached more than 100,000 youth and adults throughout the state of Alabama and the Southeast. The Troy University IT Department capitalized on personal compassion for the online safety of the youth and the experience of its information security experts to craft presentations that draw from years of real-life experiences. Troy University houses a state-of -the-art computer forensics institute and lab. Years of field experience has offered Troy's presenters a unique perspective into the malicious activities that can result through inappropriate use of technology. Feedback from a recent session: From: Mary Xxx Sent: Thursday, December 11, 2011 6:04 AM; To: Angel M. Johnson; Subject: RE: Cyberkids Presentation Information Request Lost In Cyberspace Angel: The "Lost in Cyberspace" presentation is a wonderful community service that is needed for all users. This is an extremely well-researched presentation that has been structured to educate the general public on the dangers of the Internet. It not only provides you with generalized information that is adaptable and would apply to many ages, but also provides cases to support the current data that has or is occurring locally and statewide. Troy University should be commended for providing this service. Mary; Organization: Alabama Counseling Association/Chapter IX.