Digital Connectors

What They Do

Raleigh Digital Connectors

The City of Raleigh provides the Digital Connectors training program for youth living in Raleigh city limits. Digital Connectors is a nationally renowned program. It provides technology training and mentoring for young people, age 14 through 18, from diverse backgrounds and neighborhoods.

Raleigh Digital Connectors are dedicated to improving their communities and themselves through technology and volunteer service. The program allows young people to expand 21st century technology skills, develop professional life skills, participate in technology centered projects, explore workplace pathways, and serve their communities.

The City of Raleigh sustains the program through strategic partnerships and offers expanded levels of digital readiness. Raleigh aims to develop a sustainable program other communities can use for preparing youth to succeed in the evolving digital economy.

Program Overview

During the 9 months Digital Connectors attend sessions two evenings a week for a total of five hours. Youth learn technical, leadership, social, and life skills through a combination of instructor- led training, team exercises, field trips, guest speakers, mentors, and volunteer service. Participation in this interactive, challenging learning experience culminates in a formal graduation celebration and the opportunity to continue serving the community as Digital Connectors alumni. Graduates of the program receive $500, a laptop computer, and other incentives for participating.

In an innovative technology room at the Raleigh Pathways Center, Digital Connectors learn skills in twelve core competencies:

- Leadership & Diversity
- Workforce Development
- Digital Literacy
- Open Data Principles
- Civic Engagement
- Teaching and Facilitation
- Personal Development
- Financial Literacy
- Coding
- Environmentalism and Sustainability
- Service and Global Engagement
- Entrepreneurship

178
Digital Connectors Graduates

952
Computers Refurbished & Distributed

3,698
Residents Trained

9,421
Community Service Hours

Raleigh Community™

Volunteer Service

Youth in Raleigh Digital Connectors serve as ambassadors, teaching their families, friends, and neighbors to participate in the digital economy. Digital Connectors practice skills that prepare young people for opportunities in tomorrow's technology-driven economy. Students give 65 service hours throughout the school year. Raleigh Digital Connectors give back to the community and help address the digital divide by:

- Promoting digital literacy at community events with partnering agencies
- Teaching computer and internet skills to community members
- Refurbishing computers for underserved communities and individuals.
- Performing humanitarian community service projects

Long-lasting Benefits

- Increase computer and Internet knowledge
- Learn the value of access and digital inclusion in the community
- Get certified in Ever-Fi financial literacy
- Develop entrepreneurship and life skills
- Gain skills to succeed in high school, college, and the global workforce
- Become active community leaders

Learn More About Raleigh Digital Connectors

Go to raleighnc.gov and search
Raleigh Digital Connectors

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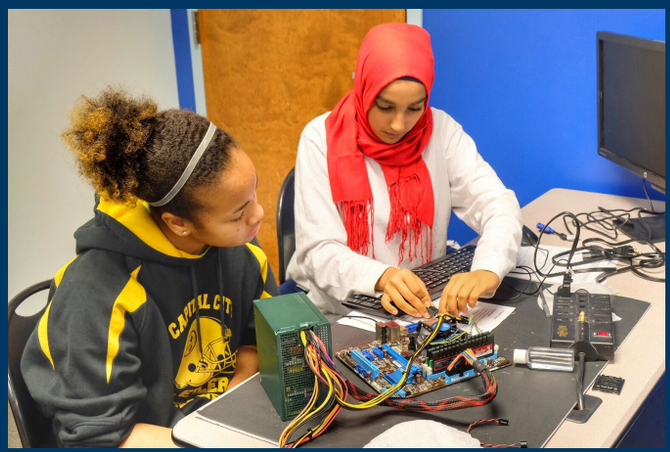

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