



Sound Learning

Educate - Succeed - Contribute

Report for the Norman Archibald Charitable Foundation Sound Learning, 2016-17

We would like to thank the Norman Archibald Charitable Foundation for partnering with Sound Learning in 2016-17 to enhance and expand student access to technology. With a grant of \$5,000 we were able to purchase 16 quality laptops, Microsoft product licenses, and a laptop cart for storage. With this equipment we were able to regularly integrate technology into both our Basic Studies and English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) classes. We were also able to expand the number of hours per week offered to students, including the addition of 4th night of class in our ESOL Program.

Project Results

Sixty-five students utilized the laptops regularly as a component of instruction this year. In our Basic Studies program students used computers to access High School 21+ modules on Canvas, an online learning platform utilized by the WA State community college system. They also accessed the GED Academy learning program, utilized MS Word programs to complete assignments, and did online research on a variety of topics.

In our ESOL Program our participants were very new to computers. Ninety-five percent of ESOL students who used computers this year had never used a computer before. Students started by learning how to turn on/off a computer and enter the username and password. Students were introduced to MS Word and internet navigation. They practiced typing, how to control the cursor on a computer, and accessed English learning software and online sites as a supplement to face-to-face instruction.

90% of students who utilized computers in our program this year reported improvement in their comfort using a computer and in their ability to perform one or more of the following: use e-mail, navigate the internet, type on a keyboard, perform internet research, format an MS Word document, utilize Canvas or GED Academy, utilize English learning software and websites, and access job search websites.

Our students are motivated to learn and make progress, and enjoy using technology as a component of instruction. The computers that we purchased with our grant from your foundation will continue to serve students' learning needs in the years to come. Thank you for helping us make this program improvement in order to fulfill our mission to **'educate adults to succeed and contribute'**.



"Accessing computers at Sound Learning gave me the opportunity to finish my High School 21+ modules and complete my high school diploma without having to travel far from home. It's rewarding to know that I'm reaching my goals."

-Holly, HS 21+ Graduate

"I love to use the computer! I want to use more and more." - Odilia, ESOL Student

