



Focused activity characterizes SPCLC program year 2013

Comprehensive marketing campaign implemented, five-year narrative and PEGASUS application completed, distance learning and digital literacy expanded, statewide leadership provided

2013 highlights include:

- Completion of the comprehensive 5 year narrative (available [here](#)).
- Development and implementation of the first phase of a multi-year marketing campaign (see related information on next page).
- Preparation and submission of an application for the PEGASUS Award, and completion of a day-long site visit.
- Continued expansion of distance learning, with 1,947 learners (a 437% increase over the four years that SPCLC has distance learning), and 47,931 proxy hours (a 3237% increase over four years). 2013 also marked the conclusion of the 4th year of the St. Paul Distance Learning Supplemental Services grant, which provides professional development, policy development, and practice support statewide.
- Continued implementation of individual professional development services for teaching staff, including observations of 40 teachers in class (many multiple times).
- Integration of enhanced digital literacy education, including adoption and use of the [Northstar Digital Literacy Assessment](#) at most SPCLC member agencies.
- Full integration of the [International Institute of Minnesota](#) as an SPCLC member, providing members with up-to-date information on refugee arrivals and resettlement programming.
- Participation in four [FastTRAC](#) programs, including Medical Careers Pathways, Anatomy and Physiology, Medical Office Careers, and Child Care.
- Provided statewide leadership through: Literacy Action Network, with member staff serving as President, Legislative Chair, Summer Institute Co-Chair, and on many other committees; serving on the Adult Diploma Task Force (co-chair and legislative liaison); and leading successful legislative initiatives in the legislature, including establishment of the Adult Diploma, creation of an ABE representative on the Governor's Workforce Development Council, and regaining part of the funding growth factor lost two years ago.
- Completion of multiple Transitions programming efforts, including curricula development grants to <http://www.clues.org/>, the [Minnesota Literacy Council](#), and [Vietnamese Social Services](#).



Each SPCLC agency received a banner as part of the marketing campaign.

HECUA intern will assist with outreach along Central Corridor in St. Paul, working with underserved populations

Christine Hubred, a senior at Concordia college, began a three-month internship with SPCLC this month to provide outreach along the eastern portion of the [Central Corridor](#).

Funded through the [Higher Education Consortium for Urban Affairs \(HECUA\)](#), Christine will focus on identifying underserved ABE populations and developing strategies to address barriers, building community awareness of ABE, and working with employers.

“The focus on community involvement and input really attracted me to this particular internship,” said Christine. “I want to successfully collaborate with members of the community, staff at SPCLC, and other interns in order to define problems and find feasible and long term solutions.”

Explaining the interests that drew her to apply, Christine said, “The more I learn about education and the world in general, it becomes more and more apparent that in order to have a healthy community and society over all, education has to be a priority.”

“I experienced this first hand when I recently lived in Ecuador, where I was not fluent in speaking, listening, writing or reading. It was almost impossible for me to make meaningful contributions to my community without these basic skills. After only a few weeks, I

was frustrated and felt as if I had lost my sense of self. I know that in Minnesota, especially in the Twin Cities, there are many adults who want to gain these skills, and having access to adult literacy services gives them the opportunity to be more involved in their communities and to gain the dignity that everyone deserves.”

Christine’s work will focus on two main areas:

Identifying and reaching out to low-income, low skilled adults in the Corridor to inform them about available ABE services along the corridor, and how these services can help them gain skills to address economic barriers (eight SPCLC member agencies have offices along the Corridor). This will include researching target groups along the corridor that do not currently access such services, working with these groups to identify why this is so, and helping devise strategies to support members of these groups to access needed services.

2) Working with local businesses and other organizations to help them gain awareness of available ABE services and of ways in which these services can help current employees gain skills that could benefit their businesses (such as increasing workers’ Eng-



Christine Hubred, SPCLC Central Corridor Project intern.

lish language or computational skills). This will include working with businesses as potential partners that might be willing to provide volunteer/ internship/job placement opportunities for ABE students in occupational classes.

Summarizing her motivations, Christine stated, “In order to really have any sort of impact the community needs to be invested, and it was obvious that this was the case with SPCLC, or at least that would be the goal for the position. Also SPCLC is a great organization and I saw the internship as a great opportunity to learn from them!”

Christine is completing a Bachelors of Education in ELL Education, as well as a Bachelors of Arts in Spanish.