



**Denali Commission**  
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## Denali Training Fund Final Report

Funds for this project are provided by the USDOL and the Denali Commission and managed, in partnership, by the Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development.

Name of Organization: Amundsen Education Center dba New Frontier Vocational Training Center	
Name of Project: Career Guidance & Training	
Reporting Period: 2/25/09 – 12/31/09	
Contact Person: Mark Hill 43335 K-Beach #14 Soldotna, AK (907) 262-9055	
Award Year: 2009-10	Award Number: 1072-D
Original Amount Awarded: \$75,000	Final Expenditures: \$75,000
Certification: I certify that the information in this report is current, correct and true and in accordance with the terms and conditions of the agreement.	
Signed by:  Dated: 1/14/10	

**1. A. In a few sentences, please describe the initial scope of your project.**

The CSI Career Café empowers youth to prepare for productive lives in Alaska's high growth industries. The CSI team provides employability skills training and employment services.

**B. Did you modify the scope or the budget at any time during this project? If so, please explain.**

The timeline of the project was extended from 6/30/09 to 12/31/09. AEC was able to procure additional funding to leverage staff salaries thus extending the personal services budget especially. Furthermore, the CSI team needed the additional time to serve the requisite amount of participants.

**2. A. How many people did your original proposal intend to train? 50**

**B. How many people did you ultimately train? 50**

**Please attach a final list of participants, their community, certification and where they are employed.**

Please see attached

**C. If there is a variance between original and final, please explain.**

It should be noted that 45 of the 50 individuals trained received their CSI Certificates which indicates they completed all required aspects of our Career Café. Our CSI team worked with an additional 15 students during the grant period for which no grant expenses were utilized. Seven of these students joined us only briefly and did not complete all assigned lessons. The other eight participants actually completed our CSI Certificates but were 14 or 15 years old and are not eligible for inclusion in our records.

**3. Please tell us about lesson(s) learned during this project.**

We have learned that peer-to-peer interaction and encouragement is a very important piece of what we have to offer. We have seen participants who have met only through our training continue to communicate and encourage each other through our CSI Facebook page. In evaluating the November training – which was all group oriented versus the December training – which was a mix of group and individual training, we realized that the group dynamic builds momentum and energy. Also, we extended leadership opportunities for two alumni of the program who came in to share of their CSI experience. We found this to be inspiring and quite motivational to the present participants.

**4. Please provide a minimum of one success story for this project.**

Donna Handley came to us with a great lack of direction and confidence in what she wanted to do with her life. After attending the Career Cafe, she was enrolled into the Summer Youth ARRA grant. We put her to work at Pformations Day Spa. After a short time, Donna's self esteem blossomed and she wanted to apply for a better job. We helped her reconstruct her resume and she applied for a position at the Kenai Wildlife Refuge. She got the job and has experienced great success there as well. In her new job, Donna has had exciting opportunities to do things she never thought possible. She is currently finishing her AA degree at Kenai Peninsula College. Recently, Donna spoke to our youth at a Career Café, encouraging them that dreams really can come true. Through programs made possible by this Denali grant, Donna's dreams have begun to become a reality.

**5. Please attach a few photos with descriptive captions.**