

Adult Education Block Grant : Annual Plan : 2018-19 Produced: Jul 13, 2018, 12:00 AM UTC

14 Desert Regional Consortium

Plans & Goals - Consortium Approved

Executive Summary

The Desert Regional Consortium has made a concerted effort to address gaps in service areas by continuing to increase course offerings in the allowable program areas, reducing student barriers to education, and enhancing and expanding student services. This has been accomplished through partnerships and leveraging of resources. Additionally, the consortium has initiated strategies to address workforce oriented professional development, career centers, job developers, contextualized learning, articulations, pilots for orientation, intake, assessments, counseling and career pathways. These strategies have included our partners in the region that also supply workforce training and services. As a result, relationships are developing with potential partners so that MOUs have been formed to leverage resources with agencies such as, Trade Union Apprenticeships, DPSS, County WIB, VA, DA and Tribal Nations. The DRC commissioned Resource Development Associates to undertake the creation of a Strategic Plan to determine specific needs and where to allocate future funding, programs and classes in the Coachella Valley. Data from the RDA Plan identified that less than 20% of adults over the age of 25 who live in the Coachella Valley Unified School District (CVUSD) have attended college or obtained an AA degree or higher. About ¼ of adults over the age of 25 living in the DSUSD and PSUSD regions have some college, but no degree. The RDA Plan validated that there is a large disparity in educational attainment among individuals who live in the (CVUSD) region compared to the rest of the region. DSUSD and PSUSD are closer to the County (20%) and State (18%) rates. The majority (79%) of residents in the CVUSD region speak Spanish. Whereas, many of residents of the DSUSD (62%) and PSUSD (60%) regions speak English. These insights validate expenditures in the East valley and as more data emerges it will indicate where to concentrate additional funding. AEBG allocations are managed by the Desert Regional Consortium and are used to maintain principals of inclusion, transparency, collaboration, and equality, while building capacity to develop and implement systemic approaches for adult learners to achieve their academic and career goals. The DRC is an incubator for not only exchanging ideas, working with external partnerships, leveraging resources between members to eliminate gaps, but as a collaborative, as members work with each other as true partners beyond DRC meetings.

Regional Planning Overview

The Desert Regional Consortium will have calendared working and committee meetings, open to the public, for the creation of the new 3-Plan. The DRC will seek input from the public and DRC partners. Information will include data from its attendance systems, TOPSPro reports, labor market reports, and RDA results, which will be used to drive areas of need and instruction. The new three-year plan will have common data (TOPSPro) from all members to make standards based, data-driven, results oriented decisions. The DRC will also use its own commissioned strategic plan which validates and/or highlights areas for growth.

Meeting Regional Needs

Regional Need #1

Gaps in Service / Regional Needs

The DRC has identified the following gaps in service: Census data suggest higher levels of ABE, ASE, CTE, HSD, and HSE needs are centered in Coachella Valley. Unemployment rates in the Coachella Valley are high - Residents of the CVUSD area age 20 years and older consistently have higher unemployment rates than any other region. The majority of students at CVAS and in RCOE's Jail programs do not have a college degree. The majority (79%) of residents in the CVUSD region speak Spanish.

How do you know? What resources did you use to identify these gaps?

The Desert Regional Consortium commissioned Resource Development Associates for a strategic plan of the Coachella Valley. The strategic plan, along with AEBG labor data, California labor statistics, and Coachella Valley Economic Partnership (now known as One Future Coachella Valley) regional data, confirms lack of high school attainment and a need to increase English skills by adults of the Coachella Valley.

How will you measure effectiveness / progress towards meeting this need?

The DRC served 14,556 adult students in AEBG Program Areas in the 2015-16 academic year. Metrics for effectiveness include increased graduation rates, GED completion, industry certificate completion, attendance data, and common member TOPSPRO data.

Gaps In Service

New Strategies

Strategy #1

Establish regular calendared consortium subcommittee data meetings for the purpose of increasing data integrity, data-driven decision-making, and strategic program improvement. An emphasis would be to address CTE gaps and increase enrollment in ABE, ASE and ESL programs consortium-wide.

Seamless Transitions

New Strategies

Strategy #1

DRC Consortium members hired transition counselors to assist adults and create a pathway to higher education possibilities. The DRC will establish transitional support collaboration between member agencies for the purpose of guiding students through post-secondary college and career educational options.

Student Acceleration

New Strategies

Strategy #1

An identified DRC strategy is short-term courses: CVUSD and DSUSD Short-Term CTE: Computer Operator/Business Applications, Microsoft Certification, Real Estate Licensing, Notary Public, Electrician Pre-Apprenticeship, Multiple online courses. RCOE - Short-term CTE: EMT, Medical Clerical Bootcamp, Nurse Assistant, Pharmacy Technician Bootcamp. Comprehensive Programs: Administrative Office Professional, Dental Assistant with (Registered Dental Assistant Eligible), Medical Clinical Administration.

Professional Development

New Strategies

Strategy #1

Engage in available Professional Development resources from CALPRO, OTAN, AEBG, and CASAS – both in-person, online (synchronous and asynchronous) and in hosting local events for the benefit of the entire consortium (i.e., localized workshops). Possible topics may include data-driven decision-making, equity-minded practices, growth mindset practices, and raising awareness about the needs and motivations of adult learners.

Leveraging Resources

New Strategies

Strategy #1

DRC will partner with Local Work Force Development Board. DRC members will coordinate with the LWDB by regularly meeting and communicating with LWDB and partner agencies to improve coordination and alignment of services, with the creation of shared goals and meeting outcomes.

Fiscal Management

A narrative justifying how the planned allocations are consistent with the annual adult education plan which is based on your AEBG 3-year plan.

All AEBG allocations are approved unanimously and managed by the Desert Regional Consortium. All members use Galaxy software to maintain funds and is audited annually. Allocations are used to maintain, develop and foster adult education programs which support a pathway to the workforce, military, and post-secondary education, as per the DRC Three-year plan. The programs include English as a Second Language, Citizenship, High School Diploma, General Educational Development (GED), short-term Career and Technical Education, Pre-Apprenticeship, and Jail Programs. The DRC uses AEBG labor force data, Coachella Valley workforce data, and DRC survey data provided by Resource Development Associates from its own commissioned strategic plan for adult education for establishing spending needs within consortium boundaries. To assist adults as they complete their diplomas, certificates and programs, DRC members have hired Pathway Counselors for seamless transitions to workforce entry, reentry or post-secondary education.

An approach to incorporating remaining carry-over funds from prior year(s) into strategies planned for 2018-19.

All AEBG funds from present and prior years are used to fund DRC adult education programs. If a member is unable to use all their funding, the DRC will meet to determine additional needs and to determine how to expend said funds to address any pending needs. MOUs are created between members after a unanimous vote for the expenditure of unused funds.

Certification

Coachella Valley Unified School District, Member Representative

Jereme Weischedel

Approved

2018-07-10

Desert CCD, Member Representative

Dean Papas

Approved

2018-07-10

Desert Sands Unified School District, Member Representative

Larry Bellanich

Approved

2018-07-12

Palm Springs Unified School District, Member Representative

**Steve Pinning
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Approved

2018-07-10

Riverside County Office of Education, Member Representative

Art Kimball

Approved

2018-07-13



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