

St. Louis WizKids Seeks New Evaluator

We are seeking a new evaluator for our project, St. Louis WizKids. St. Louis WizKids is funded in part by the U.S. Department of Commerce Technology Opportunity Program. We are a national model program for application of technology to compelling social problems.

St. Louis WizKids is a literacy project focused on home-based and group-based learning using broadband, wireless networking. We are located in St. Louis, Missouri. We seek a program evaluator, an individual or a firm, to work under contract. The general criteria we require are outlined below. Please submit a letter of interest describing your experience by October 15, 2004 to Sue Beckwith, Project Manager (sue@beckwith.com). More information about our project can be found at the following links:

<http://stlwizkids.typepad.com/>
<http://stlwizkids.typepad.com/about.html>
<http://stlwizkids.typepad.com/eval/>

St. Louis WizKids is a 3-year project which will end on September 30, 2006. The final evaluation report must be submitted to the Project Manager by August 28, 2006. We anticipate that the evaluator will begin work on or about November 1, 2004.

Primary responsibilities of the St. Louis WizKids evaluator:

1. Prepare complete evaluation of the project as outlined in the original proposal which can be found at the following URL:
http://stlwizkids.typepad.com/eval/Project_Narrative_rev_by_AB_12Sept.pdf (in PDF format 211.4K)
2. Follow the logic model as recommended by our funder, Us. Department of Commerce, Technology Opportunities program:
<http://www.ntia.doc.gov/top/research/CNS.pdf>
3. Communicate with project participants, staff and other stakeholders on a regular basis, including site visits, for a high quality, ongoing evaluation.
4. Develop tools for re-use of the St. Louis WizKids evaluation model. Work with a computer programmer to implement an online mechanism for other community technology projects to utilize the core instruments of our evaluation. Work with St. Louis WizKids' previous evaluator as needed to understand the requirements and intended uses of the online toolkit.
5. Develop an overall work plan for the project and provide detailed work plans on a quarterly basis which include a description of each deliverable to be completed in the upcoming quarter.

We are seeking an evaluator with experience in some or all of the following areas:

1. Participatory design methods and techniques.
2. Youth-oriented projects in distressed urban neighborhoods.
3. Projects involving African-American youth ages 8-16.
4. Literacy programs, particularly those in non-classroom settings.
5. Technology-based projects.
6. Federal grant funded projects.

We'll be happy to answer any questions. Email us at sue@beckwith.com or call 314.231.1147 x14.