



SFY 2025 Sanneh Foundation

Final Report

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Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development
Employment and Training Programs Division

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Introduction

The Sanneh Foundation funding supports workforce development services and activities for youth. The target student demographic includes individuals aged 14-24. Services focus on 21st Century Skills training workshops for youth. This was a onetime appropriation and was available until June 30, 2025.

Funds for this project are appropriated in [Minnesota Session Laws – 2023, Chapter 53, S.F. 3035, Article 20, Section 2, Subdivision 3\(mm\)](#). The amount available to the Sanneh Foundation for SFY 2025 is \$714,000.00 (Minnesota Department of Employment & Economic Development is permitted to retain up to 5% of the \$750,000.00 appropriation for administration and monitoring of the grant).

Summary of Goals and Objectives Presented in the Work Plan

The funding supports The Sanneh Foundation’s workforce development services and activities which are designed to:

1. Complete training workshops around 21st Century Skills with young adults ages 14-24 in order to increase awareness of career opportunities in the Metro area, gain a deeper understanding of their personal and professional identity, improve their self-confidence and readiness for a competitive workforce opportunity , understand the importance of professionalism and/or essential skills and how to effectively interact in a work environment, and become aware of and demonstrate skills and strategies towards their personal and professional goals.
2. Provide Industry training and employment in specific areas for participants to acquire useful career knowledge and skills, preparing them for the workforce.
3. Implement social/emotional education and coaching for participants to understand the importance of Social Emotional Learning in a leadership role and/or essential skills and how to effectively interact in a work environment and build lasting relationships with life coach/Human Development Coach.

Partnerships

Type of Organization	Name and Address of Organization	Type of Commitment	Contact Person (including email address and/or phone number)
Health Organization	M Health Fairview 45 W. 10th Street Saint Paul, MN 55102	Staff/Space/Funding	Katie Herrick (715) 501-8203 katie.herrick@fairview.org
Non Profit Organization	MI CASA 1053 Jefferson St. S. Shakopee. MN 55379	Staff/ Space	(952) 245 0697 info@micasamn.org
Non Profit Organization	World Youth Connect 211 7th Street E. Apt. 517, Saint Paul, MN 55101	Staff	DeJohn Brooks (763) 306-1058 d.brooks@worldyouthconnect.org
Non Profit Organization	MN Chill Tech PO Box 431133 Brooklyn Park, MN 55443	Paid training, curriculum development	Cindy Hill cindy.hill@comcast.net (763) 424-2824
Government Organization	Right Track 1022 Marion Street Saint Paul, MN 55117	Staff	Xue Xiong Xue.Xiong@ci.stpaul.mn.us (651) 266-6392

Participant Data

Participants Served: Individual Services (cumulative)

	Project to Date: 7/1/2024 –9/30/2025
Total Participants Served	229
(1) Gender	
(1) Male	123
(2) Female	106
(3) Gender Non-Confirming	1
(4) Prefer Not to Answer	5
(2) Age	
(1) Under 14	0
(2) 14-15	62
(3) 16-17	71
(4) 18-19	30
(5) 20-21	21
(6) 22-24	41
(3) Race/Ethnicity	
(1) Hispanic/Latino	23
(2) American Indian or Alaska Native	0
(3) Asian/Pacific Islander	58
(4) Black, African American, or African	93
(5) White	30
(6) Multi-Race or Other	25
(4) Education at Enrollment	
(1) 8 th grade and under	0
(2) 9 th Grade-12 th Grade	152
(3) High School graduate or equivalent	NA
(4) Post-Secondary Education	NA
(5) At-Risk Characteristics	
(1) Limited English proficient	0
(2) Participants who receive Public Assistance	NA
(3) Low-income	NA
(4) Participants who report a disability	8
(5) High school drop-out – all participants included	NA
(6) Participants who are justice involved	NA
(7) Pregnant or parenting youth	NA
(8) Person from 1 st Generation Immigrant family	NA
(9) Participants showing as Homeless Participant/Runaway	NA
(10) Not employed at program enrollment – all participants included	NA
(11) Veteran – all participants included	NA

Program Services, Activities, and Other Related Assistance

	Number
1. Received Education or Job Training Activities	203
2. Received Work Experience Activities	203
3. Received Community Involvement and Leadership Development Activities	203
4. Received Post-Secondary Exploration, Career Guidance and Planning Activities	220
5. Received Mentoring Activities	103
6. Received Case Management, Guidance, Counseling Services	103
7. Received Support Services	111
8. Received Follow Up Services	101

Outcome Data

Indicators of Performance	Number
1. Attained work readiness or education goals	193
2. Completed program objective	138
3. Obtained high school diploma or GED	42
4. Obtained unsubsidized employment	129
5. Job/Internship placement at Sanneh and/or our committed partnerships.	262
6. Increase awareness of career opportunities in the Metro area.	230
7. Gain a deeper understanding of their personal and professional identity, improving their self-confidence and readiness for a competitive workforce opportunity.	230
8. Understand the importance of professionalism and/or essential skills and how to effectively interact in a work environment.	230
9. Acquire useful career knowledge and skills, preparing them for the workforce.	230

Expenditure Data

Expenditures from June 1, 2024 through September 30, 2025 for grant 5SF6300:

SFY 2025 Budget Category	SFY 2025 Budget	SFY 2025 Expenditures through September 2025
Administration	\$65,000.00	\$46,832.00
Direct Services/Project Staff	\$123,500.00	\$91,129.00
Contracted Services	\$36,000.00	\$29,750.00
Participant Wages and Fringe	\$440,000.00	\$389,692.00
Support Services	\$48,000.00	\$20,923.00
TOTAL	\$712,500.00	\$578,326.00

Story of Impact

K.A.'s fascination with technology began in his early childhood, disassembling old computers and gaming consoles to understand their inner workings. Growing up in an underserved community, he saw firsthand the digital divide and how it limited opportunities for many, including his friends and family. This experience ignited a passion in him: to not only master technology but also to bridge that gap and empower others with digital literacy. When K.A. learned about the ChillTech program, he was immediately drawn to its comprehensive curriculum, including Computing History, IT Roles and Responsibilities, Software Development Fundamentals, Artificial Intelligence, Project Management, Software Development Life Cycle, Digital Presence & Social Media, Cybersecurity, Risk Management, Network Design and Architecture, and Hardware and Software aligned perfectly with his goals. He saw it as an opportunity to gain a holistic understanding of the IT landscape, from its historical roots to its cutting-edge advancements.

K.A. stated that the ChillTech Program gave him more than just technical skills; it also offered a supportive and collaborative learning environment and brought in mentors and guest speakers to connect the program lessons to their real-world scenarios. K.A. noted that ChillTech's session on *Digital Presence & Social Media* gave him with the tools to create an online platform to showcase his projects to others and the *Cybersecurity and Risk Management* session inspired him to consider solutions to the digital vulnerabilities faced by his community.

Today, K.A. is taking a Recampus course for cybersecurity as a student at Code Academy. He credits ChillTech with giving him foundational understanding, curiosity, and mentors to achieve his goals. He is not only hoping to just build a successful career, but also to build a successful lifestyle.

New Grant Funds

Currently, state grant funds for the SFY 2025 been 81% expended and are expected to be fully expended by the grant end date. New direct appropriation state funds of \$950,000 have been granted to the Sanneh Foundation for the SFY26-27 biennium.