August 1, 2017

Dear Friends and Supporters,

Project QUEST was founded twenty-five years ago, based on a common vision held by Communities Organized for Public Service (COPS), Metro Alliance, business leaders, the City of San Antonio, Bexar County, and the State of Texas. We are proud that this past year was the best ever! QUEST had the highest number of participants, 1,066 in total, and placed 295 in jobs. Due to its success, QUEST has been emulated in five other cities in Texas and in four other states, including, Louisiana, Arizona, Iowa, and Illinois. Groups from London, England, Southern California, and Mississippi have also met with us recently to learn more about our model.

QUEST initiated three major strategies in 2016:
• In 2015-2016, Project QUEST and USAA teamed up to provide financial support and training expenses, for discharged veterans and their spouses to receive education in basic technical skills and USAA’s IT process. The program, VetFIT provided 49 graduates with high paying careers such as, Java developers, comprehensive software development training, and internships in the involved field.

• QUEST became a line item in the City of San Antonio’s budget in 2016-2017. This means that QUEST will be funded through the City of San Antonio at an annual rate, as it has become a part of the overall budget.

• QUEST partnered with Open Cloud Academy and Coley & Associates to provide a 16-week boot-camp style Cyber Security Training. The program provides an entry level cyber security specialists with the basic knowledge, certifications and hands-on exposure to support San Antonio area commercial and defense cyber security employment requirements. 87% of the students who started the program and are currently employed or interning with one of our employer partners.

During Project QUEST’s 25th Anniversary, we look forward to working with you to continue to strengthen San Antonio’s economy and would like to thank you once again for your continued commitment.

Best regards,

From the Board Chair and Executive Director

Don A. Beeler
Chairman, QUEST Board

David J. Zammillo
Executive Director
At A Glance

**WHAT WE DO**

- Identify demand driven occupations
- Recruit adults with a GED or High School Diploma
- Partner with local colleges and training providers to provide job-ready, high skilled education and training
- Provide specialized case management, career coaching, and financial support services to enable successful graduation & job placement

**PARTICIPANT DEMOGRAPHICS**

- 23% Single Parents
- 41% Under 27 years of age
- 12% African American
- 60% Hispanic
- 70% Women
- 25% Receive Public Assistance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Pre-QUEST</th>
<th>Post-QUEST</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class of 2010-2011</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
<td>$39,300</td>
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<tr>
<td>Class of 2011-2012</td>
<td>$10,816</td>
<td>$39,454</td>
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<td>Class of 2012-2013</td>
<td>$8,498</td>
<td>$37,477</td>
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<td>Class of 2013-2014</td>
<td>$9,140</td>
<td>$42,003</td>
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<tr>
<td>Class of 2014-2015</td>
<td>$9,365</td>
<td>$42,097</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class of 2015-2016</td>
<td>$11,000</td>
<td>$42,020</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**2016 CAREER TRACKS**

- Trades / Other: 4%
- Allied Health: 16%
- Licensed Vocational Nurses: 17%
- Information Technology: 23%
- Registered Nurses: 40%
- Total: 100%

**PROGRAM OUTCOMES**

_FY'16: 282% annual earnings increase from $11,000 pre-QUEST to $42,020 post-QUEST._

- 90% completion rate
- 80% placement rate
- 90% job retention after six months

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Project QUEST, Inc. is funded in part by the City of San Antonio, Bexar County, the State of Texas and the Department of Labor.
In 2016, QUEST served 1,066 under-employed or unemployed adults with skills training, and placed 295 of them in 27 demand occupations ranging from Healthcare to Information Technology and professional trades. The average wage per hour for a QUEST graduate in 2016 was $21.70/hour.

**Financials**

Excerpts from the financial and independent auditors’ report prepared by ABIP for year ending September 30, 2016 are below. This report includes Skills QUEST Dallas.
Aaron Lawson, USAA
I have spent the majority of my time on active duty serving this great country. When I left active duty and joined the reserves, I moved to Texas seeking new opportunities and stability for my family as a mid-level leader in the oil industry. When I found out that two of my soldiers from my previous unit were going to be deployed to Afghanistan, I too felt like there was more that I needed to do for my country before I could settle. Thirteen months later, I returned home to the same job. A friend came over and showed me an email for veterans that USAA was training. I quickly signed up and hoped I would get a call. I found it amazing that Project QUEST, partnered with USAA, was able to assist in funding a program to get Vets on technical career paths with minimal prior experience. I was struggling to stay afloat and my family relationships were deteriorating over time because of the stress. QUEST helped me with tuition and supportive services assistance which gave me just enough room to get back on my feet. Now I am comfortable, my family is healthy both financially and emotionally, and I have a fantastic career with USAA that allows me to fulfill my aspirations; to do well for the world.

Ruben Aplolinar, WP
I found myself in constant confrontation as to which direction I wanted my life to head. After high school graduation, I had no direction, leading me to take two years off to join the workforce. Suddenly I came to the realization that if I wanted to go somewhere in life, I needed a proper education. Although I had a deeply seeded passion for computers, I returned to school for Business Administration, but this quickly left me in a heap of debt. I was working multiple jobs just to get by. It honestly was the lowest point in my life. That’s when I discovered the Rackspace Open Cloud Academy. Upon my discovery, I was referred to Project QUEST by my mother who strongly recommended I look into this opportunity. I became aware that financial support was available to attend, and I worked harder than I have ever worked in my life. In the end, I achieved a CompTIA Network+ and Cisco CCNA certificate. I can honestly say going back to school was the best decision I have ever made. Thanks to Project QUEST, I was able to achieve my career goals. Today, I am working for an award-winning company with a great work environment. This experience has taught me great lessons but there is still so much to learn. I am ready for the next step in my future.
Our Mission:
To strengthen the economy with highly qualified employees for in-demand, living wage careers.
Our Donors

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