

- [Home](#)
- [About Us](#)
- [Consulting Services](#)
- [Toolkits & Snapshots](#)
- [EmpowerNet Blog](#)
- [Get Connected!](#)
- [Contact Us](#)

[CD Tech](#) | 
 [City of Firebaugh](#) | 
 [Goodwill](#) | 
 [MLVS](#) | 
 [OCCUR](#) | 
 [The Stride Center](#)



#### Related Toolkits

- [College/Community Partnership to strengthen ICT workforce](#)
- [Community Broadband Access](#)
- [Community Partnerships to Strengthen IT Workforce](#)
- [Community Technology Center](#)
- [Computer Re-use Social Venture](#)
- [IT Labor Market Studies](#)
- [Job Support](#)



#### Organization Mission

Build livable, economically viable neighborhoods in historically neglected communities throughout Los Angeles, where 20% or more of households have annual incomes at or below the poverty level. Develop programs to strengthen the social, economic and built environments of low-income neighborhoods by focusing on community strengths and strategic partnerships.

#### Community Served

##### Economics/Demographics/Size

- Serving over 2,500 low-income L.A. County youth and residents, primarily in Central/South LA.
- Priority service area, Vernon-Central in South L.A., surrounds Los Angeles Trade-Technical College (LATT); the area is roughly 18 square miles with a population of 280,000.
- 85% Latino, 13% African-American, low-to-moderate income individuals and families.
- Concentrated application of programs and resources through a comprehensive community initiative in the Vernon-Central community in South Los Angeles.

#### Challenges

##### Resident Needs

Over 100,000 residents, largely foreign born; 40% under 18; 40% below poverty level; 13% unemployed. Low education levels, over 1/3 not high school graduates, 50% not fluent in English; local high schools are the lowest performing in the state. Residency documentation is a major barrier to employment for many. Requires bilingual or Spanish language classes and training, and student-centered instruction to meet student needs.

##### Resources & Space

Eminent domain condemnation of CD Tech's original facility delayed the community technology center (CTC) by two years. Maintaining consistent programming requires creativity in matching to funder priorities, as they shift over time. Hiring effective staff that are tech savvy and community-oriented is difficult.

##### Partnerships

The community college system is a critical community change agent in educationally underserved communities, and California budget cutbacks impact thousands in our priority communities. Our strategic education partner, Los Angeles Trade-Technical College has implemented severe cutbacks as a result of the budget crisis. CD Tech must raise funds to cover 100% of off-campus instruction – the core of our community economic development strategy – and pays 50% of approved on-campus classes. Concurrent enrollment with middle school and high school partners is under review.

#### Sources of Funding for technology workforce programs

##### Contributed

Corporations, Foundations (local government, federal)

##### Earned Income

Consulting, Program fees

#### Accomplishments (Snapshots)

- [Open Access Computer Center](#)
- [Job Readiness Workshops](#)
- [Community College Satellite Center](#)
- [Youth Multimedia Lab](#)
- [High School Tech Corps](#)
- [Tech-Up Strategic Plan](#)
- [Labor Market Studies](#)
- [Business Technology & Careers Program \(BTAC\)](#)
- [Youth Technology Training Project \(Y2T\)](#)
- [MetroEdge/LA Community Access Project](#)
- [School-Based Technology Learning Program: 6th Grade Intercession](#)
- [School-Based Technology Learning Program: Saturday Tech Classes](#)
- [Computer Refurbishing & Training](#)
- [High Speed Internet for Local Households](#)
- [Cabling/Fiber Optics Training](#)