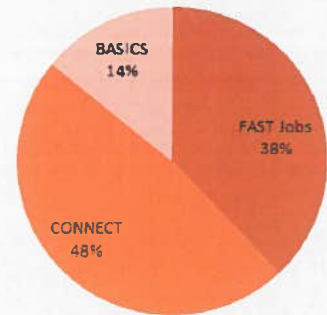


Snap Shot of End of Year Results

179 Students took part in a total of 590 Learner-Centered Classes

79% of FAST Jobs Students Created Resumes
 26% of FAST Jobs Students Created Email Accounts
 59% of FAST Jobs Students Gained Employment

Of the FAST Jobs Students who Gained Employment
 33% Created Email Accounts
 82% Created Resumes



Trends in Digital Literacy Training

Basics Skills Training with Online Games:

New research suggests that computer game training might be therapeutically useful for patients with mental disorders such as schizophrenia and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). Studies propose that computer game training causes positive structural brain changes in regions responsible for spatial orientation, memory formation, strategic planning, and fine motor skills.

According to The Ending Community Homelessness Coalition (ECHO), 2,445 Severely Mentally Ill individuals and 946 Veterans have used homeless resources in Austin Texas thus far this year. The GTOP 2014 Program catered to these sub-populations by not only providing them access to various online benefits but also through offering basic computer skills training.

During the first quarter it was observed that several students with histories of severe mental illness and PTSD opted to participate in basic computer skills training. Students relished in regular typing, mouse and memory game training sessions. One student explained that **practicing his typing speed and accuracy using online games gave him "something to focus his mind on" it gave him "a quiet place away from everything" and that he liked being able to slowly see improvements in his skills.**

Facebook Provides Productive Interventions:

Current research suggests that Facebook and other social media services *"provide the opportunity for productive interventions in homeless individuals' lives. Social support networks result in a better life and health for people experiencing homelessness."* (M. Yost 2012) Student outcomes during the GTOP 2014 program reflect this research. Post program inquiry into this particular cohort revealed that **76% of students who participated in Facebook classes transitioned out of temporary emergency housing and 100% established connections and communication with a stable support network.**

Food Handlers Certification - A Key to Employment:

With Accommodation and Food Services being the third most common industry in Austin, The Getting It Done 2014 Program catered to this by opting to provide vouchers for students to gain their Food Handlers Certification – as it is a requirement that all food service employees hold a current Food Handlers Certification Card, that is registered with the City of Austin.

During the GTOP 2013 Program it was observed that students were not only unable to source the funds needed in order to purchase the Food Handlers training, but they also lacked the digital readiness that is required for them to complete the online tasks involved when purchasing and participating in the training. **This year, of the students who received Food Handlers Certification vouchers and training, 86% remain currently employed – of the cohort 67% of students had gained employment within 10 days of completing the training.**