

CENTRAL LOUISIANA INSTRUCTIONAL PARTNERSHIP (CLIP)

PR Award #: U336S180007

Organization Name: The Orchard Foundation

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Project Model: Residency Model

Competitive Preference Priorities: (1) *Promoting STEM Education, With a Focus on Computer Science, and (2) Promoting Effective Instruction in Classrooms and Schools*

Requested Total Award Amount: 4,482,635.00

Project Description: The goal of the Central Louisiana Instructional Partnership (CLIP) is to improve student achievement in nine rural, high-need LEAs and up to 70 schools in Central Louisiana (Cenla) by preparing highly qualified teachers to teach within LEA-identified critical shortage areas in middle school science/math. Each resident will complete a graduate program concurrent to a year-long school-based residency, co-teaching under the guidance of a trained mentor in high-need middle school grades. CLIPRs will earn a Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) degree from Northwestern State University and a professional teaching license. This will fill critical teacher shortages and provide teacher mentoring, mentor/coach training, and two years of post-certification induction and support which will increase the likelihood that CLIP Graduates are retained in high-need schools for at least three years.

Project Expected Outcomes: Over five years, CLIP will recruit, retain, and support 44 new highly-qualified science/math teachers in high-need schools. Additionally, 44 teachers will be trained as mentors for the field-based residency, and another 44 will learn coaching techniques to implement a regional induction program. CLIPRs will complete online graduate coursework through Northwestern State University, thus maximizing residency time in rural, high-need classrooms and will receive face-to-face mentoring by university faculty and stipend, onsite mentors. Through NSU's Computer Information Systems Department, residents and mentors will receive hands-on and inquiry-based professional development in STEM topics.

Project Special Features: CLIP graduates gain content knowledge to implement STEM lessons using the latest technology in their classrooms. This unique feature of CLIP will address the demand for STEM teachers cited by the 100Kin10 initiative. Furthermore, The Orchard Foundation's experience with the Central Louisiana Academic Residency for Teachers (CART), a 2009 Louisiana State University TQP-funded project that aimed to recruit and prepare high school teachers to teach Advanced Placement and Dual Enrollment mathematics and science courses in rural schools, is also brought to bear in this project.

Project Partners: Nine high-need LEAs: Allen, Avoyelles, Catahoula, Grant, LaSalle, Natchitoches, Rapides, Vernon, and Winn with 70 high-need schools; Northwestern State University of Louisiana (NSU); NSU Gallaspy College of Education & Human Development; NSU College of Business & Technology – Computer Information Systems. Optional Partners: The Orchard Foundation, The Rapides Foundation; Urban Learning & Leadership Center, Inc.; and EvalWorks.