

Entry level wages for an A+ certified position starts at \$28,400.

Reboot El Paso is expected to deliver a **\$2 million return on investment** into the local community!



9 STUDENTS

Enrolled

Completed nine-week program

Obtained GED

In the fall of 2017, Workforce Solutions Borderplex obtained a \$241,000 grant from the Texas Workforce Commission. The grant allowed WSB to develop a robust technology training program with industry recognized certifications for disconnected youth to transcend their economic and educational barriers and go in to entry level positions in high-demand IT fields that are emerging in the El Paso region.

Workforce Solutions Borderplex recognizes that there are many opportunities for increasing wages, educational attainment, and employment in the region's sectors of Computer Science/Information Technology (IT).

WSB collaborated with Pride Ascend and CompTIA in developing the training program which included instruction, books, test preparation and exams for two (2) IT related certifications: IT Fundamentals, and A+. In addition to the IT training, WSB collaborated with the Far West Consortium for GED instruction.

The training program focuses on the training and placement of thirty (60) youth. The program was purposely structured into four cohorts of 15 students over a period of nine weeks each course.

Students are well prepared to enter the IT field as Help Desk Field Technicians and IT support staff that will benefit existing employers and attract future businesses with a pipeline of talented professionals ready to be placed into the local job market.

Young men and women are provided a work-based learning activity with an employer that will provide both the youth and the employer an opportunity to get to know each other and to provide company specific training. The assignments are intended to result in a permanent work opportunity with the employer.

The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics predicts there will be 1.4 million more software development jobs than applicants who can fill them by 2020. Research indicates the wages for occupations with these certifications are highly competitive.

CompTIA is an internationally recognized certification agency endorsed by Cisco, Microsoft, and other leading technology companies and CompTIA certifications are highly sought-after credentials of IT professionals.

