

SPECIAL  
POINTS OF  
INTEREST:

\*WI-FI\*

\*JOB HELP\*

\*FREE\*  
INTERNET

\*CHICAGO\*  
LIBRARIES

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# Technology

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## Workforce Centers

Chicago has 5 workforce centers and about 28 community-based centers. The centers main purpose is to help job seekers find jobs throughout Chicago free of charge.

One of the southeast community-based centers, located on 2938 E. 91 St., offers many services including: help obtaining government benefits, funding for school or job training, and repairing credit.

This center also offers one-on-one counseling where individuals can get help with resume writing , job searches, and interviews.

The center has 2 resource rooms, with 30 computers in

each room. Also each resource room has a copy and fax machine available for use.

Orientations are held



weekly during the summer, but afterwards they will be held the 2nd Thursday of

every month, to inform individuals about the program and to fill out the entrance applications.

The work center located on 91st St. has a 90% success rate in job placement, and a rank of 3rd out of the 28 workforce centers. They are also affiliated with many other organizations that specialized in job placement for teens and individuals with criminal backgrounds.

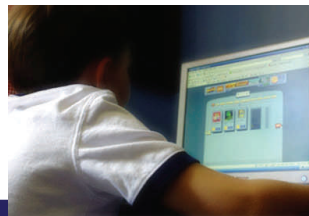


## Technology in Chicago's Libraries

Chicago Public Libraries have invested in Wi-Fi internet for all of its branches. The Wi-Fi internet is free to all library visitors, and all you need is a wireless enabled laptop computer.

Wireless internet provide

users with the opportunity to search the web longer; and it also saves time because users no longer have to wait in line to use the internet if they have their own laptop.



The one drawback to the Wi-Fi internet is that the network is not secure, which means the library cannot guarantee safety of information across the wireless network. It is a "use at your own risk" kind of thing.

# Where is the Wi-Fi in the Community?

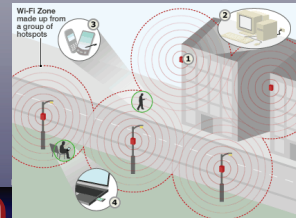


No Wi-Fi

Where is the Wi-Fi in the communities? Well, it has been said that Auburn Gresham, Englewood, and Chicago Lawn are the communities that is least likely to have Wi-Fi, because they are low income communities. However, when the communities spoke up and said "We want to plant a seed in bidders' minds," expressing that they wanted more technology. To do so the CCWN came together

and joined the Chicago Digital Access Alliance to create a wireless system in which a network of communities, institutions, and businesses would be served by the neighborhood's network. Some communities would also get help from Microsoft, which has agreed to donate \$1.1 million dollars worth of software to non-profit organizations in the Auburn Gresham, Englewood and Chicago Lawn

Neighborhoods. However, two years ago the rising cost, declining demand, and increased competition from private internet providers killed Mayor Daley's plan to build a wireless inter-access system attached to the street lights and lamp poles. At this moment, there is no Wi-Fi internet.



"To catch the reader's attention, place an

## Free Wi-Fi Hotspots

### Auburn-Gresham

- McDonald's**  
8321 S. Ashland  
(773)779-2888
- Perfect Peace Café**  
1255 W. 79th Street  
(773)-224-CAFÉ (2233)
- Thurgood Marshall Library**  
7506 S. Racine  
(312)747-5927
- Brainerd Library**  
1350 W. 89<sup>TH</sup> St.  
(312)747-6291

### Englewood

- West Englewood Library**  
1745 W. 63<sup>RD</sup> St.  
(312)747-3481

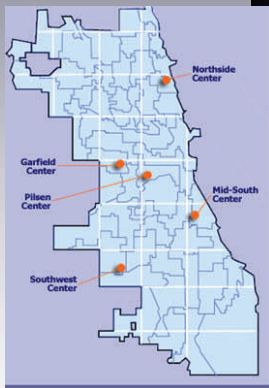
### Chicago Lawn

- Chicago Lawn Branch**  
61<sup>st</sup> Kedzie  
(312)747-0639



## Where Did the Workforce Centers Go?

Map of the 5 Main Workforce Centers Throughout Chicago



The Chicago Workforce Centers were designed to assist job seekers in obtaining work, school or job training. There are 5 main workforce centers and 28 community-based centers throughout Chicago, but none in the Auburn Gresham, Engle-

wood, or Chicago Lawn area, which are just located around the three communities.

However, these 3 communities have the lowest unemployment rates. In addition, these communities have the least Wi-Fi locations, with the fewest computers in their

libraries.

With unemployment rates at a all time high, few library resources, no workforce centers in the area, and very few Wi-Fi locations, how are individuals suppose to obtain jobs with no access to technology?

# Are Chicago Libraries Sufficient Enough for the Communities They Serve?



The Englewood community consist of 44,000 residents, and it has one library for the entire community to use., the West Englewood Library.

At this particular library there are 6 adult internet

West Englewood Library computers and 5 children internet computers, and each age group has a 15 minute express computer and a database computer used to search the library's available resources. There is also a one hour time limit on each computer, and the computers can only be reserved up to 2 times a day with a valid library card.

However, the library's computers only provide access to

the internet, so if individuals need to use programs such as Microsoft Word they must visit the regional libraries which are: Woodson or Sulzer or visit the main library which is Harold Washington Library.

With a total of 13 internet computers available to serve a 44,000 population, and without word processing programs in the area, how are students suppose to do homework? How are adults suppose to create resumes?



## Free Internet Access for Englewood Residents

In an attempt to make the Englewood community more embedded with technology, several organizations, Congressman Bobby L. Rush, and AT&T have teamed up to provide free DSL internet to residents. Englewood residents who are AT&T customers and

have their own computer will be able to receive 2 years of free DSL internet.

Additional questions call One Economy at (312) 987- 9140



“ 2 years of free DSL internet”

## Southwest Career Center



Southwest Career Center is another Chicago Workforce Center, located on 7500 S. Pulaski. It is the closest workforce center for the Chicago Lawn area.

This particular career center has a career resource room which in-

cludes: free internet, a copy machine, a fax machine, telephones, and a room where employers can interview job seekers.

Southwest Career Center also provides youth services in which they help youth find job openings, obtain work permits, prepare for interviews, and attend resume workshops. The center also helps

the youth find summer opportunities including internships, community service, and other summer opportunities.

Southwest Career Center is not only for the youth, but they also provide services to dislocated, unemployed individuals, and business recruiters, who are seeking individuals to be apart of their team.



# Meet the Authors

## Denise Buie



**About Me:**  
**My name is Denise Buie, and I am twenty years old. I attended Gwendolyn Brooks College Preparatory for high school, and now I am currently attending Xavier University of**

**Louisiana, majoring in Biology/Pre-Med with a minor in Chemistry. I love to dance, listen to music, hang out with my friends, watch television, and go shopping. You will catch me most of the time either smiling or laughing. My favorite sports include cheerleading and track & field. I am goal-oriented, friendly, nice, and I have a super cool personality.**



## Steven Cooley

**About me:**  
**I'm standing next to Jay  
 Who standing next to B  
 Could've been anywhere in the world  
 But you're here with Steve  
 That's good for my ego  
 Ha ha, Steve and his ego.**

**Lol, let me stop playing. Hi, you all doing as you might know my names is Steven Cooley, pretty cool guy. Love life; who don't.**

**Hobbies: Well, my hobbies are playing basket ball, sleeping, working, listening to music. "Getting that money" Lol :) I love having fun and making people laugh. Hate staying in the house; I must be outside. Love being busy; makes me feel important.**

**Schools: Grammar School: Scott Joplin, High Schools: C.V.S, Morgan Park, Simeon, Hirsch Metro. College: DePaul, going for technology really looking forward to going to college. Wish me luck. It's had been a pleasure. Thank You.**



# Why is Technology Important to the Communities?

Technology is important for communities because it provide the internet, ways of communication, and forms of entertainment. Also, technology allows things to be done faster, with less effort, and quicker results.

In addition, technology is a part of children's daily lives. Many homes have computers and internet connections, and as the prices of technology drops, computers and other digital devices may replace television as we know it. Technology can even keep kids out of the streets because it provides a window in which one can escape. For example, many children play video games, and this allows them to enter a different atmosphere in which they



Youth helping elder with today's technology

can be someone else in a virtual world instead of the streets.

Many communities also need technology in them because many people need jobs, and some jobs prefer individuals to apply online. So how can that be done without internet or some sort of technology? One ex-

ample, an individual that needs to find work can go to a place with Wi-Fi, a workforce center, or the library.

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