**Public Outreach**

## **8.16 Project Build – Miami-Dade Branch**

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| **1. Section, Branch** | Miami-Dade Branch |  |
| **2. Section/Branch Size** |  |  |
| **3. Project Contact** |  | |
| Name | LaKeeVia Jackson | |
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| **4. Project Category** | Public Outreach | |
| **5. Project Description** | The Space Science Institute’s (SSI) National Center for Interactive Learning (NCIL), in partnership with the University of Virginia (UVA) and the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE), was awarded a grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF) to develop and implement a 3-year program, called Project BUILD (Building Using an Interactive Learning Design). The overarching aim of Project BUILD is to better understand how youth’s learning preferences or dispositions relate to their STEM learning experiences. It also seeks to build community members’ capacity through Community Dialogues to inspire and educate youth about STEM careers. The project will advance efforts of the Innovative Technology Experiences for Students and Teachers (ITEST) program at NSF. The primary ITEST goal is to better understand and promote practices that increase students’ motivations and capacities to pursue careers in fields of science, technology, engineering, or mathematics (STEM). The project team engages youth (grades 2-5), their families, librarians, and professional engineers in an informal learning environment with age-appropriate, technology-rich STEM learning experiences fundamental to the Engineering Design Process. | |
| **6. The Process**  (What you did, When and How) | Project BUILD (Building Using an Interactive Learning Design) collaboration with the African-American Research Library and Cultural Center (AARLCC) as 1 of two pilot teams launched in the first year of the program. Provided engineering expertise via volunteers during 4 Ready-Set-Create programs, 1 community dialogue, and at the Project BUILD Workshop. The programs took place on September 9th, October 14th, November 11th, and December 9th of 2017. The community dialogue took place summer 2017. The Project BUILD workshop occurred April 13-14, 2018. | |
| **7. Those in Charge** (Committee, Task Committee, Etc.) | President and Outreach Committee | |
| **8. Time Frame**  (When Started, When Completed) | Planning was led by the Space Science Institute’s (SSI) National Center for Interactive Learning (NCIL) and the African-American Research Library and Cultural Center (AARLCC) in collaboration with the Branch. The Ready-Set-Create programs are scheduled from 1-4 pm. The community dialogues are about 3 hours long. | |
| **9. Success Factors**  (The Parts that Worked Really Well) | Seeing the improvement in teamwork skills and family participation throughout the series. The Ready-Set-Create programs engaged students in a way that aided them in understanding the engineering design process. | |
| **10. Setback Factors**  (The Parts that did Not Work Well) | Volunteer readiness to facilitate the hands-on activities and material preparation. | |
| **11. Creativity**  (This is something off the wall that we did) | We partnered up with ASCE Student Chapter- FIU and allowed them to lead the Ready-Set-Create programs facilitation with our support in order to develop their leadership and presentation skills. | |
| **12. Administration**  (What was most Important?) | Open lines of communication between the Branch, AARLCC, ASCE HQ, and The Space Science Institute’s (SSI) National Center for Interactive Learning (NCIL) as this was the pilot year for the program. | |
| **13. Follow-Up**  (What was most important?) | Debrief after every event with all stakeholders (ASCE HQ, Branch Board of Directors, Volunteers, and AARLCC the lessons learned. | |
| **14. Recommendations**  (What you should ALWAYS do with this project?) | Plan ahead, setup committee, participate in the webinars and event selections, agenda/script and plenty of volunteers. | |
| **15. Cautions**  (What you should NEVER do with this project?) | Have poor communication or stop coordination with the library. | |
| **16. The Outcome** | The event was successfully collaborated with The Space Science Institute’s (SSI) National Center for Interactive Learning (NCIL), ASCE Society and the African-American Research Library. | |
| **17. Ongoing Activity**  (Would you do it again?) | Yes, we have already began planning for Fall 2018 and Fall 2019 as this program is currently funded by the National Science Foundation through 2019. | |
| **18. Speaker Contact Information**  (person from your Region who would be willing to speak about the Best Practice) |  | |
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| **19. Additional Comments** | 2017-2018 Outreach Committee (pictured below). | |





 