

Poor Women Making History within the World of Computers

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Bringing Women into the Mainstream of Technology

It is clear that those who are not computer literate and who lack skills in the electronic technology fields are destined to face unemployment or low wage service jobs. Every field and profession has been impacted by electronic technology. An example that is relevant for our construction graduates (construction training was one of WEAP's earlier programs) is the use of computers to design buildings, produce blueprints and even to operate heavy construction equipment.

Women's Economic Agenda Project (WEAP), with a thirteen year history of fighting for economic justice for low income women is launching a Women and Family Center, designed to provide education and training in the computer and communications technology, to foster development of new small, women and minority owned businesses, and to involve Oakland's grassroots leadership in a program of community revitalization.

Looking for Partners

We have acquired several high powered Power Mac laptop systems. In addition, we are negotiating with Apple and other organizations for assistance in equipping our computer training center to accommodate twenty-four students.

As we enter this arena of economic development and computer technology, we need all of the help and support we can get. We currently need instructors, aides, and tutors skilled in the operation of computer and computer applications to volunteer time to our organization. We invite you all to join our efforts by donating your valuable knowledge and time. If you decide to become part of this venture, you will work with groups or individuals in our computer lab, instructing in basic application procedures, internet navigation, or software programs. We also need volunteers to research available information on the internet. If you like what we're doing and would like to participate, we assure you that your generosity will be greatly appreciated and that your involvement will

directly support low income families in their goal of self-sufficiency and dignity as full participants in building Oakland's future.