



MAY 2009 NEWSLETTER

SUMMER CAMP A MUST FOR LEARNING RETENTION

"Summer learning loss" results in an academic setback for some children that will take weeks, and in some cases months, to remedy in the fall. This problem can be exacerbated in the case where English is not the primary language spoken at home.

To combat that problem, the Glen Ellyn Children's Resource Center will once again offer a summer program – free to children of low income families. The five week program, offered from June 22 through July 24, will be conducted from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Mondays through Fridays. As is the case during the school year, Glen Ellyn Elementary School District #41 will donate space at Lincoln Elementary School, 380 Greenfield Ave., in Glen Ellyn.

"One hundred years of research confirms that all young people are at risk of losing ground academically over the summer months," said Ron Fairchild, Executive Director of the Center for Summer Learning at Johns Hopkins University in Maryland.

According to Dr. Harris Cooper, Professor of Psychology at Duke University and the director of the program in education, test scores were, on average, at least one month lower when students returned to school in the fall than when they left in the spring.

The curriculum will focus on literacy and life skills activities, hands-on science labs, educational field trips, physical fitness activities, and community service opportunities.

Since the connection between good nutrition and learning is undisputed, a morning snack, lunch and beverages will be provided each day. A team of European scientists from Unilever together with colleagues from research institutes in Australia and Indonesia in 2006 demonstrated that nutrition can improve verbal learning and memory in schoolchildren. Other studies had similar results.

Registration is available to a maximum of 65 students between the ages of 6 to 14. To register, call the program director at 630-899-9919.



MAY 29 OPEN HOUSE OFFERS FUN FOR ALL

Children served by the Glen Ellyn Children's Resource Center and their parents, as well as program members and volunteers, are invited to an Open House to celebrate the conclusion of the 2008-9 school year. The event will take place on Friday, May 29, from 6 – 7:30 p.m. at Wheaton Church of the Resurrection, 1825 College Ave., Wheaton.

The event will feature story-telling, short skits and choir performances by the students, as well as presentations of school projects from the academic year. Guests are asked to bring a dish to share for dinner. Registration for the summer camp program will also be available. To reserve a spot, guests should R.S.V.P. with the program director at 630-899-9919.

P.O. Box 354, Glen Ellyn, IL 60138  630-899-9919  www.gecrc.org

The Glen Ellyn Children's Resource Center's mission is to provide literacy and life skills to children living in low-income households in Glen Ellyn, IL

SUMMER VOLUNTEERS

"Ms. Jessica, will volunteers be here this summer at camp?" Luis asked program director Rozga. "I'm sure they will be. Why do you ask?" she replied. "Because I love volunteers."

Volunteers are needed for the Resource Center's summer program which will be held June 22 - July 24. Volunteers are welcome to sign up for half-day or full day shifts. If you're interested, please contact Jessica Rozga at 630-899-9919 or director@gecrc.org for more information!

COD INTERNSHIPS

The Glen Ellyn Children's Resource Center is now a partner with College of DuPage! COD offers internships that will give students the chance to obtain college credits for graduation by working with kids!

Internships include, but are not limited to, those interested in pursuing careers in Teaching Literacy & Life Skills Workshops, Not-for-Profit Management, Events & Planning, and Media. For more details, please contact the Resource Center or log onto <http://www.collegecentral.com/dupage> for more details.

THANKS TO DISTRICT 41

The education team at the Resource Center would like to thank Glen Ellyn Elementary School District #41 for its many contributions during the 2008-9 school year.

In addition to the valuable space donated at Lincoln Elementary School, the Resource Center benefited from the Everyday Math Curriculum, Readers Workshop resources, Teacher Institute Days increasing linkage with the District services; as well support through consistent contact, conferencing and guidance.

CLEO BURTIS JOINS THE BOARD

The newest member of the Glen Ellyn Children's Resource Center board is Cleo Burtis who becomes chairman of faith-based outreach.

Burtis was born in Glen Ellyn and returned with her husband, Jim Comerford, 20 years ago to raise their family. She has been active in the community as a volunteer serving on the boards of the League of Women Voters and the Central DuPage Hospital Auxiliary as well as on numerous committees at the First Congregational Church. In 2001, she co-chaired the Glen Ellyn Elementary School District #41 "Fund Our Future" referendum campaign. For the past seven years she has co-chaired the PADS site at First Congregational Church. Currently, Burtis serves on the grant committee of the DuPage Community Foundation. She is a graduate of Duke University.



The Glen Ellyn Children's Resource Center welcomed new board member, Cleo Burtis (front left), at its April meeting. Other board members include Lisa Tylke (front center), Kasey O'Connell (front right), and (back left to right) Steve Keate, Laura Glaza, Carol McElvain, Jessica Rozga, Jeanna Essick and John Mulherin.

About the Glen Ellyn Children's Resource Center

Welcome to The Glen Ellyn Children's Resource Center! We're a nonprofit organization providing after-school and summer literacy programs for children from low-income families in Glen Ellyn, IL. Tutoring is provided in all academic subjects, with an emphasis on educating students for whom English is a second language. Founded in 2002, the program served more than 100 children in 2008, including more than 50 percent refugees, representing families from 14 different countries in North and South America, Europe, Asia and Africa. The Children's Resource Center is open Monday through Friday from 3 to 6 p.m. at space provided by District 41 at Lincoln Elementary School, 380 Greenfield Ave., Glen Ellyn. The program is made possible by the support of community volunteers and organizations as well as grants. Plus, for just a \$50 annual fee, Children's Resource Center members help provide much needed resources. Donations and member fees are tax deductible. Please visit the website for more details.