



Resource Center

Helping the world's children in our own backyard

SUMMER 2009 NEWSLETTER

JOYCE CAREY NAMED VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

The Board of the Glen Ellyn Children's Resource Center has awarded its first annual volunteer of the year award to long-time supporter and Glen Ellyn resident, Joyce Carey. The award was presented at the organization's Open House for students, their families, volunteers and staff on May 29 at Wheaton Church of the Resurrection in Wheaton.

A retired teacher from the Glen Ellyn Public Schools and past recipient of Illinois' Teacher of the Year Award, Carey has been a Resource Center volunteer for five years. She received a family membership to The Morton Arboretum, and a plaque bearing Carey's name with spaces for each subsequent winner will be hung in a prominent Glen Ellyn location.

The award was presented in honor of long-time Resource Center founder and supporter, Ellen Weissbrodt, who passed away in September 2008.

"Ellen was the force behind the founding of the Resource Center," said the organization's board president, John Mulherin. "She was the one who identified the need -- It wouldn't have happened without her."

"Volunteer of the Year" candidates must be a current and active volunteer for the program, donate a minimum of 100 hours during the school year; and have demonstrated an ability to produce positive changes and set an example for the children.

The Resource Center relies on the support of dozens of volunteers to assist with programming. The organization is currently seeking volunteers for its 200910 after school program. Individuals, families and groups can volunteer for a single day, or develop a recurring schedule. To volunteer, please contact Program Director, Jessica Rozga at 630-899-9919.



Joyce Carey (center, back) celebrates her Volunteer of the Year Award with the students

SUMMER CAMP SUCCESS

More than 70 children enrolled in The Glen Ellyn Children's Resource Center summer program – free to children of low income families. The five week program, offered from June 22 through July 24, is conducted from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Mondays through Fridays at Lincoln Elementary School.

"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 focuses on literacy and life skills activities, hands-on science labs, educational field trips, physical fitness activities, and community service opportunities.

AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM ENROLLMENT BEGINS

The Glen Ellyn Children's Resource Center will begin its 2000-10 school year program on August 26. Programming will be offered Mondays through Fridays from 3:15 – 6 p.m. at space donated by Glen Ellyn Elementary School District #41 at Lincoln Elementary School, 380 Greenfield Ave., in Glen Ellyn.

Tutoring by volunteers and trained educators focuses on literacy and life skills with writing and reading workshops and homework help each day.

Since the connection between good nutrition and learning is undisputed, an afternoon snack will be provided each day.

Registration begins on July 20 and 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.

The Glen Ellyn Children's Resource Center provides tutoring in all academic subjects, with an emphasis on educating students for whom English is a second language. Approximately one-third of the children served were immigrants and another one-third were refugees, representing families from 14 different countries in North and South America, Europe, Asia and Africa.

Refugees are defined as those who flee their homeland and cross an international border because of persecution or a well-founded fear of persecution based on race, religion, nationality, social group or political opinion.

For information about the Glen Ellyn Children's Resource Center, visit www.gecrc.org or call 630-899-9919.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES NEEDED

Does your family have left-over school supplies? Or, would you like to make a donation of new items? As we prepare for the school year ahead, The Glen Ellyn Children's Resource Center relies on contributions of the very generous residents of Glen Ellyn. In particular, program needs include (with bolded items of particular need):

- **gently used backpacks**
- rulers
- binders
- computer paper (8.5 x 11)
- construction paper, notebook paper
- pencils and **pencil sharpeners**
- gently used books of all reading levels
- **tape and CD players**
- **card stock**
- educational games
- **non-perishable healthy snacks**

Donations can be dropped off at Lincoln Elementary School or arranged for pick up by calling 630-899-9919. Items in bold are most needed at this time. The Board of the Resource Center is also seeking supplies through a backpack program offered by Staples.



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.

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