



Concepts for Adaptive Learning Newsletter



Summer 2015 Volume XX

July 2015

In This Issue

- [September 9th Fundraiser](#)
- [Executive Director Retires](#)
- [Closing the "digital divide"](#)
- [Waterbury Family](#)
- [Learning Math](#)
- [Article Headline](#)
- [Article Headline](#)
- [Article Headline](#)
- [Our Supporters](#)
- [Help Make a Difference](#)
- [Newest Board Member](#)
- [CfAL Board of Directors](#)

Quick Links

[CfAL Website](#)

Greetings!!!

Welcome to our Summer newsletter. It is our pleasure to say "Thank You" for your support and share with you some of the accomplishments, activities, and opportunities that lead to our improving children's education.

Scrumptious Food, Wines and Silent Auction at CfAL's Fundraiser

Fundraiser Donations will benefit a program that helps increase the educational achievement of public school children in the New Haven community, by extending learning beyond the classroom, increasing parents' involvement in their children's education, and simultaneously helping close the "digital divide".

This will be CfAL's 12th annual fundraiser with Master of Ceremonies, WTNH's News Anchor Keith Kountz.

Please join us. Enjoy scrumptious hot and cold Hors D'oeuvres from Anthony's Ocean View and sample wines from premium Domestic & Imported Wineries procured in conjunction with GRAND VIN Fine

Bridgeport Public Schools

Hamden Public Schools

Hartford Public Schools

Meriden Public Schools

New Haven Federation of Teachers

New Haven Public Schools

Waterbury Public Schools

About CfAL

CfAL is a non-profit organization based in New Haven, Connecticut. Since 2003, CfAL has been serving urban communities by giving educational technology services to families and schools and improving the academic achievement and

learning outcomes of disadvantaged children attending underperforming school districts in CT.

We strive to achieve this goal by integrating technology in education, and eliminating the technology gap between families that have and do not have technology in the home, one family at a time.

Mission

Our mission is to raise the academic achievement of urban public school children, leading them to succeed in school and beyond. We use the resources of technology to educate students, teachers and parents, as our foundation and integrated approach for attaining improved

Wine & Spirits, while listening to the live smooth jazz sounds of the "Cookie" Thomas Trio.

The fundraiser includes a fabulous Silent Auction, filled with more than 45 appealing gifts.

We are proud to let you know that AT&T, Comcast, the Community Foundation for Greater New Haven, Marcum LLP, and Protective Life Insurance have signed on as Platinum and Gold Sponsors for this special event. AT&T is the Platinum Sponsor.

Get your tickets now! Ticket donation price is \$50.00 prior to the event and \$55.00 at the door.

September 9, 2015 6:00 to 8:30pm

Anthony's Ocean View

450 Lighthouse Road

New Haven, CT - 203-469-9010

To Purchase Tickets!

If your request for tickets is made after September 1st, they can be picked up the evening of the event at Anthony's Ocean View, at the Registration Desk, from the Will Call list. Please send email to info@eachchildlearns.org, provide your name, # of tickets requested and your email address and phone number.

By Check, on or before September 1st, upon receipt of your payment, tickets will be mailed to your home address. Payment can be made by check, and sent to:

CFAL

P.O. Box 8265

New Haven, CT 06530

By PayPal or Credit Card

Go to our website and click on the orange button titled Donate Now on the homepage of <http://www.eachchildlearns.org/>

By Local Wine Events - Go to the Local Wine Events website, <http://www.localwineevents.com/events/detail/595505/> and click on Purchase Tickers.

For questions, contact CfAL at 203-507-8143, or email to: info@eachchildlearns.org

All entrance ticket donations are tax-deductible, as provided by law. CfAL Tax-exempt # 06-1623641

Executive Director Retirement and Transition!

On June 30th, Curtis Hill served his last day of a 13 year stewardship, as CfAL's Executive Director. Through these past years, he worked tirelessly to help the organization improve public school children's

educational outcomes.

Join Our Mailing List!

If you would like to receive our periodic email Newsletter, please click on the white Join Our Mailing List! box above.

Thank You

education in major urban centers throughout Connecticut.

With his help and that of many, many wonderful people, CfAL became a game changer in children's lives and education. More than 10,000 people (teachers, students and parents) received the benefit of the organization's programs.

For the next 3 to 4 months, Curtis will be assisting CfAL's new Executive Director, Karyn Stokes, as she learns the depth and breadth of CfAL, and goes from city to city meeting as many friends, supporters, collaborators and partners as possible, and asking for their support.

Rather than fade into the sunset, Curtis will remain on the CfAL Board of Directors and help guide the organization to a brighter future.

Video - CfAL Helps Close the "digital divide"

The cable industry is working with community based organizations across the country to help people understand how being online can positively impact their lives. Organizations, such as Concepts for Adaptive Learning (CfAL), show people within their communities how the Internet can help them stay connected with friends, find health care information, search for a job, and help children with homework.



Students participating in the taping of the video

Since 2003, CfAL has been a valued resource for families in Connecticut. In partnership with Comcast, and other internet service providers, CfAL offers computer training courses for parents to learn digital skills and to help their children excel in the classroom. The training helps individuals understand why and how Internet access improves daily life, and encourages families to sign up for Internet service at home. Other partners include AT&T, Cox Communications (Connect To Compete), and Frontier Communications.

Please click on the link below to view this 2 minute video...

[CfAL Helps Close the "digital divide"](#)

Thank you!

Words from a Waterbury, CT Family



Above is the proud parent Gloria Gaskins at the computer that was given to her by CfAL.

The article below was written by the report, AIDAN QUIGLEY, of the Waterbury Republican-American newspaper in Waterbury.

To most of us, a computer is just a machine; but for Gloria Gaskins and her family, the computer she received last year from Concepts *for* Adaptive Learning is much more.

Gaskins said the computer has greatly enhanced the educations of her son, Kaleel, who graduated from Kennedy High School on Friday, and her 11-year-old granddaughter, Janae Lawrence.

"I use the computer for my projects, and its been good to use," Janae said. "It helps a lot."

The computer has also helped Gaskins' education, as she is taking online classes at Naugatuck Valley Community College with the goal of becoming a social worker.

Concepts *for* Adaptive Learning is a New Haven, CT. based nonprofit. Director Curtis Hill said approximately 500 Waterbury families have received computers since the computer program expanded to Waterbury in November 2008. Since the program started in 2003, 3,200 families across the state have received computers. The program also serves residents in Bridgeport, Hamden, New Haven, Meriden and Hartford.

The main goal of the organization's computer program is to close the

"digital divide" by expanding learning past the classroom. It focuses on training parents how to use the computers and installing them in their homes.

"With the technology tsunami sweeping across the nation, teachers are telling children to do their homework on the computer. But what if they don't have a computer?" Hill said.

Waterbury resident Gloria Gaskins sits at the computer she received from Concepts *for* Adaptive Learning, a nonprofit that donates computers to parents with children in school.

Gaskins said although she has had computers in the past, this is the first one that has been able to work with no major problems. Having a computer in her home has made doing homework much more convenient for her family.

"It's really helping my family out a lot," she said.

The classes include 10 1/2 hours of instruction, ranging from hardware and software instruction to email and word processing. Gaskins said she learned how to block certain websites from her computer, and learned how to keep track of what sites her son and grandchildren were visiting to make sure they remained focused on studying.

"A lot of people here can't afford computers, and they need them for their kids," Gaskins said.

Naugatuck Valley Community College is a major donor in the Waterbury area, donating around 80 to 100 computers each year, Hill said.

First Niagara Bank recently donated 300 lightly-used computers to the nonprofit that will be used across the state.

To be eligible to receive a computer, a parent must have a child in the Waterbury school system, not currently have a computer in their house, and must complete the training class.

Additional Math Instruction

CfAL's "Learning Math After School Can Be Fun Program"

is a 5-week summer program, that ended on August 6th with a graduation celebration for 18 4th and 5th grade students from the poorest neighborhoods of New Haven, CT.



This program was designed to improve the math literacy of under performing 3rd through 5th grade students who needed additional instruction to improve their math knowledge and skills. The 4th grade morning students improved their math knowledge by 27%, and the afternoon 5th grade students improved by 30%

We are thankful to,

First Niagara Financial Group, Pfizer, and the United Illuminating Holdings Corporation for investing in this important summer program.

Frontier Internet License Donation!

Through the generosity of Frontier Communications, partnering with the non-profit organization, Concepts for Adaptive Learning (CfAL), 200 eligible parents of public school children, who participate in CfAL's parent computer program, will receive 2 years of free high speed internet service.

The parent computer program, with the Frontier free internet service is initially being widely promoted and offered in Bridgeport, where the next computer training class will start on September 14th. Shortly thereafter, it will be promoted in Hartford, New Haven, and Waterbury.

First Niagara Bank Computer Donation!

Through the magic and generosity of the First Niagara Bank, CfAL recently received their donation of 300 gently-used computers. We are so thankful for this tremendous donation, which provides enough computers to cover our parent computer program gently-used computer needs for nearly an entire year. This donation will have a positive impact on the lives of nearly 1,000 people, on their path of life-long learning.

City of Hartford, CT Partnerships!

During this past year CfAL has had the good fortune of forming

partnerships with organizations that align with CfAL's mission of helping Hartford Public School children improve their education.

Partnerships include Achieve Hartford, Hartford Parent University, and No Child Held Back.

In addition to these partnerships, the Hartford Mayor Pedro Segarra wrote a very nice press release about CfAL's parent computer program, and recommended parents sign up to participate in the program.

The mayor's press release was published in the Hartford City Newspaper.

Our Supporters

Sustaining our organization and programs that strive to improve the academic achievement of public school children has been made possible through the generosity and financial support of our donors, and our fundraising events.

We would like to take a few moments to thank each of you who made a donation to CfAL through the **GreatGive 2015** campaign. Through their generosity, CfAL was able to raise \$2,200.



We would also like to thank the companies and organizations listed below for their generosity.

- **3M and 3M CT CRC:** grant awarded to give computer training to 40 disadvantaged families who have children that attend the Roger Sherman School and other schools in Meriden, CT.

- **Connecticut State Library:** grant awarded to support our parent computer program, Technology Cascade & Training.

- **Cox Communication:** grant awarded to support and sustain our Technology Cascade & Training Program in Meriden, CT for families with children attending elementary schools in the Meriden Family Zone. In addition to this grant, eligible families will also received reduced price internet service from Cox Communications.

- **First Niagara Foundation:** grant awarded to our Learning Math After School Can Be Fun project. This grant will help under performing 3rd through 5th grade children attending New Haven Public Schools.

- **Henry and Nancy Bartels Trust:** grant awarded to be used to

sustain our Technology Cascade & Training Program in the City of New Haven.

- **Liberty Bank Foundation:** grant awarded to give computer training to 40 disadvantaged families who have children attending elementary schools in the Meriden Family Zone in Meriden, CT.

- **NewAlliance Foundation:** grant awarded to help sustain CfAL's Digital Literacy for Early Learners, "A Primer for Parents". This grant will help improve learning outcomes of public school children in CT, especially those living in New Haven.

- **People's United Community Foundation:** the grant will be used to sustain our Technology Cascade & Training program at the Columbus Family Academy elementary school in New Haven's Fair Haven neighborhood.

- **Pfizer Community Affairs Grant Award:** Pfizer, Inc. and Groton Laboratories awarded CfAL with a grant for our 2015 summer math program, Learning Math After School Can Be Fun.

- **United Illumination Holdings Corporation:** grant awarded for our 5-week summer math program, Learning Math After School Can Be Fun.

Your Support Makes a Difference

Our capacity to serve and help improve public school children's education is made possible through our many volunteers and donations from businesses, foundations and generous people such as you. Please support our programs by visiting our website and clicking on the menu item "[Make a Donation](#)", or by sending a check to:

CfAL
P.O. Box 8265
New Haven, CT 06530

We thank you for reading our newsletter and for your current and on-going support!

New CfAL Board Member - Sonila Bakiu

We are please to let you know, Sonila Bakiu has joined the CfAL Board of Directors.

Sonila brings a wealth of leadership experience to the organization, and will be most helpful in shaping CfAL's future and achieving its mission.

She is currently the Manager/Owner of S&T Deleading and Construction LLC. S&T Deleading is one of only handful of construction companies in the State of Connecticut, which is 100 percent female owned and operated. The company has been performing successful renovation services for the City of New Haven

and other cities on a smaller scale since 2011, now through EERAP Program, Emergency Elderly Program and Lead Remediation Programs.

CfAL Board of Directors

Board Chair is Jeff Solomon

Other members include:

Hillel Auerbach	Carl Feen	Toby Holloran
Sonila Bakiu	Damaris Garcia	Dorothy Giannini-Meyers
Sequella Coleman	Toni Harp	Sandy Santy
Tony Farah	Curtis Hill	Carole Sklar

[Forward email](#)



This email was sent to curtis-hill@cox.net by info@eachchildlearns.org | [Update Profile/Email Address](#) | Rapid removal with [SafeUnsubscribe™](#) | [About our service provider](#).



Concepts for Adaptive Learning | 4 Science Park, Suite A | New Haven | CT | 06511