

Newsletter Fall 2012



Dear Friends,

We hope you all have recovered from the effects of Hurricane Sandy and are making plans for the Holiday Season. Succeed2gether has had a productive summer and fall with both new and on-going programs. Since our last newsletter, we have completed a terrific Summer Enrichment Program, sponsored "How to Get an A," an innovative program for middle and high school students, inaugurated our fall Algebra Workshop for Girls series on Sundays, began our 2012-2013 After-School Tutoring Program with a record number of children, and held a fall clothing drive and food stamp sign-up. December programs include a winter coat distribution on Dec. 1 and our annual Holiday Celebration for children of low-income families on Dec. 15. We are thankful to all who have provided support for these critical programs and we ask for your continued support this holiday season.

Best wishes for a happy holiday season and New Year.

With warm regards,

Marcia Marley, President/Executive Director, Barbara Kaplan, Program Director

Volume I, Issue 2

Algebra Workshop	2
How to Get an "A"	2
Holiday Celebration	2
Summer Enrichment Program	3
Resource Center Programs	3
Social Media and Website	4

After-School Tutoring Program

First, the numbers... Our 23 volunteer tutors kicked off the school year in high gear serving 37 students on our first week beginning September 18, 2012! Currently, our numbers have nearly tripled with 57 students being tutored every week and another 6 on our waiting list.

Succeed2gether is very proud of the growth of its After-School Tutoring Program which combines one-on-one academic tutoring with a nurturing mentorship between students and tutors from Montclair and the surrounding communities. By testing our children in the beginning and end of year, we track the success of our efforts and ensure individualized instruction.

Walking through the Children's Floor at the Montclair Public Library any Monday through Thursday from 3-6 PM, one can't help but appreciate a tutor and a student sitting side by side discussing the best way to remember how to add or subtract positive/negative integers or making connections between the themes in *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*.

Our volunteer tutors—who are current or retired professionals and teachers, college and honor-roll high school students, or stay-at-home parents—all have rich backgrounds of knowledge and experience to mentor our students and become inspirations for success.

We provide support and training for our tutors and individualized curriculum for each of our students. We value our tutors' mastery of a particular subject and their interest in working with a student. Everyone has the power to make a change in a child's life and guide her/him to become a more successful student and productive adult.

We ask for your support in continuing to grow our After-School Tutoring Program. Please visit our website www.succeed2gether.org or call 973-746-0553 to become a sponsor, donor or a volunteer.



Happy Holidays!

Algebra Workshop Series for Girls

Since the beginning of our After-School Tutoring Program four years ago, families have requested help in middle school and high school level math, especially Algebra. This year, we took on the adventure of designing and implementing an innovative algebra curriculum led by Jacqueline Dauplaise, a veteran teacher of mathematics and a Ph.D. candidate for Mathematics Education at Montclair State University. The objective of the program is to instill the skills and confidence middle-school girls need to understand algebra. Thanks to the exposure in algebra fundamentals they receive over five Sundays working with Jacky and our tutors, we have been able to substantially improve on these girls' math skills. By working intensely for two and

a half hours each session, we have been able to identify areas of weakness for each participant and work on strengthening individual skills. Our fall pilot algebra series focused on helping girls because testimonials and research have shown girls are less likely to show confidence, therefore success, in math beginning at the middle-school level. This trend hinders girls from moving up to higher levels of math in high school and successfully reaching and completing basic or advanced calculus. Our long-term goal is to encourage girls in our community to enter college and major in math or the sciences and later become productive and influential workers in the fields of science, technology, economics, and math.

Our utmost gratitude goes to the Montclair Fund for Women for its very generous grant, which will allow us to offer this program again in the spring of 2013. For more information on how you can sponsor programs like the Algebra Workshop, please visit our website: www.succeed2gether.org



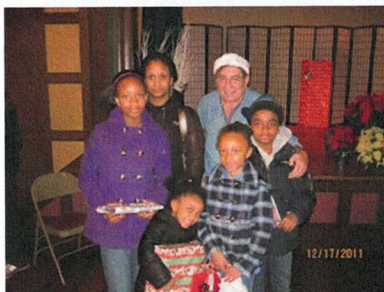
How to Get an "A" Program

Excelling in school requires myriad skills. That's what a group of highly motivated middle and high school students learned this September in a special Succeed2gether program brought to us by Lauren Lowenthal, creator of the program "How to Get an A: A Guide to Winning in School and in Life." Through interactive lectures, music, jokes, and each student's individualized bag of supplies, our students learned time management and organizational skills. At the end of the two sessions, our students understood how to manage their lives more effectively both in and out of school. By the end of the program, they were well equipped to take on the challenges of the 2012-13 school year.

Parent Testimonial: "My daughter learned much-needed organizational skills which she was able to adapt successfully for her own use. After taking the class, she received her best report card ever!"

Robin Rison-McCoy

Succeed2gether Holiday Celebration



Our fourth annual Holiday Celebration has become an event our students, families, volunteers, and donors look forward to all year!

This year, as in the past, we are accepting wish lists from children of Montclair and the surrounding communities in the maximum amount of \$50 per child. These wish lists are being matched with our anonymous donors who generously provide the gifts.

All are welcome to this joyous celebration on December 15, 2012, from 2:30 to 5:00 p.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation, Fletcher Hall, 67 Church Street, Montclair.

Please call 973-746-0553 to become a donor for this wonderful program and make a child's wish come true!

Summer Enrichment Program 2012

Fireworks and backyard barbecues led the way to yet another fantastic Summer Enrichment Program which began on July 9 and ended on August 2, 2012. The mornings were filled with all fifty students actively learning and engaging in language arts and literacy, writing, and mathematics. The afternoons were loaded with fun and instructive extracurricular activities such as nutrition/cooking lessons, physical education and swimming, philosophy, drama, science experiments, art, and music. In addition, there were inspiring guest speakers who spoke during several lunches.

Our highly credited specialists designed lessons and activities with thought and creativity to engage the interests of our students. In language arts, students learned to make connections between the texts they read and express those connections in peer and group discussions. In writing, the students captured a moment in time and told a story that was com-

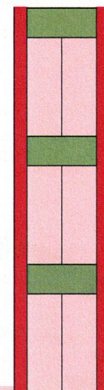
pleted in a journal to take home at the end of the program. In math, students practiced thinking outside of the box: they made 3-dimensional shapes using straws and baked cookies while learning about measurements.

In the afternoons, during philosophy, the students were guided on how to express an opinion while respecting others' thoughts.

In nutrition, they made snack-size pizzas with spinach topping and much to their surprise enjoyed them! They created pottery sculptures one afternoon while having tons of fun exercising to Zumba on another. They played kickball, basketball, flag football, and cooled off in the pool.

We have even bigger plans for the

Succeed2gether Summer Enrichment Program for 2013 and we need your help to make it a reality. Please visit www.succeed2gether.org to sponsor a specialist or a student.



"Thanks you so much for putting this program together... All the stuff I learned here I could use it at school and be ahead of the game."

Student Testimonial, Summer Enrichment Program 2012

Resource Center Programs

The Succeed2Gether Resource Center has been busy with its seasonal clothing distributions and hosting, together with Toni's Kitchen, Essex County case workers to register people for food stamps and the SNAP program. Our upcoming Dec. events include our annual free coat distribution on Saturday, Dec. 1, at Toni's Kitchen; and our Annual Holiday Celebration at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation on Dec. 15. This event supports children from low-income families with holiday gifts.

Our Resource Center, located at 346 Bloomfield Ave., provides those who might need a resume typed, a letter of support, help organizing their daily needs or just a place to get out of the weather for a few minutes. It has become an integral part of the Montclair community. Please do not hesitate to walk into the center to speak with Alan Myers or any other staff member there to help you find an educational program for your child, assistance in

locating an employment opportunity, or guidance on receiving basic needs such as food, clothing, and shelter.

Please visit our website for all current activities at www.succeed2gether.org.



Succeed2gether

346 Bloomfield Ave.
Montclair, NJ 07042
Phone: 973-746-0556
E-mail: info@succeed2gether.org



Founded in 2009, Succeed2gether exists to provide the skills, services, and resources necessary for the well-being and economic success of those most in need. Our Resource Center at 346 Bloomfield Avenue in Montclair, NJ, develops and implements education and youth-empowerment programs, anti-violence initiatives, employment resources, and human needs activities such as clothing distribution and social services.

Our After-School Tutoring Program and Summer Enrichment Programs for families in need are the cornerstones of our effort to fulfill our mission.



Board of Directors

Marcia Marley, **President**
Ira Goldberg, **Treasurer**
Carrie Cantor, **Secretary**
Mark Alexander
Claire Ciliotta
Robert Davison
Alice Freed
Assemblyman Tom Giblin
Susan Gifford
Jessica de Koninck
Mary Delaney Krugman
Carlos Lejniaks
Dorothy McGann
Joan Pransky

Staff

Program Director

Barbara Kaplan

Program Administrator

Rabiye Hamade

Resource Center Coordinator

Alan Myers

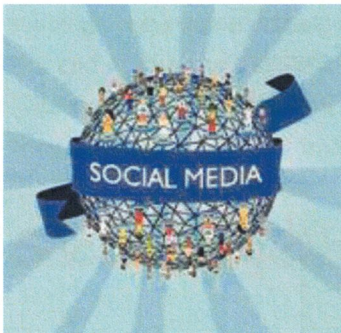
Web Administrator

Ana Maria Cardenas

Executive Assistant

Michelle Antonucci

Social Media and Website



Succeed2gether is working hard to bring free services and programs that enrich the community for the benefit of all. In order for us to effectively provide services and broaden our impact on the community, we need your help! Join us on Facebook and Twitter and invite your friends and colleagues to do the same. "Tweet," "like," and "share" our posts—the more people who know about the important services we provide, the better. And of course, if you know someone you think might benefit from our programs and services, please email us at info@succeed2gether.org.

Please visit our recently updated website, www.succeed2gether.org, for information or to become a sponsor, donor, or volunteer. We offer electronic applications for students and volunteers to become participants in our programs quickly and easily. Check out our "Upcoming Events" and visit with us anytime to find out more about all aspects of our program.

With your help and support, our life-changing programs will continue to be available to anyone who needs them, free of charge.

