



Building our future....One person at a time



# NEWSLETTER

Dear Friends of Succeed2gether,

We're thrilled to report that Succeed2gether had another productive year with new and expanded programs! This year, we introduced our successful Algebra Workshop Series and "How to Get an A" workshop. Thanks to the hard work and dedication of our volunteer tutors and the generous partnership of the Montclair Public Library Youth Services Department, registration for our popular After-School Tutoring Program reached record levels by the fall, and we were able to add new tutors as well as students. We have also revised and strengthened our annual Summer Enrichment curriculum and are excited about the new morning format. Applications for the 4-week program are currently flooding in, and we expect to have a waiting list again this year.

On behalf of the Succeed2gether staff, we would like to thank all of our students, families, tutors, partners, and donors for their support and dedication to our programs.

Warm Regards,

Marcia Marley, President/Executive Director

Barbara Kaplan, Program Director



**Succeed2gether is moving!**  
**Our new Resource Center**  
**is on 11 Pine Street**  
**Montclair**

## After-School Tutoring Program

Succeed2gether's After-School Tutoring Program had another terrific year, serving about 72 low-income students, thanks to the dedication and efforts of our 35 volunteer tutors. Through our partnership with the Montclair Public Library Children's Department and our presence there on Monday-Thursday afternoons, we have truly become a community organization.

Our success is reflected in the constant stream of parents asking for information and enrolling their students in our many programs. Our approach to tutoring for enrichment rather than just for doing homework results in not only better grades but also improved goals, attitudes, and time management. Our tutors teach and practice study skills with each of their students to help them better organize and prepare for quizzes, tests, and homework.

We are asking for donations in order to grow this extremely successful tutoring program to other locations in Montclair as well as surrounding Essex County towns. Please visit our website at [www.succeed2gether.org](http://www.succeed2gether.org) to sponsor a student today!

**A Profile, Lisa Sedita:** Lisa Sedita has been Youth Services Supervisor at the Montclair Public Library for only 9 months, but she quickly became a friendly face in the community. We thank Lisa for being a gracious host to our After-School Tutoring Program. Lisa's favorite thing about being a librarian is working with "so many wonderful children... and providing them with a service they cannot get anywhere else." Lisa and her team are busy preparing for the Summer Reading Program, in which our Succeed2gether Summer Enrichment Program students will participate. This year's theme is Dig Into Reading. The library will have a summer full of programs and workshops for babies, children, and teens. Lisa would like everyone to encourage the children in their lives to read during the summer and join the Summer Reading Program!

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**"Succeed2gether fills a very definite void in our community and serves a serious need for many of our area's students."**

**~Leslie Austin,  
Volunteer Tutor**



## Summer-Enrichment Program

Planning for our fifth Succeed2gether Summer Enrichment Program is well underway! Our math and language arts academic specialists are affiliated with Montclair Public Schools and are familiar with many of our students. This year, in order to align our programming with the Common Core Curriculum Standards, we have designed math and language arts labs for additional academic support for both struggling students and those seeking additional enrichment. Our lab specialists are trained classroom teachers staffed by experienced and skilled tutors, resources include iPads thanks to a generous technology grant from BJs Charitable Foundation. At the end of the morning academics, the students will enjoy a healthy lunch, provided by

Succeed2gether, before moving onto the afternoon extracurricular activities. This summer, the students will experience creative writing through movement—a revolutionary technique to help students brainstorm and write stories, prose, dialogue, and poetry. Newark Museum Science Outreach Program staff will hold weekly science workshops with hands-on activities in chemistry, brain games, and forensics. There will also be physical education every afternoon. Dance and Zumba instructors will be available as alternatives to physical education to ensure all students have physical activity. Extracurricular staples, such as art and music, will be taught by guest specialists providing a wide range of exposure to hands-on activities as well as instru-

ments. Our very popular Summer Enrichment Program is free for all students from low-income families and includes a healthy breakfast, lunch, and snacks. Please sponsor a student and/or a specialist on our website.



## Algebra Workshop Series

This year, Succeed2gether offered a new program, Algebra Workshop for Girls. The 5 session program, designed to help girls develop the skills to be successful in algebra, was offered in October and again in February on Sunday afternoons in the Montclair Public Library. This innovative series gave students the opportunity to practice math computation and problem solving common in middle school Algebra courses. Pre and post-testing tracked the needs of the students and the program's success..

The program was developed and run by two experienced Algebra teachers with the assistance of experienced math tutors. Succeed2gether plans to offer two programs again next year during the fall and spring semesters. Middle and high school girls enrolled in pre-Algebra or Algebra classes are eligible to attend the program.



**"My daughter gained much confidence in Algebra and it showed in her report card."**  
~Parent Testimonial

## How to get an "A" Workshop

Last October, Succeed2gether offered, *How to Get an "A" workshop*, a new and timely program aimed at middle and high school students. This innovative program, designed to focus students on the important skills necessary for success in school, was quickly over subscribed, underscoring the need for these essential study skills. The program consisted of two interactive Sunday afternoons where the students learned time management and good study habits including planning ahead, keeping track of assignments, prioritizing work, taking notes and minimizing distractions while studying. They also learned the necessity of developing good relationships with teachers and asking for help. Each student left the program with a bag full of supplies to aid them in their pursuit of success. We plan on offering this program again next fall. With your donations we hope to reach 40 students.



## Holiday Celebration 2012

The 2012 Holiday Party sponsored by Succeed2gether was another huge success. On December 17th 41 families and 70 children attended the event. The children were the happy recipients of holiday gifts from their wish lists much thanks to our 68 donors. Succeed2gether donors attended the party as well and had the opportunity to meet the children who received their gifts. The holiday food and entertainment were enjoyed by all. Andromeda Turre, a Montclair High School graduate and current professional singer in NYC, provided delightful holiday entertainment. Santa Claus made an appearance as well. It was an afternoon of enjoyment for all who attended.



## Anti-Violence Initiatives



Succeed2gether sponsors the community initiatives of the North Jersey Ceasefire Group. These include \$2,000 in annual Peacemaker scholarships for Montclair High School seniors for outstanding contributions to anti-violence efforts in the school and wider community. In addition, the group produces annual calendars featuring peace-related artwork made by elementary-school students in Montclair and Newark. The group organizes an awards program each year honoring the three high school scholarship recipients and the twelve calendar winners chosen from several hundred art submissions created by Public School students in grades 3 to 5. The winning art will be made into calendars for 2014 to hang in every classroom and offices of the school system. The Montclair 2013 awards ceremony is on May 19th.

## Resource Center Programs

Succeed2gether is happy to announce the move of its Resource Center to 11 Pine Street. The Resource Center will continue to be open Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays 10:00 am-12:30 pm and will be staffed by our Resource Center Coordinator, Alan Meyers. We are excited to have an additional activity room at Pine Street. This room will be used as an expansion site for our current After-School Tutoring Program which will continue to be held at the Montclair Public Library as well as for our weekend workshops such as How to

Get an A, Algebra for Girls and Math Literacy. The space is amazing and we are planning to offer more weekend academic enrichment programs as a result of our move. The Resource Center will be open at Pine Street as of June 1st. The Resource Center also serves as one our main connections to the community. Alan is a friendly source of information for our many services including, Clothing Donation/ Distribution, and employment search assistance. Our popular Clothing Drive is held in the late Fall and we distribute


coats, winter clothing, and accessories to men, women, and children in need. In partnership with Toni's Kitchen, we host Essex County Case Workers several times so that individuals can register for SNAP and other aid.

Please come in to the center to complete applications for our services, type a resume, or to get out of the heat.



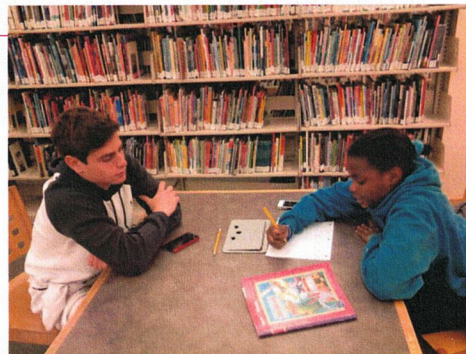
## Succeed2gether

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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.



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## Calendar of Events

**Currently** - Taking applications for volunteers/students for our Summer Enrichment Program

**May 18th**- Free, spring/summer Clothing Distribution at the Resource Center

**May 19th**-Hear Our Voices Ceremony at 1:30 p.m. in Fletcher Hall the Unitarian Universalist Congregation in Montclair.

**May 31<sup>st</sup>** - Site visit with the Essex County case workers for Food Stamp registration. Call 973-746-0553 to register.



**July 8<sup>th</sup>-August 1<sup>st</sup>** - Summer Enrichment Program from 9:00 AM until 3:00 PM, Monday through Thursday

**July date TBD** - Site visit with the Essex County case workers.

**August** - Volunteer tutor recruiting and student applications for:

- After-School Tutoring Program
- Algebra workshop series (students in pre-algebra or algebra I)
- Numeracy workshop (for students in grades 3-6)
- How to be Successful in School

**September 16th, 2013-May 2014** - After-School Tutoring Program begins and is held Mondays through Thursdays, from 3:00 PM until 6:00 PM.

**September date TBD** - Free, fall Clothing Distribution at the Resource Center

**September 22<sup>nd</sup>** - Sunday workshop - How to be successful in school. Venue and time TBA

**September 29<sup>th</sup>** - Algebra workshop series begins - Five (5) Sundays from 2:00 PM until 4:30 PM. Venue TBA.

**October date TBD** - Site visit with the Essex County case workers.

**November date TBD** - Free, winter Clothing Distribution at the Resource Center.

**November 4<sup>th</sup>** - Holiday Celebration sponsor/participants/Wish List flyers out.

**November 10<sup>th</sup>** - Numeracy workshop series begins - Five (5) Sundays from 2:00 until 4:30 PM. Venue TBA

**November 21<sup>st</sup>** - Holiday Benefit - Venue/time to be announced

**December 7<sup>th</sup>** - Free, Coat Distribution venue/time TBA