

GREATER HARTFORD LITERACY COUNCIL

One Union Place * Hartford, CT 06103 * (860) 522-7323 * Fax (860) 722-2486 * www.greaterhartfordreads.org

Member Literacy Providers

- ❑ **1199 Training and Upgrading Fund - (860) 251-6061 www.1199trainingfund.org:** Program offers basic skills, high school diploma (GED) and college preparation courses for nursing home employees in the 1199 health care workers union. Also offers non-credit computer skills classes and 100% tuition reimbursement. Only for 1199 members.
- ❑ **Asnuntuck Community College – (860) 253-3175 www.acc.commnet.edu:** The Academic Skills Center is committed to helping Asnuntuck Community College students achieve their educational goals by providing supplemental academic support services that compliment students' coursework. Academic support is provided through a variety of services: professional and peer tutoring, computer-assisted instruction, study skills workshops and video tutorials. Tutoring is available in a wide range of subjects: Math, Computer Information Systems, Accounting, English, Spanish, and Statistics. Assistance with test preparation and study skills is also available.
- ❑ **Capital Community College/ESL Program - (860) 906-5203:** The college has an English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) program with an academic focus.
- ❑ **Capital Region Education Council (CREC) - (860) 524-4043 www.crec.org:** Regional education service center which offers adult basic education to community people, union employees and young adults, in addition to job training for TANF recipients, board approved voucher recipients and dislocated workers. CREC is responsible for statewide professional development for adult educators in a wide variety of literacy-related topics. In addition, CREC also offers a myriad of educational services throughout the region and state covering birth to three, K-12 and adult populations. CREC also manages several magnet schools in the Hartford area.
- ❑ **Center City Churches/Center for Youth - (860) 246-6757:** Center City Churches is a collaboration of 12 member organizations and is supported by non-member congregations, government grants and contracts, corporate and foundation grants, individual donations, and some 500 volunteers. Annually, Center City Churches works to meet the basic needs of food, shelter, and learning for thousands of Hartford's neediest citizens. Among the organization's current programs is the **Center for Youth**— an after-school and summer tutorial providing cultural enrichment and Family Resource Centers for children ages 3-13, in the pre-kindergarten through sixth grade levels. The **Center for Youth** program provides an educational and social foundation for children from low-income homes in addition to those who are in need of special education or have special needs that are bred by life's emotional, physical, and social challenges. More than 90% of these children are of Hispanic/Latin backgrounds and 85% come from homes where English is not the primary language.
- ❑ **Community Partners in Action (CPA) - (860) 543-8930:** A multi-faceted criminal justice agency that provides services to individuals involved with the criminal justice system. CPA's Project READ programs in alternative incarceration centers (Hartford, Manchester and New Britain) provide clients with remedial services, as well as GED preparation.
- ❑ **Community Renewal Team - (860) 560-5617:** Non-profit community action agency that helps low-income and disadvantaged people move from survival to self-sufficiency to success. Literacy services are provided to the parents/caregivers of children enrolled in early care and education programs.

- ❑ **ConnectiKids, Inc. - (860) 522-8710 x13:** ConnectiKids, Inc. is an independent, non-profit community organization founded by city and suburban volunteers committed to improving the lives of children living in Hartford's Asylum Hill neighborhood and citywide. The mission of ConnectiKids is to connect Hartford children and youth to their potential by building relationships and providing educational opportunities. ConnectiKids began in 1978 when volunteers from churches and corporations located within the Asylum Hill neighborhood got together to provide occasional after-school tutoring sessions for students from West Middle Elementary School, a public elementary school. Since that time, the organization has grown to include a diverse volunteer force of some 250 parents, corporate and state employees, teenagers and senior citizens, as well as a core of inspired professional educators and artists who together provide a full-scale, multi-faceted, year-round curriculum of academic, enrichment and recreational programs for 250 children from two schools: MD Fox Elementary School and West Middle Elementary School. ConnectiKids consist of two divisions: The *School Year Program* and *Summer Program*. The School Year Program consists of the *Tutorial, Arts and Enrichment, and Alumni Programs*. The five-week, full-day *Summer Program* offers morning academic and afternoon arts and recreation activities during the summer months.
- ❑ **Everybody Wins – (860) 466-7428:** Everybody Wins! Is a leading national literacy and mentoring non-profit organization devoted to increasing children's prospects for success in school and in life through one-to-one reading experiences. Founded in New York City by Arthur and Phyllis Tannenbaum in 1991, the program is now part of a nation-wide affiliate network and provides reading partners for more than 6,800 elementary school children across the country through two programs: Power Lunch and Readers are Leaders.
- ❑ **Family Life Education, Inc. - (860) 231-7744:** Family Life Education works with youth and families through groups and case management in three areas: teen/young parent support, prevention education and child abuse intervention. The target population includes youth, teen parents and their children, and families. Family Life refers participants to other providers for specific literacy services, such as English as a Second Language (ESL), tutoring, GED and Adult Education. They facilitate a College Track support group, which has a book club component, as well as providing exposure to the arts through the group attending plays, poetry readings, movies on college campuses, etc. In addition, Family Life provides educational peer support groups, which includes transportation, food and childcare.
- ❑ **Hartford Jewish Coalition for Literacy - (860) 527-7323 www.jewishhartford.org:** Organization annually recruits, trains and places about 250 individuals as reading volunteers for about 300 students. The *Elementary Express* program is for at-risk kindergarten through third grade students at ten public schools in the Greater Hartford area. These volunteers conduct more than 4,000 one-on-one weekly tutoring sessions with students per year. One new book is donated to each student and each student's classroom. The *Reading Buddies* program matches kindergartners with middle school students for four weekly reading sessions. The *Preschool Pals* program matches volunteers with preschoolers for ten weekly reading sessions.
- ❑ **Hartford Public Library - (860) 695-6300:** Offers several literacy initiatives. *The American Place* provides information and resources for immigrants, refugees, and other recent arrivals. In addition to adult English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) instruction, *The American Place* also provides citizenship preparation and life skills classes for students and professional development workshops for service providers. The library also offers family literacy classes and training, which include instruction to both parents and day care providers to help support children's reading skills.
- ❑ **Hartford Public Schools - (860) 695-8669:** Hartford Public Schools have several literacy initiatives, including the Reading is Fundamental Program.
- ❑ **Jubilee House - (860) 247-3030 www.jubileehouse.org:** Jubilee House is a community facility in the Barry Square neighborhood of Hartford. It offers adult educational opportunities and serves as a gathering place for the people of the neighborhood. Offers classes in English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) to adults. The Esperanza Academic Center at Jubilee House offers programs for working women who wish to pursue a college education, together with the support services needed to ensure success.

- ❑ **Literacy Volunteers - CT River East - (860) 522-7422 <http://www.lva-cre.org>:** Literacy Volunteers-Connecticut River East is a community-based agency providing basic reading, writing, and speaking English to adult learners 18 and over in eight area towns east of the Connecticut River. We provide English conversation, citizenship, and very basic classes to speakers of other languages, including classes for all levels. We also help English speaking adult learners improve their basic skills, offering courses for all levels up to GED prep. Classes are one-on-one or small group tutoring sessions.

- ❑ **Literacy Volunteers of America/Greater Hartford - (860) 233-3853 www.lvgh.org:** Provides literacy instruction in small groups to adults who read/speak English below the 6th grade (Level I skills). Also provides basic literacy and English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) classes to Level I adults.

- ❑ **New England Cognitive Center - (860) 586-2350:** The New England Cognitive Center runs the CHILD program at St. James Church in Hartford on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays from 3PM – 5PM. CHILD serves elementary school children from the neighborhood around the church. The children are given a healthy snack upon arrival, followed by homework, a reading session, and activities, maintains a library of book for children and distributes books to children in program. CHILD runs a joyful readers club with recognition, a pizza party for participants, and prizes for readers of 25 books in a semester. CHILD also runs a summer program and assists with finding summer programs for the children in the program.

- ❑ **Organized Parents Make a Difference (OPMAD) - (860) 548-0301:** OPMAD is a parent-run organization providing after-school enrichment for students in Pre-K to eighth grade. Their mission is to empower and unite parents city-wide to meet the academic, social, cultural, creative and physical needs of children through parent-driven extended-day programs that nurture and encourage responsible citizens. Programs include Parents as Teachers, which provides a variety of reading programs in schools, a Story Teller, who provides after-school activities, and a program where 7th and 8th grade students volunteer as “book buddies” for Pre-K to 2nd grade youth.

- ❑ **Read to Grow - (203) 488-6800:** Read to Grow collaborates with local agencies, organizations and businesses to build and maintain a network of literacy opportunities with the community. The *Books for Babies* program provides a new book and information on literacy programs to parents of newborns delivered in local hospitals. *Books for Kids* is an ongoing collection of “gently used” books distributed to schools, health centers and local agencies as needed. Read to Grow also sponsors story hours and educational sessions to the local community.

- ❑ **Reach Out & Read: Connecticut Children’s Medical Center, Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center, Burgdorf/Fleet Health Center & Community Health Services - (860) 545-9259:** Reach Out and Read (ROR) is a national pediatric literacy program that makes literacy promotion a standard part of pediatric primary care, so that children grow up with books and a love of reading. ROR trains doctors and nurses to advise parents about the importance of reading aloud and to give new, developmentally appropriate books to children at pediatric check-ups from six months to five years of age, with a special focus on children growing up in poverty. By building on the unique relationship between parents and medical providers, Reach Out and Read helps families and communities encourage early literacy skills so children can enter school prepared for success in reading. There are 5 nationally recognized Reach Out and Read programs in Hartford. Together, these sites care for the literacy needs of more than 80% of children under 5 years of age in the city.

- ❑ **Read to Succeed - (860) 522-4183:** A program of the YMCA and the Hartford Courant. Read to Succeed is an adult reading clinic that gives effective and affordable instruction in reading, spelling and writing to adults with a reading disability. Serve adults with a reading disability, who have average or above average intelligence, and whose reading ability is inadequate despite IQ and conventional reading instructions.

- ❑ **Trust House, Inc.: A Family Learning Center - (860) 278-8387:** A family learning center which services the whole family, providing adult education, early childhood education and parenting skills training. Adult education includes GED and ESL classes, computer literacy instruction, and parenting and nurturing skills training, including the Parents as Teachers Program. Early childhood education works with children from birth to age five in skill development to prepare child for school readiness. Target population is Sheldon-Charter Oak neighborhood, but they do try to accommodate anyone who comes to the program and will individualize the program to meet the individual's needs.
- ❑ **Urban League of Greater Hartford, Inc. - (860) 527-0147 www.ulgh.org:** The Urban League of Greater Hartford, Inc. is dedicated to providing African-Americans and the disadvantaged with opportunities to become self-reliant, helping them to contribute to their own economic progress and to the future of the Greater Hartford community. Services provided include a GED Preparation and Adult Basic Education/Literacy program; health education and supportive counseling, comprehensive employment and training services; training in modern office skills and computer skills; work experience and training leading to unsubsidized employment for clients 55 or older; services to youth in the Greater Hartford area; rental assistance, foreclosure prevention, eviction mediation, and assistance to first time homeowners.
- ❑ **Vernon Regional Adult Basic Education - (860) 870-6000 x139 www.vrabe.org:** VRABE is an 18-town adult education region whose mission is to offer dynamic, multi-cultural services in an atmosphere of respect, appreciation and acceptance of all. Its' goal is to empower students with the knowledge and tools necessary to succeed both personally and professionally in a technologically advanced society. VRABE offers day and evening adult education classes and programs which were designed with busy adults in mind, including GED, ESL, ABE, Adult High School Credit Diploma Programs, EDP, Workplace education, Workforce preparation, Technology education and Continuing Education. All classes are free to charge to residents of Vernon Regional Adult Basic Education's region.
- ❑ **Weston Woods Institute - (203) 222-3880 www.westonwoodsinsitute.com:** Weston Woods Institute is a non-profit organization focused on the development of innovative educational and cultural communications that enrich the lives of children. The emphasis of The Literacy Caravan, a project of the Weston Woods Institute, is on early childhood literacy with a goal of developing and strengthening emergent literacy. WWI does this through staff development workshops for early childhood educators and preschool directors, community programs, and children's enrichment programs. Weston Woods Institute uses a fleet of custom-designed, mobile model literacy environments – coupled with the rich history of Weston Woods as a developer of quality children's multimedia to produce a unique and powerful program.