



## November 2008 Newsletter

### **About the Glen Ellyn Children's Resource Center**

For those new to the program, The Glen Ellyn Children's Resource Center is a nonprofit organization providing after-school and summer literacy programs for children from low-income families in Glen Ellyn, Ill. 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 2007, including more than 50 percent refugees, representing families from 14 different countries in North and South America, Europe, Asia and Africa. The program is made possible by the support of community volunteers and organizations as well as grants. 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.

#### **New Name and Logo**

To better reflect the audience being served, the board has announced that the Glen Ellyn Community Resource Center has been re-named The Glen Ellyn Children's Resource Center. The design for the new logo, featuring the new name and a semi-sphere to represent the world of children, was donated by artist Christine McCurdy.

#### **Volunteers Needed**

The Children's Resource Center is seeking volunteers to assist with after-school tutoring program offered Monday through Friday from 3 to 6 p.m. at Lincoln Elementary School, 380 Greenfield Ave., Glen Ellyn. Why volunteer? Studies show it's good for your health! People who volunteer are less likely to get sick, improve their communication skills and experience a boost in self-esteem. And, you'll be helping improve your community.

Daily attendance, which averages more than 50 children, requires the support of 10 to 15 volunteers who are led by Children's Resource Center program director. High school students and adults can volunteer for one or multiple days to accommodate their schedules. To volunteer, email [director@gecrc.org](mailto:director@gecrc.org) or contact Jessica Rozga, Program Director, at 630-899-9919.

#### **Consider Joining & Donating!**

The organization launched a new membership program this fall with a growing list of supporters. For those not yet onboard, your \$50 annual membership fee helps provide much needed resources to programming for the children. Members will elect the Executive Board, receive the newsletter and email blasts about upcoming events, and are invited to participate in our many activities. Also keep in mind that donations are most welcome and, of course, are tax deductible. Please visit the website for more details.

#### **Mourning Ellen Weissbrodt**



The Glen Ellyn Children's Resource Center is mourning the loss of long-time supporter Ellen Weissbrodt who passed away in September. In 2002, Ellen founded the group that would become the Children's Resource Center and she was a loyal volunteer until her illness prevented her participation. She and her husband, John Dagger, were long-time Glen Ellyn residents. A tribute to Ellen supported by donations which came to the Children's Resource Center in her honor will be announced in the near future.

**New Greeting Cards For Sale**

Looking for a great holiday gift for your favorite teacher or friend? Check out the greeting cards featuring original floral artwork by four Children's Resource Center students. The cards are available in sets of 12 for \$10 at Renaissance Art Studio, 481 N. Main St., Glen Ellyn. Printing of the cards was donated by Copresco Digital On-Demand Printing in Carol Stream and all proceeds go to programming at the Children's Resource Center. Artwork was designed by: Benilde, 9 years old from Rwanda; Saul, 10 years old from Glen Ellyn; Sandrine, 10 years old from Burundi; and Bahati, 11 years old from Rwanda.

**Shop at Ten Thousand Villages on Dec. 2**

If you're planning on doing some holiday shopping, make sure to stop by Ten Thousand Villages from 5 to 9 p.m. on December 2. A percentage of sales that evening will benefit the Children's Resource Center.

Ten Thousand Villages works with artisan groups from more than 30 countries in Africa and Latin American to provide fair trade jewelry, home décor, clothing and gifts. The store is located at 499 Pennsylvania Ave. Glen Ellyn. For more information, please call 630-790-1166.

**Spellapalooza Debuts on March 13**

The Children's Resource Center will present its first major fundraising initiative on the evening of Friday, March 13 at Glenbard West High School in Glen Ellyn. Called Spellapalooza, the event is a spelling bee pitting community groups against each other for prizes and fun. Opportunities for audience participation and special entertainment will also be featured. Look for more details in the next newsletter. In the meantime, community groups interested in entering as three-person teams should contact Kasey O'Connell at [kcsanders@wowway.com](mailto:kcsanders@wowway.com) for a team entry kit.

**Meet Jessica Rozga**

**Jessica K. Rozga** started as the new program director on September 15. Most recently, Rozga was with the Garfield Counseling Center in Chicago and holds a M.S. in Social Work from Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo. She has extensive experience in working within communities, especially children, offering case management, counseling, advocacy, program development, organizational networking and youth services. She and her husband live in Chicago.



**Meet the Executive Board**

Get to know the new Children's Resource Center 2008 executive board. They were voted to their positions at a member meeting at the Glen Ellyn Public Library in August.

From left to right:  
Steve Keate, Secretary  
Laura Glaza, Marketing Chair  
Jeanna Essick, Fundraising Chair  
Carol McElvain, Operations Chair  
Jessica Rozga, Director  
Kasey O'Connell, Treasurer  
John Mulherin, President