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Comcast Gives the Gift of Literacy to YWCA Child Care Center



Comcast Foundation recently awarded a \$1,500 grant to YWCA Hartford Region's Elmwood Early Learning Center in West Hartford. The grant will be used to promote literacy by providing tools for parents to engage their children in reading at home with take home learning packs that contain books, writing implements, activity prompts, and journals. Statistics show that parents who read regularly to their children promote positive attitudes toward reading and writing.

The learning packs are designed to help parents and children with activities that stimulate children's learning and reinforce lessons learned in the classroom. The five predictors linked to reading and writing skills for children in elementary school are oral language, phonological/phonemic awareness, alphabet awareness, knowledge of print and early writing. The learning

packs will be available in English and Spanish, and training will be provided to parents on effective ways to use the packets.

YWCA has been a child care provider for over 100 years and offers quality, affordable early learning, and before and after school programs. The Elmwood Early Learning Center is accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children and is one of three early learning and 14 before and after school programs operated by the YWCA Hartford Region. YWCA child care programs offer secure, nurturing and educationally appropriate environments rich with activity.

YWCA Hartford Region commends Comcast Foundation's attention to early learning literacy development. For more information on YWCA child care in the Hartford region, contact (860) 525-1163.

Caption: Comcast recently awarded a \$1,500 literacy grant to YWCA's Elmwood Early Learning Center. Standing from left Deb Coleman, YWCA Site Manager Elmwood Early Learning Center; Kristen L. Roberts, Comcast Senior Director of Community and Public Relations; Brad E. Palazzo, Comcast Western New England Region Community Relations Manager; Jane Barter, parent; and Maggie Sullivan, parent, pictured with children from the center holding a thank you poster they made for Comcast.

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Established in 1867, YWCA Hartford Region is the third oldest affiliate YWCA USA, a women's membership movement dedicated to **eliminating racism, empowering women and promoting peace, justice, freedom and dignity for all**. YWCA Hartford Region provides programs and services in the greater Hartford area including child care, supportive housing, teen leadership development, racial justice awareness, financial literacy, and economic empowerment. For more information, visit www.ywcahartford.org.