

Arbor Park Village TILI Learning Center

The overall mission of the Arbor Park Village TILI Learning Center is to provide access to educational opportunities that promote and enhance the quality of life for the residents of this Central area community. This facility, which has been in existence since 2004, is the result of collaboration between Arbor Park Village and Cuyahoga Community College's Technology and Information Literacy Initiative.

We believe that the remedies to the economic and social barriers that exist for underserved populations are based in technology and literacy. Our goal is to bridge that literacy gap through on-going training and education. With that in mind, the Learning Center provides a variety of programs for adults and children. Throughout the year, the Arbor Park Village TILI Learning Center offers:

- Internet access
- After school tutoring and computer training for grades K-8
- Summer enrichment program for youth
- Reading enrichment program (Cleveland Reads)
- Intro to computers
- Intro to Word
- Intro to Excel
- GED Preparation Classes
- Job Readiness Training (Resume/cover letter writing, interview skills)
- Job Search Assistance (internet based)

In addition, the Learning Center also strives to support the efforts of both Cuyahoga Community College and the Building Healthy Communities Program in promoting health and well-being for the residents of Arbor Park Village. Over the past five years, the learning center has sponsored and participated in special programs and events in health literacy.

Since its inception the Arbor Park Village TILI Learning Center has been a member of Neighborhood Networks, a HUD sponsored agency consisting of over 1,000 member centers, that exists as a resource to assist community learning centers in providing residents with access to technology, educational and job-training programs and information on healthcare and social services.

There are three levels of recognition in Neighborhood Networks. Each center starts out as Designated. Based upon predetermined criteria each center has the opportunity to attain Certified Status and ultimately Model status. In 2008, we achieved Certified Status. In 2009, we were awarded Model Status. Arbor Park Village TILI Learning Center is one of a very few centers across the nation to receive this status.

As an intervention strategy against the inequities of the digital divide, the Arbor Park Village TILI Learning Center stands poised to take the residents into the information and technology age.