



Computers for Youth Organization Overview

COMPUTERS for Youth (CFY) began with a meeting in the late 1990s of two New Yorkers—Dan Dolgin, a lawyer and private investor, and Elisabeth Stock, a former White House Fellow and MIT graduate. Since 1999, CFY has built a solid foundation from which to grow and a 10 year track record of strengthening the Home Learning Environment for school children across the country.

Key Facts

Years in operation: **10**

Families served: **22,000+**

City programs: **5**

Organizations in Affiliate Network: **31**

OUR MISSION

The mission of CFY is unique and focused: we help low-income children do better in school by improving their learning environment at home. CFY partners with high-poverty middle schools to both strengthen parent-child interactions around learning and to help teachers connect classroom learning to the home. CFY's proven program provides students and families with family workshops and free home computers loaded with carefully selected educational software.

OUR REACH

CFY has a nationwide infrastructure, serving nearly 5,000 families per year in five cities – New York City, Atlanta, Philadelphia, Los Angeles, and the San Francisco Bay Area. In order to reach more families across the country, CFY developed an Affiliate Network which allows other organizations to benefit from CFY's knowledge and experience in improving the home learning environment of low-income children. The Affiliate Network provides members with the products and services to more efficiently implement their programs while increasing the depth of services offered to their constituencies.

OUR VISION

CFY is leading the shaping of a national discussion around including Home Learning in broader educational reform. Leveraging its robust and growing set of relationships with leading researchers and institutions, CFY is poised to shape the landscape and influence critical education and technology policy.

OUR PROGRAMS

CFY's unique service model incorporates both training and technology and has had a proven positive impact on the lives of thousands of school children and their families. The following programs form the cornerstone of CFY's direct service work.

1 TAKE IT HOME

CFY partners with public schools in low-income communities and offers families their own Home Learning Center – a free computer loaded with engaging educational software titles, an office productivity suite and bilingual web content. CFY provides training to both strengthen parent-child interactions around learning and to help teachers connect classroom learning to the home. To participate, families must attend a half-day Family Learning Workshop that teaches parents and children how to use their CFY computer to strengthen core academic skills. Families are further supported through CFY's bilingual help desk which offers telephone support for the life of the computer.

2 TRAINING FOR TEACHERS AND PARENTS

CFY works with each of its partner schools to provide additional training in order to deepen the connection between school and home. CFY offers professional development for teachers and technology workshops for parents. Sessions for teachers are designed to help them create powerful links between their curriculum and at-home learning. Workshops for parents are designed to give additional experience using computers to improve core academic skills.

3 STUDENT SOFTWARE TEAM

Comprised of middle school students from our partner schools, the Student Software Team is trained to test and assess the educational value of a variety of software packages. For six months, students prepare for the Education Executives Day where they present the software titles to education leaders from throughout the country. This process helps CFY select the software titles that are loaded onto every computer we distribute. 🍌



Computers
for Youth

We Bring Learning Home