The New Haven Tutoring Initiative is under way!

In 2022, 84% of New Haven third graders read below grade level and 88% are below grade level in math. These troubling statistics are indicative of a broader set of longstanding challenges concerning our children’s education, which were further exacerbated by the pandemic.

The New Haven Tutoring Initiative (NHTI) is a response by the City of New Haven, New Haven Public Schools, and a group of youth-serving agencies, including NHR, who came together to design a way to help address these challenges. The goal of the initiative is to increase literacy and math skills by providing coordinated opportunities in summer and after-school programs for students to learn critical skills, build home libraries, and develop an enjoyment of reading and math. NHR was thrilled to support tutoring at Boys and Girls Club, Inspired Communities, and LEAP this summer.

New Haven Reads was chosen to be the Lead Literacy Organization for this initiative and will also be a participating organization.

Summer Reading = Summer Fun at NHR!

Over 200 students spent 6 weeks of their summer vacation exploring new enrichment club opportunities, receiving one-on-one tutoring, and getting set for success in the upcoming school year. Students continue to develop the skills and confidence they need to be successful readers across the summer. Plus, they go home with brand new books at the end of the session!

During the summer, we also offer enrichment clubs for students to try something new (such as Karaoke, Financial Literacy, and Marine Biology) as well as perennial favorites Math and Arts and Crafts. Students were also able to participate in a Chapter Book Challenge were they received prizes for achieving their reading goals. We were also thrilled to bring families on trips to the Mystic Aquarium, a Thimble Islands Cruise, and kayaking with Kingfisher Adventures.
Meet the NHTI Literacy Initiative Director

Dr. Deresa Marie Scott earned her doctorate in Educational Leadership specializing in complex trauma within the BIPOC student populations. Dr. Scott is recognized for her training and leadership experience in the areas of Social-Emotional wellness, Restorative Justice and practices, DEIAB and her commitment to advocating for youth.

Dr. Scott, “Dee”, has previously worked with K-12 schools and with private sectors and remains committed to optimizing and improving educational outcomes for marginalized youth. As the Literacy Initiative Director Dee will expand her work to collaboratively strengthen and lend an authentic bilingual voice to the work that is in place at NHR.

Next up for NHTI

Upon completion of the summer pilot program, the next phase of the NHTI is to bring in the next cohort of partners for the school year programming. A Request for Proposals will be available in the next few weeks for potential partners to participate in the program. We look forward to starting the next phase of supporting our community’s students in October!

How can you get involved?

It will take our whole community to ensure that our children become successful readers.

- Join us as a volunteer tutor! You can support a child directly at New Haven Reads or one of our partners in literacy and/or math. Complete a form here and attend and Intro Session to find out more.
- Spread the words! Do you know a child who needs help? Complete a form here!
- Keep an eye out for event information and join us in building a city of readers!

Volunteer as a tutor this fall!

Are you seeking an engaging and rewarding volunteer opportunity? We would love to talk to you about spending one hour a week tutoring a child who needs reading support!

We provide all the training and ongoing support you will need. Our volunteers tell us that this is one of the best hours of their week!

Find out more by visiting our website or contacting volunteer@newhavenreads.org!
Buzz! Buzz! Save the Date!

The Spelling Bee is back!
And we’ll be in person this fall!
Friday, October 20, 2023 at 7pm
Yale University School of Management

More information coming soon!
Questions? Contact us at spellingbee@newhavenreads.org

Upcoming Events and Important Events

NHR Tutor Training:
All at Willow Street
August 26: 10am
Sept 6: 6:15pm
Oct 4: 6:15pm

Book Bank Closed for Labor Day
Monday, Sept 5

Fall literacy programs start:
Willow St. and Bristol St. on
Tuesday, Sept 5
Science Park on Monday, Sept 18

Save the Date for Spelling Bee 11:
Friday, October 20, 2023; 7pm – 9pm at Yale University’s School of Management in New Haven. Stay tuned for more information!
Summer at NHR by the Numbers

Working with 207 students at 3 locations plus online every week for 440 hours of programs across 6 weeks.

Hosted 15 enrichment clubs for students to explore new activities.

Thank you to almost 200 volunteers!

We distributed 5,200 books in July!

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Thank you to everyone who supports New Haven Reads – we appreciate you!

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Keep in touch by following us!

New Haven Reads
45 Bristol Street, New Haven CT 06511
information@newhavenreads.org
www.newhavenreads.org