



Fall 2008

# Project Light

Building Lasting Relationships in Christ Worldwide  
for Nearly 30 Years  
Through Literacy, ESL and GED  
One-to-One Tutoring Programs and Software

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2008 has been an incredible year with the addition of new Interns, Staff and Learning Centers. God is growing Project Light on every level

## A Great Place to Intern and Volunteer

In our effort to reach the world through one-to-one relationships in Christ, we are now reaching into our community to build relationships with university and high school students ready to enter the workplace by offering an opportunity to intern with us. We also offer volunteer opportunities to business persons interested in giving back to their community.

We have welcomed **27 Volunteers and 6 Interns** from **Norfolk Christian High School, ECPI School of Technology, Old Dominion University, Tidewater Community College, the University of Michigan, and other local businesses with more** scheduled to join us this fall.

To date we have received over **1,200 hours** of assistance from interns and volunteers!



Pictured above: Amber, Darius, Keon, Jim, Sherri, Carita, Rick, Kadee, Alex, Angelo, Rosean, Kimberly, Aaron, Kathleen, and of course Clooney

## Project Light Software Release Update



We are excited to announce the release of Project Light Software Version 5.05. This release includes the much anticipated 15,000 newly replaced individual graphics, comprising 1,211 slides in our Zero-to-Five Program. This software teaches visual training skills in preparation for reading! Many thanks to our terrific team of Graphic Artists which includes contractors, volunteers and interns! We have already started on the next task: updating graphics and improving content for the second phase of Reading

Readiness, Perceptual Thinking, which teaches comprehension skills in preparation for reading. We anticipate having this phase completed by early 2009.

For information about how to obtain a copy of Version 5.05, or for information on how you can be a part of our exciting graphic arts software team, please contact Kadee Williams at Project Light at 757-624-1764 or e-mail [service@projectlight.org](mailto:service@projectlight.org).

## Project Light has a new Website!

Please check out our new website! Thanks to **Scott Huffman, volunteer and Project Light Board Member**, our new website is here! Our new website has testimonies, on-line videos, demos of the Zero-to-Five software, Learning Center information, Newsletters, and information for potential Volunteers, Internships and Giving Opportunities. Just logon to: [www.projectlight.org](http://www.projectlight.org).



## Fundraising News

**Project Light Awarded a Grant from The Virginian-Pilot.** Project Light is pleased to report it was the recipient of a grant from the Virginian-Pilot to support its efforts to pilot accountability, excellence and sustainability programs with its Local Learning Centers in Hampton Roads. Thank you to all who supported this effort.

## Rock-N-Roll Half-Marathon

Project Light President, **Sherri Crawford**, along with **Dwight Houde** of VA and **Jeremy McIntyre** of SC participated in the **Rock-N-Roll Half-Marathon on August 31, 2008** to raise funds for Project Light. If you would like to show support for our runners or if you would like to fulfill your pledge, please contact Kadee Williams or Darius Malinowski at (757) 624-1746. **It is not too late to send in your by-the-mile or one-time donation** to support Project Light for this great event!

## Project Light Awarded NAP Tax Credits For Donors

**We are pleased to report NAP (Neighborhood Assistance Program) has approved Project Light for Virginia State Tax Credits.** Corporations and individuals donating a minimum of \$1,000 for businesses and \$500 for individuals to Project Light can receive a tax credit plus a tax deduction for the same gift. Virginia awards tax credits to approved organizations which are focused on helping impoverished people. Donors are eligible to receive Virginia state tax credits for 40% of their gifts. We have a limited number of credits available, so if you are interested call Darius Malinowski at (757) 624-1764.

## Project Light Blessed to be a Blessing...

In 2008 so far, **Project Light has given \$6,665 in scholarships** for training and software to Learning Centers, Missionaries and Families who needed assistance! This includes **Zion Baptist Church** in Portsmouth, Virginia which burned to the ground on December 20, 2007. Having been in operation since February 1996, **Zion Baptist Learning Center** has been helping inner-city kids learn how to read and obtain a GED with the use of Project Light. Even with the fire and devastating loss, Zion Baptist continues on under the leadership of Director Mozell Parker, through the faithful support of organizations like the **Beazley Foundation**, Project Light and others. As of April 2008, Zion Baptist had five tutors and twelve students working on the software. Praise God!

## Learning Center and Training Highlights

### Local, National and International

**Learning Center updates** –Project Light estimates it has over 185 Active Project Light Learning Centers in its network around the world, including more than 20 Learning Centers in Virginia.

**Training Highlights** – In 2008, Project Light trained 20 new Learning Centers and 16 individuals in **Haiti**. Other countries represented in training include **The Ivory Coast, Liberia, Bolivia, India, Nicaragua and the Ukraine**. We also have trained over 20 individuals in the Project Light program for home and missionary use.

Project Light also provided numerous upgrades and expansions to existing Learning Centers.



Prayer in a Project Light Learning Center  
Ocean View Baptist, Norfolk, VA

*“Project Light Programs Encourage One-to-One Discipleship! One of our Learning Centers shared a wonderful testimony: A student working through The Light is Coming Bible-Based portion the Project Light software encountered a lesson on forgiveness. That student shared with his tutor about his anger at a relative and they prayed a prayer of forgiveness together. That student was able to experience the tremendous healing power of forgiveness. These are life changing moments for those whom we serve. What struck me is that Learning Centers using Project Light are not about just numbers of those who come to Christ or learn to read but are about transformation and Discipleship!”*

Sherri Crawford, President, Project Light

*With all my heart I praise the Lord, and with all that I am I praise His holy name! With all my heart I praise the Lord! I will never forget how kind He has been.” Psalm 103:1-2*

# Learning Center Highlights

## Urban Community Church/UDM Norfolk, VA

Learning Center Director Kerry Ann Sylvester reports UDM just finished up their 2008 Summer Reading Camp--20 young students were successfully tutored using Project Light's one-to-one software and lasting relationships were built! UDM will reopen this Fall for their adult GED program using Project Light Software and **Tutorsystems, Inc.** GED programs offered by Project Light.



## Sanctuary of Hope Portsmouth VA

In June, Sanctuary of Hope held the "Go Light Your World" Graduation ceremony for students who finished the 2007/2008 "Cool School" after school program using Project Light's Software and Tutoring Programs for reading improvement. Proud parents watched their children (17 students in all) walk across the stage to be recognized.

Nadine Allen, Director, reported an increase in 2 grade reading levels among many of the students. The students shared their dreams and spoke about their relationship with Christ. Project Light President, Sherri Crawford, was asked to speak to the girls about Lighting Their World and Outreach Director Jim Harrison was asked to speak to the boys. It was a blessed event to witness the fruit of Project Light in action by the faithful servants at Sanctuary of Hope!



## LEC at Richard Bowling Elementary School Norfolk, VA

The Life Enrichment Center ("LEC") has been using Project Light Software and its one-to-one Tutoring methodology at Richard Bowling Elementary School in 3 summer camps and for 2 school years. Reading level increases and results were so improved that the school dedicated a room for the Project Light Program.

The Norfolk Foundation awarded a grant to the Life Enrichment Center which funded the new computers for this dedicated room – and later featured the LEC and Richard Bowling Elementary School program in their annual report.

*To date, 119 students have been impacted.*

Project Light is now in discussions with the Life Enrichment Center to expand outreach efforts beyond Richard Bowling Elementary School to other local elementary schools.

Congratulations to Executive Director Kevin Turpin who heads the Life Enrichment Center and to Wanda Turpin who runs the Literacy Learning Center at Richard Bowling Elementary.

## Chesapeake Redevelopment and Housing Authority Chesapeake, VA

The Chesapeake Redevelopment and Housing Authority recently sent 8 people for training and are planting a Project Light Literacy Center at one of their public housing facilities. They plan to expand to additional housing communities. At a Community Empowerment Day, we had a booth set up and helped them recruit potential tutors and students.



For more information please go to our website, [www.projectlight.org](http://www.projectlight.org), and click on Our Impact/Learning Centers

## A Second Beginning Dumas, TX Southwest Regional Training & Support Center

A Second Beginning Learning Center in Dumas, Texas serves ESL students, many of whom are refugees from Myanmar (Burma). They have tutored 14 students since January, with a total of 30 over the past 12 months using the Project Light programs. One student has recently finished all of the programs and is now working as the Burmese Interpreter at the local junior high school where many of the refugees are sending their children.

For the conversation section of class, Orby Brooks has worked through the Texas Drivers Education Book, and so far 6 of the refugees have been able to get their drivers' licenses.

Over the past 5 years, Learning Center Director Orby Brooks reports that they have had 15 students finish the Zero-to-Five and TutorSystems, Inc. programs and obtain their GED's and 2 of them are now in college! With Project Light, he is changing his world one life at a time!



## Learning Center Corner

Raymond Road Learning Center makes good use of community resources by having computers donated by individuals and businesses. They have the computers refurbished so Project Light software can be installed and utilized in the Learning Center. *Great Idea!!!!*

## Raymond Road Learning Center Jackson, MS

Learning Center Directors Joel and Brenda Blakely have taken the road less traveled and work mostly with adult Illiteracy and ESL. They have quite a few success stories, but the most recent one was about students whom were non-readers their whole lives. They were tutored one-to-one using Project Light Software and Tutoring Programs, they learned how to read, obtained jobs, and came back to tutor others.

Today, Joel and Brenda have taken temporary assignment in Eupora, MS to plant another Learning Center. Thank you Joel and Brenda!

## Learning by Faith Anniston, AL Alabama Regional Training and Support Center

Learning Center Director, Barbara Gray reports that she and her team of tutors have tutored more than 80 Hispanic Adult ESL students since January 2007, utilizing the Project Light Software and one-to-one Tutoring Programs. Barbara is excited to report her first student finished from beginning to end the entire Zero-to-Five and The Light is Coming software programs. This is over 500 lessons in all – they will now begin work on the GED program!

Barbara reports that since opening in 2002 they have never had to advertise for students, but this past year they have had their first "waiting list" of students who want to enter classes!

## Awon Shanglai in Imphal, India

is teaching her village how to speak English. They have one computer loaned to them and 20 children whom they plan to serve. Awon continues to let the desires of her heart lead her. She has a burning passion to help the community, which is riddled with HIV/AIDS and unemployment. Now, with Project Light's help, they have a new hope for a brighter future!



## Ixiamas, Bolivia, Vicky Planta

Vicky, from the Philippines is teaching English with Project Light ESL to 30 students. She was trained last Fall at a missionary conference and moved to Bolivia in May. She has 4 computers and tutors students twice a week, in six to eight classes a day. Vicky says the children love the class and giggle even when reciting simple phrases like, "Good Morning". Because the community she lives in is so poor, most of the children do not even get a 5th grade education. Project Light is shining God's light!



Virginia's Capital City  
Richmond, VA  
Youth Life of Richmond  
Learning Centers

## Partner Spotlight

**Youth Life Foundation of Richmond's** Learning Center is doing fantastic!

They report that 71% of their students greatly improved their reading levels, and approximately 65% improved in other academics and school attendance because of Project Light Software and one-to-one tutoring--and at the same time they are reading using The Christian Literacy Series: The Light is Coming Bible-based materials. They are also preparing to open an additional Learning Center this Fall in partnership with Northside Outreach Center to help adults coming out of prison and children of disadvantaged families.



One-to-One tutoring at Riverchase ESL Learning Center Birmingham, AL

Please Tear Here and Return to Project Light

I will Pray for Project Light		Update me by E-Mail:				
I will Partner with Project Light by giving		Monthly	Quarterly	Annually	With a One-Time Gift of:	\$
Name:	Address:					
Phone:	City/State/Zip:					