

# What is The REACH Foundation of Rockland?

**F**ounded in 1998, The Reach Foundation of Rockland, Inc. is a not-for-profit organization that raises funds to support innovative educational programs for students and the community at large.

In the year 2000, we initiated a senior citizen computer educational program at Suffern High School which we continued for three consecutive years, free of charge. Senior citizens were taught how to work a computer, navigate the web and email their grandchildren. This was an intergenerational program; students from the high school volunteered their time to work one-on-one with the senior citizens while an instructor taught the curriculum. We “educated” over 350 senior citizens through this program.

The Reach Foundation has also taken the initiative in bringing together Town and School resources. Through the inspiration of Reach, the Town of Ramapo and the Ramapo Central School District have formed a three-way partnership in offering community residents, and students Lifelong Learning Programs, held at the town and several school locations.

Starting in 2002, the Reach Foundation has had the opportunity to offer mini-grants to all the schools in the Ramapo Central School District. We continually award grants for innovative programs which are listed on our website, [www.reachfoundation.org](http://www.reachfoundation.org). Following are some of the grants we have awarded:

- Robotics - Suffern High School
- SADD - Students Against Destructive Decisions, Suffern Middle & High Schools
- Clearwater Tideline Discovery Program - RP Connor Elementary School
- Pain as an Inspiration for Creation, consultant Judith Rose - SHS
- The Artifact Box- All 4th grade students at RP Connor Elementary School
- Polar Regions Artifact Box- All 3rd grade students, district wide
- Latin American Cultural Experience - All Montebello Elementary students
- Leveled Book Library- All Viola Elementary students
- Exploring How & Why Buildings Change Over Time- All 1st grade Viola Elementary
- Celebros Cinco de Mayo- All Viola Elementary students
- Totable Math- All Kindergarten students, Cherry Lane Elementary
- Orienteering & Navigation- All Cherry Lane Elementary students

The Reach Foundation has also distributed scholarships to students attending Suffern High School for summer programs demonstrating academic course work, community service and leadership programs. Some of the student scholarship programs that were funded are:

- Internship at Nyack Hospital, Pediatric Department, Volunteer at local Soup Kitchen
- Penn State Summer Enrichment Program
- Academic Study Associates Program (ASA) in Oxford, England
- National Youth Leadership Forum for Medicine, Georgetown University
- Presidential Classroom Program, Washington, DC
- Community Service Project, 92nd Street YMCA, New York City
- Brighton Cultural Immersion, Costa Rica
- Community Service Project, West Coast
- Cornell University Research Project
- Bergen Academy of Music

Our most expansive project to date was the construction of an outdoor amphitheater/classroom at Suffern High School. This new landscaping has projected a beautiful and inspiring setting for outdoor classes during and after school, a place for extracurricular groups to meet, as well as a location for school and community concerts and events. Installation of this amphitheater was completed in the summer of 2005.

Since the completion of the landscaping at Suffern High School in 2005, Reach has committed to beautifying the landscape of all schools in the Ramapo Central School District. In Spring 2008 the entrance to Suffern Middle School will be enhanced with new colorful gardens including a parklike setting under the beautiful maple tree. Each year thereafter Reach will continue to landscape each elementary school while committing to maintaining all previous school landscaping,

The Reach Foundation sponsor community programs such as the “Songwriters Circle” and Financial Planning for Women held at Suffern Free Library. We also sponsored new electives at Suffern High School including Drivers Education for students. We also acted as a catalyst to get a new SAT prep class into the high school curriculum.

Reach raises funding for these wonderful programs through annual fundraisers such as our Family Fun Run/Walk/5K, Night at Vegas events, Dinner Dances, Wine Tasting and more! Please visit our website for more details.

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About Us

