



IRL Newsletter

September 2021 ISSUE 19

Our Mission:

To empower individuals of all abilities to take charge of their own learning and lives, making it possible for them to be competent, caring and contributing members of society; and to provide learning opportunities for families, professionals, and communities to support those efforts.

In the Spotlight! - Back to School!

The new school year has begun for Almansor Academy and Westmoreland Academy!!!! Currently 128 students are back on campus at Almansor with 99 students being transported by our IRL buses. There are approximately 90 students back at the Westmoreland Academy with 66 students being transported daily. Currently, our transportation team covers 27 bus routes throughout Los Angeles County with 2,487 miles being driven daily to ensure that our students have a safe ride to and from home daily.

In addition, South Pasadena Unified School District continues to be an amazing partner and is preparing approximately 500 breakfast and lunch meals daily to ensure that our students at Almansor Academy, Early Childhood Education, and Westmoreland Academy have healthy meals to nourish their bodies for a busy day of learning and activity.

Thanks to continued donations from the state and local partners, our schools have sufficient forehead thermometers, masks, gloves, and hand sanitizer to ensure the staff and students' safety during the school day. It truly takes a village to provide the care and education that IRL strives to provide to our students and clients....

WE ARE SO GRATEFUL!

Almansor Academy Back to School!



Westmoreland Academy Back to School!



Grants and Partnerships

IRL has been accepted as a partner of the National Cristina Foundation. This partnership, through a recent grant proposal, will allow access to technology, such as 3D printers, laptops, printers, etc. from companies that donate when they are upgrading their equipment. It also provides an opportunity for a company to directly donate technology to IRL that can be used in the classrooms and office sites. Our Development Associate, Gabriel Vazquez has already identified needs of the programs in hopes of those needs being fulfilled. In the spirit of giving back, we are also working with our IT department to consider donating our equipment that is no longer being used to this foundation to help another program that is in need.



September is Childhood Cancer Awareness Month

Childhood Cancer Awareness Month is a time when we celebrate advances in childhood cancer treatment and survivorship care. President Obama proclaimed September as National Childhood Cancer Awareness Month to bring awareness to pediatric cancer, which remains the leading cause of death by disease for children under the age of 14.



The survival rates for childhood cancer have risen from 10% in the 1960s to almost 80% today. However, each year, more than 15,000 kids and young adults are diagnosed with cancer—that's about 43 per day. Though the 5-year-survival rate for childhood cancers has reached 80 percent, nearly 2,000 kids under age 19 die each year, making cancer the leading killer of children by disease. In 2016, over 300,000+ kids and young adults were diagnosed worldwide. Click the link to donate today! <https://ourhope.cityofhope.org/give/357080/#!/donation/checkout>

Save the Date! 2nd Annual Online Auction!

IRL is having our second annual Online Silent Auction in the Fall to raise money to complete Westmoreland Academy's Sensory Playground. Started several years ago, the playground has gone through several revisions to make it safe for our students. Last year we raised \$7,330, however we need \$10,000 more to reach our goal to begin renovations. We are accepting sponsorships, monetary donations, and donations for the silent auction. Items such as jewelry, gift cards, wine, events, private vacation rentals, etc. Please contact Gabriel Vazquez at gvazquez@redesignlearning.org to donate or become a sponsor!



Ways You Can Help!

amazon smile "AmazonSmile" is a website operated by Amazon with the same products, prices, and shopping features as Amazon.com. The difference is that when you shop on AmazonSmile, the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price of eligible products to the charitable organization of your choice. Go to smile.amazon.com, login like normal, choose your charity (Institute for the Redesign of Learning) and you start to give with every purchase. Every dollar helps!

To help support our work throughout IRL as we start the new school year, please consider donating through our secure donation link on our website (www.redesignlearning.org)

Connect with us!



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