



The "I Have a Dream"® Charitable Trust



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It's hard to believe that we're at the end of our first full year of the "I Have a Dream"® Project, Wesley Class of 2012! We (Ant and Scott) wish a very Joyous Christmas and Festive New Year to all of the Dreamers, their Families, our wonderful Volunteers, our generous Corporate Partners and the broad readership of this Newsletter.

Key Events

There have been a number of significant activities in this 4th School Term:

- Microsoft donated additional computers and software for the Dreamers' homes
- We held a **fun**tastic Volunteer Appreciation Event at Waiheke Island
- Scott and Mary attended the IHAD Sponsors Conference in Chicago
- Mt Hobson Middle School is helping out at Wesley Primary School
- Corporate Tour of HP and Microsoft a great success

Computers into Dreamers' Homes

As you can see in this photo, Seini and her siblings are enjoying the use of the computer that was recently installed in their home. These additional 10 computers were donated by Microsoft, to go with the 20 earlier PCs from ANZ Bank.



Contact Details:

Project Coordinator:

Ant Backhouse

Project Sponsor:

Scott Gilmour

"I Have a Dream"®

Charitable Trust

P.O Box 27-501

Mt Roskill, Auckland

New Zealand

Ph: +64 9 620 5411

Fax: +64 9 620 5466

info@ihaveadream.org.nz

www.ihaveadream.org.nz

Volunteer Appreciation Event

Ant conducted an excellent Orientation Training on the morning of Saturday 29th November, and we then all went out for an extended lunch at Vino Vino on Waiheke Island. IHAD would not function as it does without the dedicated efforts of our 30+ volunteers, and we are extremely grateful to all of them for their time, enthusiasm and love.



HP/Microsoft Tour

The Dreamers visited Microsoft and HP on Friday 5th of December to present plaques to each company, in appreciation for their generous donations of computers, software, time and other assistance. While there, the Dreamers were given a very exciting tour of both buildings, including some time in the Xbox room at Microsoft. The HP Mini and Xbox 4WD were also a big hit, as you can see in these photo's. As you could imagine, it was hard to get them to leave!



IHAD Sponsors Conference

It was exciting to learn that IHAD staff from prior Projects in Chicago have gone on to extend the IHAD principles into public education and charter schools, with extremely positive impacts. Presentations included:

- Arne Duncan, who was a Sponsor of the Chicago Ariel Project, is now CEO of Chicago Public Schools, with a student base of over 430,00 children (<http://www.cps.k12.il.us>)
- John Horan, the PC for the Chicago Lawndale Project, went on to set up the North Lawndale College Prep Charter High School, which bridges public finance with local fund-raising, to bring improved educational outcomes to inner-city youth.

Both speakers were inspirational in how IHAD had affected their lives, and how they'd been encouraged to extend the benefits of IHAD to broader audiences.

We also heard from Jack Wuest, the Executive Director of the Chicago Alternative Schools Network (<http://www.asnchicago.org/>). Jack outlined some disturbing research on the alarming numbers of what is being termed "disconnected youth" in America.

Mt Hobson Middle School

Another positive outcome of all the great press coverage we had earlier this year is that the Year 8 students from this private school are visiting the Year 6 class at Wesley Primary School every Tuesday afternoon, for reading skill development. We wish to thank Principal Alwyn Poole and his staff for their help in further extending the IHAD program's benefits beyond the 35 Dreamers.

"The "I Have a Dream"® Program helps children from low-income areas reach their education and career goals by providing a long-term program of mentoring, tutoring, and enrichment, with an assured opportunity for higher education."