





Equal Footing Foundation







History and Goals

The Method


The Club Houses!

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History

“Established by the Northern Virginia Technology Council Board of Directors (NVTC) as a way to give back to the community through programs that would address issues of workforce, computer literacy and educational development for underserved youth.”


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Goals

- Strengthen academic achievement, especially in the areas of science, technology, engineering and math. (STEM)
- Promote verbal and written communications skills
- Connect the path of education to real world applications
- Cultivate an environment that encourages youth to work as designers, inventors and creators
- Foster a sense of community where young people work with one another with support and inspiration from adult mentors.
- Provide youth with programs that would get them excited about learning

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History and Goals

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The Club Houses!

The Computer Clubhouse

- Part of an international effort developed through a collaboration between the Boston Museum of Science, MIT Media Lab, and Intel.



The Computer Clubhouse

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- An innovative and safe after school learning center where children ages 8-18, many of whom do not have access to technology at home, can work with adult mentors to learn, develop and explore their potential.
 - Core focus on STEM
 - Technology tools



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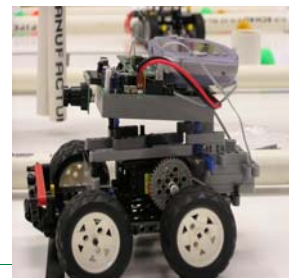
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Methodology

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- “Adventure in Education”
 - Education without school curriculum
 - Learn through hands-on inquiry
 - Peer/mentor collaboration
 - Homework First!
 - Learning skills in context



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Partnership



- Local County Governments
 - Community Centers
- Educational Institutions
- Local Businesses
- National Corporations with local footprint
- Other Nonprofits
- Community/Chamber Relationships

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The Result




- An “equal opportunity” environment where youth can access the tools, mentors, technology and programs they need to compete in a skilled and educated workforce.



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The Computer Clubhouse


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- First "Computer Clubhouse" launched in 1999
- In spring of 2006, the name was changed from the Northern Virginia Technology Council Foundation to the Equal Footing Foundation (www.efooting.org)

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Equal Footing Foundation

From Clubhouse to College to Career

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Computer Clubhouse

EFF Focus

Graduate Engineering and R&D

Bannister Scholarship

Undergraduate Degrees

Partnerships with Local Universities and Community Colleges

Entry Level Jobs/Technicians

Certificate Programs


High School Graduates

Computer Clubhouse Programs

FROM CLUBHOUSE TO COLLEGE TO CAREER



Address educational levels for:

- High School Graduates
- Workforce Development
- College Recruitment
- Technical Certificates




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Primary Focus





- EFF provides mentors, programs, technology, and scholarships to underserved youth in the Northern Virginia region through the Computer Clubhouse program.




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Secondary Benefits



- Cross-purposed in daytime hours for...
 - Adults
 - Senior Citizens
 - Unemployed
 - Underemployed
- “Community Center”
 - Junior Achievement
 - Rockets and Robotics



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Clubhouse Programs



- Science
- Math
- Programming and Web Design
 - Visual C and C++
- Gaming
 - Design/implementation
- Music Recording
- Video Production
- Art and Illustration



More Than a Hangout!

- Career Development
- Computer Literacy Skills
- BotBall Robotics Tournament
- Virginia Space Flight Academy Scholarships
- Clubhouse Scholarship Funds
- Computer Clubhouse
 - Participation=Community
- Rockets and Robotics Club
- Clubhouse Speaker Series/Role Models







Proven Success!




- Nationally recognized program
- Successful “Hybrid Model”
- Partnership between businesses, nonprofits and local county governments.
- Sustainable programs created to impact the community
- Fostering key relationship between mentors/volunteers and youth

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Community Benefits



- Establish stronger economic capabilities for the community and its future.
- Create an “equal opportunity” for economically challenged children and adults in Northern Virginia.
- Build a stronger, highly skilled workforce.



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Computer Clubhouse - Current

➤ Fairfax County

- Serving 1,500 registered weekly users ages 8-18
- 30,000 individual users, both adult and children



Computer Clubhouses - Current

➤ Locations

- Mott Community Center
- Reston Teen Center
- Bailey's Community Center
- Willston Multicultural Center
- James Lee Community Center
- Gum Springs Community Center



Computer Clubhouses - Future

- Fauquier County
 - 2009
- Loudoun County
 - ?
- Prince William County
 - ?



Path to Success

- Computer Clubhouse Partnership
 - Local County Governments
 - Educational Institutions
 - Local Businesses
 - National Corporations with local footprint
 - Equal Footing Foundation
 - Other Nonprofits
 - Community/Chamber Relationships

Computer Clubhouse

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- A Reflection of the Community
 - Each one is unique
 - A demographic representation of the community
 - Mentors and volunteers from all aspects of the business community-
 - Types of educational programs depend on students participating in each program
 - Flexibility of partnerships to best serve Clubhouse needs/requirements

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