



ConnectiKids

Educating, Enriching, and Empowering Hartford's Youth Since 1978

MAY NEWSLETTER

Community Events & More

- ConnectiKids Summer Registration – May 4th
- ConnectiKids Botanical Ball – May 9th
- Celebrate West Hartford – June 6th & 7th
- Champion for Change Campaign – Year-Round

Shack Shack Fundraiser



SHAKE  SHACK®

DONATION DAY

Wednesday, May 13th to
Wednesday, May 13th
10:30am-10:30pm

Mention Donation Day at the register or drive-thru, or use promo code **DONATE** on the Shack App, web or kiosk at checkout and we'll donate **25%** of your total meal purchase to

ConnectiKids

WEST HARTFORD
1445 New Britain Ave. | West Hartford, CT 06110

When using the Shack App/Web to place an order, please note the Shack location that is hosting your organization's Donation Day. Donations are only acceptable for dine-in, to-go or app & web pick up orders. Order placed through the Shack app & website for delivery or through a third party delivery partner will not count toward the Donation Day.

Looking for a great meal and a way to give back?

Join us at Shake Shack for a delicious way to support ConnectiKids! Simply mention "ConnectiKids Donation Day" at the register or drive-thru, or use promo code 'DONATE' in the Shake Shack App, and **25% of your purchase will go directly to ConnectiKids.** Bring your friends, enjoy a great meal, and make an impact!

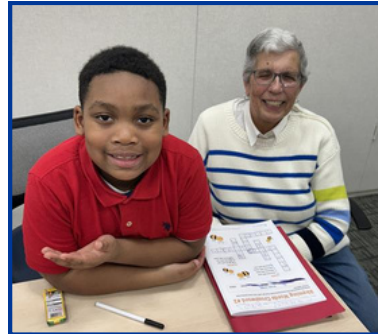
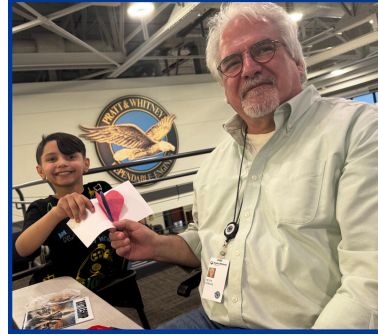
Date: Wednesday, May 13th

Time: Open to Close (10:00 am - 10:30 pm)

ConnectiKids Programming



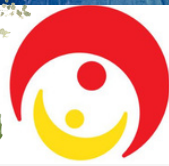
Mentoring Matters



About 1 in 3 young people in the United States grow up without a mentor outside their family, and for boys in particular, that absence is even more pronounced. In fact, 38% of boys report having no male mentor for schoolwork. Without these supportive relationships, youth are significantly more likely to feel isolated and lack a sense of belonging.

What's even more concerning is that this gap is getting worse, not better. Today's young adults are less likely to have had a mentor than previous generations. Research consistently shows that mentoring is a key protective factor in a child's life; its absence removes a critical buffer against stress, disengagement, and risk behavior.

The difference a mentor makes is striking. ConnectiKids exists to close a gap that is both widespread and deeply consequential. These statistics reveal a clear pattern: mentoring doesn't just improve one area; it strengthens academic performance, mental health, behavior, and long-term success. More than anything, this is a reminder of the meaningful work we're doing every day, helping young people feel supported, capable, and seen.



ConnectiKids

Educating, Enriching, and Empowering Hartford's Youth Since 1978

MAY NEWSLETTER



ConnectiKids Features



SUMMER PROGRAM



SUMMER CITS



Registration is now open for ConnectiKids' Marvel Infinity Summer Program for students in grades 2–8. This five-week July program, inspired by the Infinity Stones, engages students in hands-on learning, team challenges, and interactive experiences that build leadership, creativity, and confidence. A \$150 non-refundable registration fee is required, and free breakfast and lunch are provided.

Registration is also open for high school students to participate in the paid CIT Program. This program includes professional development and hands-on experience co-leading class activities for younger students. CITs also gain exposure to colleges and career pathways. A \$150 non-refundable registration fee is required, and free breakfast and lunch are provided.



REGISTRATIONS NOW AVAILABLE HERE:

<https://ct-kids.org/programs/summer-program/>

ConnectiKids Engagement



Reminder: Our office will be closed on Monday, May 25th, in observance of Memorial Day. We honor and remember those who have served and sacrificed for our country. Enjoy the long weekend!

Connect with ConnectiKids



Tickets are still on sale for our most anticipated event of the year! The Botanical Ball brings our community together to celebrate growth, connection, and the power of opportunity for Hartford youth. Buy a ticket, get that suit or dress you've been waiting to wear, and come show your support!



Celebrate West Hartford is a lively community festival full of energy, entertainment, and fun for all ages. Stop by our table to learn more about our programs, meet our team, enjoy cool prizes, and see how we're making a difference for Hartford students.



Support ConnectiKids through our Sunshine Summer Drive! Help us create an enriching summer program. Take a look at our wish list!

CONNECT WITH US

