

KEYSPOT Update: Internet For All!! (Cheap!!)

In July 2013, the 19 PPR KEYSPOTS, public access computer labs in Rec Centers staffed by trained Computer Instructors, transitioned from being funded by a federal grant to funded by the City, and spent the year serving thousands of kids and adults fifteen hours per week. They were busy all year long, but really hummed in the summer with lots of campers playing and learning. And KEYSPOT staff helped set up 20 additional labs with computers donated by Kevin Hart in October.

There is a lot to report on from the year, and some exciting possibilities in the works for the near future that we'll report on in the next newsletter, but right now we want everyone to know about an opportunity to get the internet at home for a fantastic deal. Until September 20, through its program Internet Essentials, Comcast is offering **free internet service for six months** to qualifying families, and then an ongoing rate of \$9.95/month. They also announced an amnesty program for certain low-income families who could qualify for Internet Essentials, but have a past due balance. Customers who have an outstanding bill that is more than one-year old are now eligible for the program. Comcast will offer amnesty for that debt for the purpose of connecting to Internet Essentials, so long as the customer meets all the other eligibility criteria.

For more information or to apply for the program, visit www.InternetEssentials.com or call 1-855-846-8376, or, for Spanish, visit www.InternetBasico.com or call 1-855-765-6995.

Important Note: Neither PPR nor any City staff person is receiving anything from Comcast for sharing this information, nor are we endorsing Comcast over any other internet service provider company. We are telling you about it as part of the KEYSPOTS mission of bridging the digital divide and because we think it might be a great deal for anyone who can take advantage of it! There are other low-cost options available by going to <http://everyoneon.org/> and typing in your zip code.

Contact Ben Burenstein (Benjamin.burenstein@phila.gov) with questions.