



## Teens Build Your Own Computer class

### Outcome Report

September – October 2010

Prepared by Jorge Tello – Program Coordinator.

Thanks to the generous support of Intel, in September 2010 we had our first “Build your own Computer Class” for teens. Eight teenagers from Jose Arciga, Jose Echeverria, Montebello and Reedville apartments were able to complete the class. Intel provided a grant of \$4000.00 to purchase the hardware components. A group of Intel volunteers, working with Bienestar Board member Larry Snow, designed the program and developed a plan for its implementation.

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This class was every Tuesday from 6:30 to 8:30 PM at Montebello Apartment’s community room for five weeks. We started the first class by encouraging the teens to try something different, like building their own computer; we introduced the idea by showing a video that gives a complete overview of computer hardware and the different functions every part of the computer does, followed by a detailed explanation of the parts by computer hardware expert and volunteer Greg Tomkins. Once the idea was presented, a word of encouragement was given to the students, to motivate them in completing this class; they were very enthusiastic with this new challenge.



A pre test was also given to the students to determine their levels of computer hardware and software knowledge. In this class every student learned the basic terminology of how the computer hardware and software function together, how the computer works and is assembled, and what are the necessary steps, hardware, and software for the computer to work properly.

New computer parts were ordered with the funds donated by Intel (computer cases, motherboards, hard drives, cd/dvd drives, ram monitors, keyboards, mice, wireless adapters, tool kits). Bienestar provided the operating system and MS office suites software.

By the second class, things got more exciting, "we started building". Volunteer Greg Tompkins and Program Coordinator Jorge Tello helped the students to prepare the computer cases for assembling the parts; every student had a tool kit with an antistatic wrist strap. In this part we emphasized that reading manuals and following instructions would make things a lot easier.



In this class the students were able to assemble the motherboard, the processor, ram, hard drive and cd/dvd drives.



Every time the teens came to class after that we started building. They were very excited and ready for a new challenge! This made us (instructor and volunteer) get motivated to do our best. After every class we talked about how brilliant these teens were and how quickly they learned.

We enjoyed the fun, humor, jokes and text messages from these teens. There was also a sense of community, of maturity and respect, a sense of care for each other, of friendship and leadership with each other. "Every time Greg or I were busy helping someone, the ones that were done with their work took the initiative of helping others getting their work done"



After all the hardware was installed and cables connected, the students installed the software on their computers. This was a moment of a little tension, "we were about to turn on our computers for the first time" but thanks to those who followed instructions carefully, most of the computers turned on right away. In some others Greg Tomkins did troubleshooting with the students and they were able to figure out what the problem was (in one pc, the power cord wasn't connected to the wall)



By the end of this class every student went home with a working computer, running Windows operating system, MS Office, anti virus software and internet ready.

We were very proud of their accomplishments and how well they did their work!

There was also a post test about the computer hardware and software knowledge after the whole class, the results were very satisfactory.

The families of these teenagers are not able to purchase a new computer for them, but thanks to Bienestar and Intel for providing this program, eight teenagers will have a good working computer to do their homework projects, communicate with friends and family and to use their computers for a better life style.

Getting to know the students and work with them, was such a great experience for me!

Respectfully submitted,

Jorge Tello

Follow the link to see more pictures:

**Build your own computer class pictures!**



## Computer assessment test

This questionnaire is to see how much information you have about computers. The results will not be used as a requirement for you to attend the class, there will be another Test at the end of the class.

"Please mark 2 if your answer is YES and mark 0 if your answer is NO and mark 1 if you are not sure of the answer"

<b>Build your own computer</b>	<b>Pre Test</b>			<b>Post Test</b>		
	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>NOT SURE</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>NOT SURE</b>
<b>General Knowledge:</b>						
Do you know how to use a computer?	8			8		
Do you know how the computer works?	7		1	8		
Can you name the components of a PC?	4		4	5		3
Do you know what internet is?	7		1	8		
Do you know what a laptop is?	8			8		
Do you know what PC means?	5		3	7		1

<b>Computer Hardware</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>NOT SURE</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>NOT SURE</b>
Can you build a Computer?	4	2	2	7		1
Do you know what hardware is?	7	1		6		2
Do you know what a Hard Drive is?	8			7		1
Do you know what a main board is?	3	3	2	7		1
Do you know what a Power supply is?	4	2	2	6		2
Can you name one hardware component?	3	3	2	7		1
What is RAM?		4	4	6		2
Do you know what a processor is?	3	2	3	6		2
Can you name a processor brand?	2	2	4	6		2
Do you know what a CD/DVD drive is?	6		2	8		

<b>Computer Software</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>NOT SURE</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>NOT SURE</b>
What is software?	5	2	1	5		3
Have you used any software?	5	1	2	5		3
What kind of software you used?	3	2	3	7	1	
Can you name a software component?	2	1	5	4	1	3
What is the Operating System?	1	3	4	4	1	3
Can you mention any kind of Operating System?	2	2	4	3	2	3