

Inspiring Student Quotes

e-Learning Porirua is about getting a free computer and some subsidised internet, or is it? Actually e-Learning Porirua provides a whole lot more than this. It gives people hope and confidence, and makes them feel more able to help their kids with school work and engage with the school. But rather than the Trust tell you, why not let the students say it in their own words.

“I can understand a lot more about computers and the internet. I also know what a Gmail is and have one and know how to work and explore it further than just email.”

“After 10 weeks attending Computers in homes Porirua, I have grown in confidence with using different tools on the computer, including turbo typing, Publisher and PowerPoint, to name a few. For this, I am very grateful that I have had the opportunity to learn and achieve my goals.”

“I took up this course to be able to communicate with family and friends, who have a computer. Learning about computer technology will be most beneficial once I have learned all the basic skills. I hope to be able to share information & news with all my family. Now I feel I am improving my computer skills with each lesson.”

“When your teenage boys and your primary school aged girls, and even your 65 year old father know more about computers than you do, it’s time to join the revolution. As soon as I heard about this course, I thought this is what I need, what my family needs!”

(See over for more quotes)

The photo opposite is the graduating class from Course 61 – Term 1 2015.

Report Card 2014–2015 year

1,101 ... households in Porirua City with school aged children without internet access out of 62,000 nationally.

3500 ... estimated number of households in Porirua City with school aged children without a computer.

169 ... Computers in Homes graduates in the financial year ending 31 March 2015.

825 ... children in these households who benefitted.

301 ... adults benefitted in the same household.

1755 ... families who have graduated in Computers in Homes in Porirua City since January 2002.

7214 ... children benefitted since courses commenced.

2447 ... other adults in the same household benefitted since courses commenced.

250 ... people who have graduated in Stepping Up courses 2014 - 15.

901 ... total number of people graduated in Stepping Up courses since 2011.



PCCITET – who are we?

The Porirua City Community IT Educational Trust (e-Learning Porirua) was established in 2001 and aims to bridge the digital divide by training families in computer skills to give them the confidence and tools to get a job and therefore reduce unemployment, while also lifting student achievement levels in the 25 low decile schools in Porirua City and one in Linden. The Trust has just extended its reach to include low income parents in the seven higher decile schools in Porirua City.

Parents are targeted who do not have a job or a computer at home. The Trust also assists low decile schools in Porirua City to obtain a higher ratio of computers to pupils with interest free loans to schools to purchase new computers. Our assistance to schools alone has amounted to approximately half a million dollars and the total assistance now amounts to over \$4 million.

In the mid-1990s the numbers of homes with a computer in the suburb of Whitby was 80%, but in Porirua East it was just 6%. The last Census in 2013 showed homes with the internet averaged 53.8% in the suburb of Cannons Creek, 51.5% in Waitangirua and 71% in Titahi Bay, while it was 95% in Whitby.

Computers in Homes courses are held weekly for 8 to 10 weeks each term. Students learn the basics of how to use a computer, gmail, Google Apps, word processing and how to write a CV. Graduations are held at the end of each school term.

Graduates take home a refurbished computer and are provided with a 12 month subsidised internet connection and technical support supplied by the Trust.



Refugee Courses



Graduation day for nine Syrian, one Burmese and two Afghani families in Term 1 2015

From July 2014 e-Learning Porirua became the Wellington region's sole provider of CIH Refugee courses and signed a two year contract for this with the Ministry of Education. The contract was for 30 places over two years.

The Trust has run two courses since then and had 26 refugee families complete the programme. This meant that there were only four places left for 2015-16 so extra places have been sought from the Ministry of Education and 2020 Communications Trust. Another 10 places will now be funded for the Wellington Region.

Over the last year our courses have benefited refugees from: Colombia, Burma (Myanmar), Syria, Iraq, Afghanistan, Eritrea, and Egypt.



Refugees – hard at work, learning new skills with their tutor.

Research Outcomes (undertaken 12 months after graduation)

30% ... enrolled in other courses after graduation. (8% for NCEA/unit standards, 2.5% trade certificate, 4% degrees, 7% adult literacy/writing, 5% business studies, 12% computing/ICT, 4% languages, 5% Maori studies/Te Reo, 3% nursing/ health, 2% social work, 4% teaching, 11% work skills).

98% ... completed Stepping Up courses

28% ... gained a job (13% full time, 15% part time)

24% ... of other adults in the CIH households obtained jobs (11% fulltime and 13% part-time).

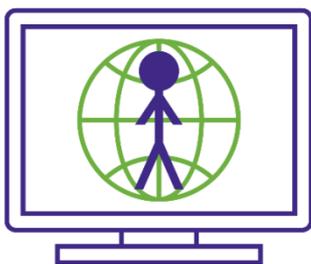
40% ... said using a computer was helpful in getting a job.

26% ... enrolled in further training within 12 months of graduating from Computers in Homes.

34% ... acquired new skills.

33% ... used job seeker websites.

33% ... felt confident about seeking employment.



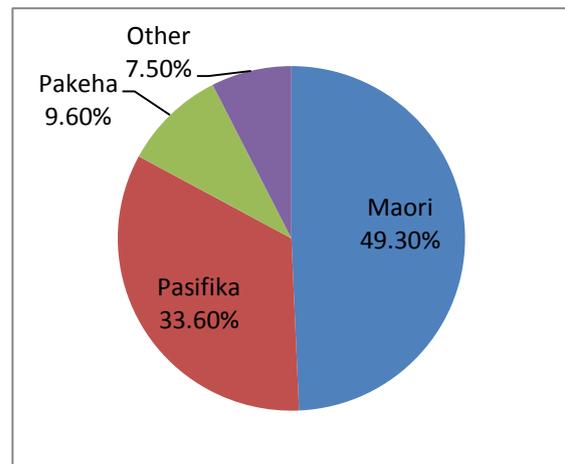
Graduates 2014 – 2015

Course 56 – Term 2	2014,	40	June
Course 57 – Refugee CIH –		10	June
Course 58 – Term 3	2014,	42	Sept
Course 59 – Term 4	2014,	22	Dec
Course 60 – Refugee CIH –		14	Dec
Course 61 – Term 1	2015,	41	April

Total - April 2014 to Mar 2015 = **169**

Profile of our CIH Graduates

Ethnicity



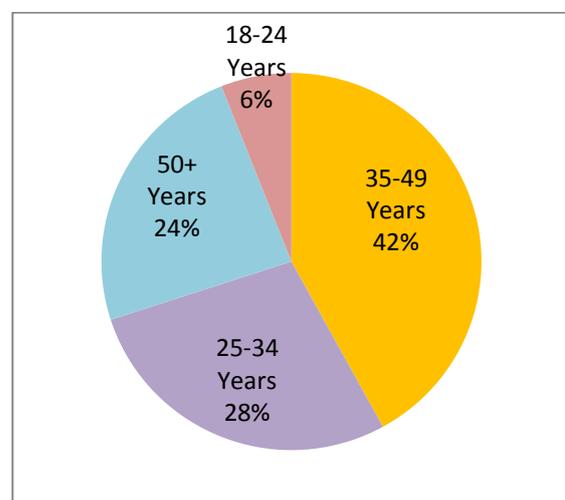
Education & Training

No qualification	62%
School qualification	21%
Tech/Trade qualification	14%
Tertiary	3%

Since CIH Graduation

- 12%** Enrolled at polytechnic
 - 18%** Enrolled to complete NZQA units
 - 98%** Complete Stepping Up modules
 - 25%** Enrolled in a Wananga Course
- Others include obtaining a drivers licence, apprenticeships, self-learning online, going to Senior Net.

Age Distribution



Stepping Up Programme.

This additional programme, run by the Trust, offers 10 hour modules (four digital steps) of specific training to upgrade basic computer skills and is provided at our training centre for our Computers in Homes students and others in the community.

There are 25+ Digital Steps taught including word processing, spread sheets, on-line trading, communications for work, employment readiness, home finances etc.



Some of our regular Stepping Up attendees.

More Student Quotes

"It (the course) really has motivated me to want to learn more and it has brought back interest in wanting to gain skills and qualifications and eventually get back to work. That is a goal of mine, and it seemed quite a daunting goal before this course, as it's been a long time. I felt that I had nothing to offer besides being a mum, because my skills were redundant and my qualifications and job references are out of date now, so my confidence was very low before. Now I've connected with other people learning too, I feel more confident about heading into something to learn next year."

"I never had the courage to work with computers, but now I'm loving it. I am looking forward to taking a computer home because it will be so useful for me. I have just enrolled at Whitireia Polytech, taking level one in computing and this will help keep the momentum going. I will be able to help the kids, especially with their school work and now I can go online to check how they doing in school."

Survey Analysis Outcomes

Internet Connections

Access to the internet is no-longer considered a luxury; some countries now list internet access as a basic human right. Unfortunately New Zealand has not accepted this yet.

The subsidised internet access we provide still requires a weekly contribution of \$7 per week by families. For many this is unaffordable.

70% use naked broadband
14% had an existing telephone line and choose the broadband ADSL option.
2% chose not to have an internet connection citing cost as a barrier. The balance were undecided or were not ready.

Improved Educational Attainment

An impressive 33% of school-aged children are performing above average at school with a home computer, while 62% are average and 5% are below average.

66% of children use a home computer to do homework and research school projects (25% for 2 hours per day, 23% for one hour per day and 19% for 2 hours each week).

Parents tell us that their children are doing better at school because they have a computer and internet available at home.

Children who do not have a computer are seriously disadvantaged compared with those that do.

Free WiFi Project and Sustainable Connectivity

For over 15 years e-Learning Trust has been up-skilling Porirua residents through its training programmes. Providing expertise and PC's to families has significantly increased adult employment skills and children's educational achievement over that time. The next challenge is to be able to provide affordable internet access to the residents in the eastern suburbs.

e-Learning is working with Smartlinx 3 to provide free WiFi in Cannons Creek. This provides residential internet access to a large number of homes in that area. e-Learning is exploring solutions to give more coverage to Cannons Creek and then to progressively extend a service out to the other eastern suburbs and Titahi Bay. These suburbs are not expected to get fibre until 2019 and even when they do affordability and sustainability will continue to be issues.

The Trust has made submissions to the Porirua City Council for their Ten Year Plan, urging them to provide a clear statement of a post-Gigatown digital strategy. The Trust suggested the council mandate a small group to draft a set of options and investment proposals to discuss with interested parties to achieve equitable internet coverage in lower income areas of the city.



One WiFi access point is based at the Cannons Creek Shops.

More Student Quotes

"My search for learning and my journey will not end here..... The confidence I have now in computers is endless thanks to the Computers in Homes course..... I know there's still a lot more for me to learn about computers, but starting here was the best decision. What I love the most is I can now help my kids with their homework on the computer and feel very confident. For me it's the best feeling ever whoop whoop!"

"I feel like I can now be on the same page with my children, to learn with them and even help them with homework, doing a presentation for school etc. Just knowing how to navigate my way around things like google has been amazing for me."



Above – Daphne Swinton receives her prize from Tutor Peter Lynch for the best Learning Story - Term 1 2015.

"When I first started this course, I did not know how to use a keyboard or computer. Now that we have finished this course I am getting better and better because I can type words and sentences now whereas before I found it very hard."

"Learning how to do PowerPoint presentations, all the extra functions of the Google apps beyond Gmail, Maps or Search, and the relaxed atmosphere of the class helped me become motivated to want to learn these things."

OurPorirua.com

Board member Wendy Betteridge is managing and writing articles for this community based information platform which has an increasing number of Porirua's community organisations' stories about their activities.

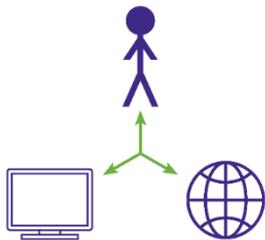
Project Management

Tim Davies-Colley, our Project Manager, is also tutoring some courses. He is ably assisted in tutoring by Peter Lynch (refugee courses) and Ibrahim Raouf-Morton. Technician - Noel Evans is supported by John Davies-Colley and Peter Lynch.

Acknowledgments

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e-Learning Websites

For further information on e-Learning Porirua, go to our website:
<http://e-learning.org.nz>

or have a look at our blog:
<http://cih-porirua.blogspot.co.nz>

And like us on Facebook
<http://goo.gl/9mnMVA>

Learning Management System – Moodle:
<http://computerinhomes.com/>



Peter's (Peter Lynch) turn to receive – students in Course 63 gave back to the tutors.

The Board of e-Learning Porirua

(Members live or work in Porirua City)

Graham Kelly (Chair)
Philip Major (Deputy Chair)
Wendy Betteridge
Sue Chard
Tim Davies-Colley
Kris Faafoi MP (replaced Winnie Laban)
Douglas Harre
Chris Lipscombe
Martyn Newman-Hall
Murray Woodley (Treasurer)

The Final Word – feedback from an ex-student.

"I have the job of my dreams!

I applied online, did four assessment tests online and now in my workplace my computer learning has been a necessity for the amount of documenting we undertake.

Kasadi can now read to a level we thought would never happen! This has been helped enormously by her being able to access online learning.

I cannot express how grateful I am to Computers in Homes and all the people involved."