

Connections For Tomorrow (C4T)



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: January 3, 2005

Contact: Tara Kumar, 617-354-0825 x13 / Amy Lesser, 202-462-1200

Massachusetts Nonprofits Awarded \$750,000 to Build Technology Skills of Homeless Persons & At-Risk Youth

CAMBRIDGE, MA-- Nearly 40 Massachusetts community-based organizations have received \$750,000 in competitive grants and technical assistance, through a unique capacity-building initiative for programs that build the technology skills of at-risk youth and homeless individuals.

Connections for Tomorrow (C4T) is a three-year collaboration led by the Community Technology Centers' Network (CTCNet) in partnership with the Alliance for Technology Access (<http://www.ataccess.org>), a national network of community-based resources, developers and vendors dedicated to providing improved and increased access to assistive and information technologies; and TechMission (<http://www.techmission.org>), serving over 500 faith-based member organizations that are working to address the digital divide through its program, the Association of Christian Community Computer Centers. Funding is provided through the Compassion Capital Fund, under the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Faith-Based and Community Initiative.

"CTCNet is pleased to provide this infusion of funds to Massachusetts community technology centers so they can more effectively and sustainably provide technology training to homeless individuals and at-risk youth. Our grantee organizations are helping to ensure that all of segments of society (Massachusetts citizens) have the skills to fully participate in the 21st century", said Kavita Singh, CTCNet executive director.

A total of 68 organizations competed for awards in the Massachusetts grants process, with 37 grantees being chosen for funding. Over 80 additional organizations throughout Illinois and California have received a total of \$1.5 million in support since C4T's inception. The full listing of 2004-2005 grantees, as well as information on past recipients, is available online at: <http://www.ctcnet.org/c4t/>

Founded in 1990, CTCNet is a membership network of more than 1,000 organizations that provides resources and advocacy to improve the quality and sustainability of community technology at the local, national and international level. Its work is rooted in a desire to enhance learning, communication, and civic participation through equitable technology access.

CTCNet also hosts the annual national conference for community technology, to be held in Cleveland, OH June 17-19, 2005. More information available online at: www.ctcnet.org

###