



community technology centers' network

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**California Community Based Organizations Receive \$750,000
to Address Underserved Neighborhood Needs Through Technology**

WASHINGTON - Over 40 community-based organizations throughout California have received \$750,000 in grants through an innovative capacity-building program led by CTCNet (<http://www.ctcnet.org>) to foster innovation in addressing neighborhood needs through community technology.

Connections for Tomorrow (C4T) (<http://www.ctcnet.org/c4t>), funded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Compassion Capital Fund, provides grants and technical assistance for small and medium size community-based organizations to build needed capacity, gain vital program expertise, and develop effective accessibility solutions to better meet the needs of at-risk youth and homeless individuals, including people with disabilities.

"C4T extends our longstanding track record of connecting people within our field in order to expand the range of organizations-- including community and faith-based groups-- able to take advantage of vital information and financial resources to ensure their success and sustainability," said Kavita Singh, CTCNet's executive director.

This year, 13 California organizations received grants of up to \$23,000 apiece to enhance the technology skills of homeless individuals and families through the creation or expansion of community technology programs. In addition, 29 organizations received grants of up to \$17,000 programs creatively using technology with at-risk youth. The full listing of 2003-2004 grantees is available at: <http://www.ctcnet.org/c4t/grants/ca2004grantees.htm>.

C4T is a three-year collaboration led by CTCNet 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 the Association of Christian Community Computer Centers (AC4). A total of 42 groups received \$750,000 during 2002-2003 in Illinois. Similar levels of grantmaking activity will occur in Massachusetts during 2004-2005.

Founded in 1990, CTCNet is a national nonprofit membership organization, representing over 1000 community technology centers and programs. Member organizations develop, support, and expand community technology by providing access to, training on, and support for information and communications technologies (ICT) in disadvantaged and underserved communities. CTCNet sponsors an annual conference on technology equity and digital opportunity. The 13th Annual Conference, "Building Connected Communities: The Power of People & Technology," will be held in Seattle, WA from June 11-13, 2004.

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