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COMPUTERS 4 KIDS ANNOUNCES CHALLENGE GRANT '04

Charlottesville, Virginia – February 12, 2004 - The Board of Directors of Computers4 Kids today announced the organization's Challenge Grant '04 initiative designated to support their annual operational and program expenses. An anonymous donor has recently committed a generous \$50,000 challenge grant to the Computers4Kids program and under the grant's provisions; C4K must now raise matching funds by the end of March 2004.

"The success of our Challenge Grant '04 initiative is critical to continuing the Computers 4 Kids mission of bridging the digital divide in our community", comments Board Member, Mark Giles. "This challenge grant initiative represents the continued private/public sector partnership that has allowed our program to significantly impact the lives of economically disadvantaged youth in the Charlottesville-Albemarle area."

Since 1999, Computers4Kids has been providing the area's middle-school children with the opportunity to succeed in a technology-dependent world. Over the past five years, the organization has worked to recruit, train and match mentors with targeted youth that might not otherwise have a chance to acquire important computer skills and ownership. C4K receives computers from area businesses and individuals, refurbishes them to standard, installs appropriate software, and provides ongoing training and mentoring at their learning lab now located in the Connected Community Technology Center. Each successful student *earns* a refurbished computer and printer for his/her home allowing for increased academic achievement, career development and basic self-esteem. Computers4Kids depends on the generous support of area businesses and individuals to continue this important Charlottesville/ Albemarle community program.

For more information on the Computers4Kids Challenge Grant '04 initiative, please call Kala Somerville at 817.1121 or visit our website at www.computers4kids.net

