

Grant funds computers in Richmond's Iron Triangle

By Chris Treadway
Contra Costa Times

Posted: 02/24/2010 04:50:56 PM PST

Updated: 02/24/2010 04:50:56 PM PST

RICHMOND — A \$500,000 grant that will be used to provide computers and training to students and small-business owners in the Iron Triangle area of Richmond was announced this week.

The grant from the California Emerging Technology Fund is intended to narrow the "digital divide" that leaves lower-income areas at a disadvantage without access to digital and information technology now common in more affluent areas.

The money will fund 1,000 computers that will go to homes in the Iron Triangle, Santa Fe and Nystrom neighborhoods with students who are in school and have no computer. Small-business owners in the area also qualify for the program.

The grant will be presented by U.S. Rep. George Miller, D-Martinez, and Sunne McPeak, president and CEO of the California Emerging Technology Fund, at a ceremony Saturday at Building Blocks for Kids, a nonprofit coalition that was chosen to administer the computer distribution and provide computer skills training for the computer recipients.

Training will be done at the Escalante Center, a new community classroom on Macdonald Avenue designed to provide computer literacy skills to area residents and entrepreneurs. Recipients must attend six hours of training to earn a computer.

Building Blocks also will provide three years of no-cost Internet access for the families, provided the recipients "use their machines to connect with resources, city and countywide."

Learn more about Building Blocks for Kids at www.bbk-richmond.org.

Contact Chris Treadway at 510-262-2784.

Advertisement

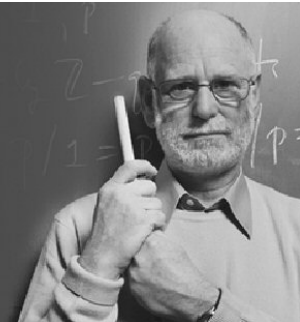


Florida Tech
UNIVERSITY ONLINE



APPLY TODAY!

FloridaTechOnline.com/FD | 1-888-253-5946



Print Powered By  FormatDynamics™