



City of Cincinnati

Date: March 19, 2009

Contact: Doug Carter or Jerry Wilkerson, Regional Computer Center, 352-6445

Closing the Digital Divide... "IT Takes" A Village

"I.T. Village" Youth Lab Graduates Third Class; Twenty Students Receive Computers/Printers

WHAT: The City of Cincinnati, Dell, Inc., and Uptown Consortium is proud to announce the 3rd graduating class of the "I.T. Village" Youth Lab program. Twenty students from grades 6 -12 completed the six-week program designed to teach important computer skills necessary in today's competitive job market. The "I.T. Village" Youth Lab helps bridge the digital divide by bringing together youth, technology, and expert IT and business practitioners to connect general technology knowledge into advanced practice. Area students were selected by lottery, after completing an application/qualification process. In order to provide access to students citywide, the "Villages" are hosted in two locations: the "Uptown Village" (Avondale Community Pride Center) and the "Downtown Village" (Centennial Plaza II, Ste. 300). Selected students met each Tuesday and Thursday for six weeks. Every student completing the entire six-week program receives a Dell computer and printer. The program has graduated 54 students.

Milt Stegall, former Cincinnati Bengal and Winnipeg Blue Bomber will provide words of encouragement to the graduates and their families.

WHEN: Friday, March 20, 2009 at 4:00 p.m.

WHERE: 805 Central Avenue
Two Centennial Plaza Auditorium

WHO: City Manager Milton R. Dohoney, Jr.
Margo Springs - Regional Computer Center Director
Tony Brown - Uptown Consortium, Inc.
Michelle D. McGee - Dell, Inc.
Milt Stegall – former Cincinnati Bengal & Winnipeg Blue Bomber
Avondale Community Pride Center
Urban League of Greater Cincinnati
Cincinnati Youth Collaborative
Sogeti USA LLC

PHOTO OPPORTUNITY: Graduation Class.