



NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Computer recycling drive to be held on Saturday, April 4, 10 am – 4 pm, in Hilliard *Second Recycle Your Computer Day to Benefit Habitat Families*

Columbus, Ohio (March 16, 2009) – Habitat for Humanity-Greater Columbus and TechUsed will be collecting used desktop computers, laptops, monitors, hard drives and other computing equipment on **Saturday, April 4**, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at TechUsed located at 4231-H Leap Road, Hilliard, 43026. The donated computers will be refurbished and distributed to approximately 75 Franklin County Habitat families in need of home computers.

Black desktop monitors and Pentium 4 processors are most needed, but all donations are appreciated. Computer equipment does not have to be in working order to be donated. TechUsed will securely destroy all data files on donated equipment as a part of refurbishing to ensure privacy of any stored information.

Donated computers that may be beyond repair will be disassembled, destroyed and environmentally recycled to divert harmful computer materials such as lead, mercury and PCBs from our local landfill. A portion of the proceeds from the sale of any recycled materials also benefits Habitat for Humanity-Greater Columbus and helps to purchase software programs for the refurbished computers.

"We thank TechUsed for partnering with Habitat to help us collect and refurbish these computers. Adults in the recipient families use the computers to manage family needs such as budgeting and keeping up with home-care information while the children use the computers for homework, extended learning and entertainment," said E.J. Thomas, CEO, Habitat for Humanity-Greater Columbus.

After being refurbished, computer equipment is delivered to Habitat families' homes throughout Franklin County. Habitat staff and volunteers assist families with setting up the computer and provide training to family members on how to use the new equipment. In order to receive a computer, families must attend Computer Basics & Internet Security training provided by Habitat. As funding is available, computers are equipped with operating system software, Internet security/anti-virus software and Microsoft Office. (Habitat is now a Microsoft Authorized Refurbisher and is able to purchase software at deep discounts for this program.) Habitat families are responsible for purchasing their own Internet connection, monthly access service and/or any additional equipment they may wish to own.

“As a business owner and recycler of computer equipment and other electronics, I am pleased to be able to give back to the community in this way. Donors responsibly dispose of their equipment, families and children conquer the digital divide by having a computer in their home and the community benefits because harmful and durable materials don’t end up in our local landfill. It’s a win-win for everyone,” said Ron Bragg, president, TechUsed.

In exchange for a donation of computer equipment, donors will receive a 25% discount off of up to a \$500 purchase of new or reusable home improvement materials at Habitat’s ReStore. TechUsed will provide donors with a 10% discount coupon good for purchases at the TechUsed resale store where the public can shop for refurbished electronics such as computers and televisions. The TechUsed resale store will be open during the computer recycling drive.

Monetary donations may be made to Habitat for Humanity-Greater Columbus for the purchase of basic software for the computers. Donations of any amount are always welcome.

Computer recycling will be an ongoing project of Habitat for Humanity. Through this project, called AccessAll Columbus, donations of used computing equipment may be made at any time, now and in the future, at the following location:

Habitat’s ReStore
3140 Westerville Road
Columbus, OH 43224
(614) RESTORE (737-8673)
Mon. – Sat. 9 a.m. – 6 p.m.

About Habitat for Humanity. Habitat for Humanity International (HFHI), and Habitat for Humanity-Greater Columbus (HFHGC), is an ecumenical Christian housing ministry. Habitat affiliates work locally in communities around the world to select and support homeowners, organize volunteers and coordinate house building. Since its founding in 1976, Habitat has built more than 300,000 homes worldwide, providing shelter for more than 1 million people in nearly 90 countries. In the Greater Columbus community, Habitat has built more than 207 homes since 1987. The Greater Columbus Affiliate, through tithing to HFHI, has also helped to build more than 230 homes in developing countries throughout the world.

HFHGC is one of the only housing agencies in Franklin County targeting families who earn 30-60% of median income. HFHGC partner families are chosen after a careful review process during which Habitat assesses their need for housing; their ability to repay a zero-interest, no-profit mortgage and their willingness to partner with Habitat through sweat equity. All partner families are first-time homebuyers who earn 30-60% of the median income for Franklin County and currently live in substandard housing. Every partner family must perform a minimum of 200-250 hours of sweat equity, which includes working on their own house and those of other Habitat families, attending homeownership classes and providing Habitat program support. Every family also assumes a no-interest, no-profit mortgage with payments based on family income. Because HFHGC holds and services these mortgages, Habitat has a long-term relationship with the homeowners and the communities in which they live.

About Habitat’s ReStore. Also supporting HFHGC is Habitat’s ReStore, a re-sale store that accepts and re-sells reusable home improvement materials to the general public. Revenue from sales directly offsets Habitat’s administrative costs and assists in both eliminating substandard housing and creating homeownership in Greater Columbus. Habitat’s ReStore is located at 3140 Westerville Road, 3 miles southwest of Easton; 2 miles south of Morse Road. The re-sale store is open to the public Monday-Saturday 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

For more information about Habitat for Humanity-Greater Columbus and Habitat's ReStore, call 614-HABITAT or 614-RESTORE, respectively, or visit www.habitat-columbus.org.

About TechUsed. TechUsed is an asset recovery/electronics recycling company located in Hilliard, Ohio. TechUsed accepts almost any electronic items for recycling free of charge. Due to having to send the CRT tubes from monitors and TV's out of state for processing, TechUsed charges a small fee for those items containing a glass tube. Drop off hours are 8:30 – 5:00 M-F. Corporate clients nationally depend on TechUsed to ensure the safe, secure and environmentally correct disposal of all their computer and telecommunication equipment. TechUsed provides customized solutions to corporate clients transferring technologies, going through a hardware upgrade or simply looking to reclaim value from retired assets. TechUsed provides companies and individuals with DOD Data Destruction on both hard drives and tape media. In addition, TechUsed offers reverse logistics services to mManufacturers and retail stores allowing these companies to safely dispose of returned, overstocked or discontinued products. TechUsed is located at 4231-H Leap Road, Hilliard, 43026. For more information, visit www.techused.com.

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**Habitat for Humanity-Greater Columbus, 3140 Westerville Road, Columbus, Ohio 43224
(614) HABITAT**

We hope that you enjoy receiving news about Habitat for Humanity-Greater Columbus and Habitat's ReStore. Should you wish to be removed from the Habitat mailing list, please send an email to beverly.martin@martinmarketingllc.com