

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 4, 2011

Contact: Will Reed, Executive Director, Technology For All (713) 454-6400

Pam Gardner, Director of PCC Support and Development, Technology For All (713) 454-6464

Technology For All Honors Partnership with Celebration Luncheon

On October 27, 2011, Technology For All's Public Computer Center directors and Program Specialists met for Pappas' catered barbeque at the first Public Computer Center Celebration Luncheon. Thanks to a Broadband Technology Opportunities Program grant awarded to Technology For All (TFA) and its Texas Connects Coalition partners, TFA has provided digital access and training to under-resourced communities through computer labs in 16 Houston community centers. The luncheon provided a formal setting for each center's site directors, Program Specialists and fellow Texas Connects Coalition (TXC2) partner Austin Free-Net to finally meet.

"The reason for this," explains TFA's Director of PCC Support and Development Pam Gardner, "was to provide PCC directors with a forum to meet, to share information and to show our sincere appreciation." Through formal presentations, Director Will Reed and other Technology For All management explained TFA's history with their communities, TXC2's current progress and future goals for the labs.



Houston's diverse communities have equally diverse needs, making local community centers an invaluable resource. "Some focus on adult literacy, some on family programs, but just being that beacon for an under-resourced community is what our program is about." Technology access and training, however, is a universal need. "Kids can't do homework outside of school, people can't fill out applications—these public computer centers exist because there's a need for access."

While this access is provided through TFA and training through Program Specialists, each center is the link between TFA and underprivileged communities, making them invaluable to TFA's mission of empowerment through technology. To that end, the luncheon concluded with an awards ceremony, where every director's dedication and service was honored with a Certificate of Recognition.



###

Technology For All (TFA) is a 501(c) (3) non-profit organization whose mission is to empower under-resourced communities through the tools of technology. Through relationships with local community-based organizations, corporations, foundations, technology providers and public entities, TFA creates educational, economic and personal opportunities for low-income persons and the communities in which they live. TFA's offices are located in Houston's East End at 2220 Broadway, Houston, Texas 77012. For more information, visit www.techforall.org; call 713-454-6400.