(3/4/10): I.T. Village Youth Lab 2010 Spring Term Announced – Apply Deadline: Friday, March 12

The City of Cincinnati has announced the I.T. Village Youth Lab 2010 Spring Session. The six-week program will teach area youth important computer skills. Applications are being accepted for Hamilton County students with a "C” grade average entering grades 6-12. Applications can be picked up and need to be returned to the following locations: Avondale Community Pride Center (3520 Burnet Avenue Cincinnati, OH 45229), the Cincinnati Youth Collaborative (301 Oak Street Cincinnati, OH 45219), Uptown Consortium, Inc. (629 Oak Street, Suite 306 Cincinnati, OH 45206), and the Urban League of Greater Cincinnati (3458 Reading Road Cincinnati, OH 45229). Application deadline is Friday, March 12th.

NEWS RELEASE .FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE MEDIA CONTACTS: Doug Carter or Jerry Wilkerson, Regional Computer Center, 352-6445. I.T. Village Youth Lab 2010 Spring Term AnnouncedDeadline Appro Award-Winning, Innovative Program.Following the tremendous success of previous I.T. Village Youth Lab classes, the City of Cincinnati has announced the I.T. Village Youth Lab 2010 Spring Session. Along with partners Dell, Inc. and the Uptown Consortium, Inc., the six-week program will once again teach area youth important computer skills. Applications are being accepted for Hamilton County students with a "C” grade average entering grades 6-12. Applications can be picked up and need to be returned to the following locations: Avondale Community Pride Center (3520 Burnet Avenue Cincinnati, OH 45229), the Cincinnati Youth Collaborative (301 Oak Street Cincinnati, OH 45219), Uptown Consortium, Inc. (629 Oak Street, Suite 306 Cincinnati, OH 45206), and the Urban League of Greater Cincinnati (3458 Reading Road Cincinnati, OH 45229). Application deadline is Friday, March 12th..Twenty students will be selected via lottery to participate in the I.T. Village Youth Lab. The Spring term begins on Tuesday April 6, 2010 and meets every Tuesday and Thursday for six weeks, through May 13, 2010. Each student completing the entire term will receive a computer and other equipment from Dell, Inc. .The I.T. Village Youth Lab, the brainchild of City Manager Milton Dohoney City won the Public Technology Institute’s 2008/2009 Solutions Award at the Institute’s Annual Conference in San Diego, CA in May of 2009. The City/County Regional Computer Center developed and implemented the innovative program through a partnership with Dell Computer to bring together youth and information technology practitioners to learn practical IT skills. The program has achieved a 97.1% graduation rate since its inception in 2008. .“The primary goal of the program is to provide young people access to information technology so they can learn marketable skills, find required information, and participate in the global online community safely,” said Margo Springs, Director of the Regional Computer Center. “This in turn will assist students in navigating future academic and career endeavors.” .The course, which is taught by Regional Computer Center staff volunteering their time includes: .• Building and repairing a computer;• Virtual environments and the safe uses of online technology to support learning and collaboration;• Using geographical information systems to find required information;• Using software such as Excel and Word to manage and share data; and,• Learning financial management through interactive games..This program is also made possible with the support of the Avondale Community Pride Center, Cincinnati Youth Collaborative and the Urban League of Greater Cincinnati.