

No Child Left Offline and Duke Energy Donate Technology to Thomas Edison Elementary School



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*Thomas Edison Elementary School's Family Resource Center to
receive technology to support families in Covington, Kentucky*

Covington, KY: Today, Thomas Edison Elementary School's Family Resource Center received laptops, printers and audio-visual equipment to better support school students and families. The computers were donated through ConnectKentucky's No Child Left Offline® (NCLC) program, an innovative initiative designed to help close the digital divide among Kentucky's youth, and a donation by Duke Energy Corporation, a leading energy company focused on electric power and gas distribution operations, and other energy services in the Americas.

"The technology donation from Duke Energy and ConnectKentucky will allow Thomas Edison families to access technology at the school. Our families will be able to look for jobs, prepare resumes and look up websites to gain knowledge on how to assist their child with school and homework," according to Denise Brown, Family Resource Center Coordinator for Thomas Edison Elementary School. "The technology will also assist with providing a welcoming environment for our parents to our school."

Duke Energy Corporation has a long standing relationship with Thomas Edison Elementary School which ranges from supporting the school's renovation projects to providing students with tickets to cultural events across Greater Cincinnati.

No Child Left Offline brings together public and private partners to help Kentucky households join the Information Age. The program is the most comprehensive initiative of its kind undertaken by any state in the nation. It ensures that computers donated by the state and private providers will be saved from landfills and used for the benefit of Kentucky families.

No Child Left Offline, like Duke Energy, supports the attainment of education, lifelong learning and enabling students and families improve their lives through technological exposure. Accordingly, No Child Left Offline will assist in implementing this community-centered project that will benefit the school and support the surrounding population which primarily consists of underprivileged families. These laptops will allow the Family Resource Center to provide access to educational, informational and communication resources that are available online. The laptops will be available for use by families at the Family Resource Center for the following purposes:

- Provide computing resources for the community, particularly parents of underprivileged children. Parents can use the laptops to create resumes and search for jobs;
- Provide resources to help parents assist their children with schoolwork;
- Provide an opportunity for parents to educate themselves online (examples: GED, online courses); and
- Assist with providing a welcoming and technologically robust environment for parents.

“No Child Left Offline makes every effort to impact the lives of Kentucky’s families,” stated Andrew V. McNeill, Vice President of Program Development for ConnectKentucky. “Through the generous contribution of Duke Energy, No Child Left Offline continues to put meaningful technology in the hands of those who need it most.”

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About ConnectKentucky: ConnectKentucky is leading the way into a new economy for Kentuckians. As an independent technology-based economic development organization, ConnectKentucky works to ensure that Kentucky remains the place of choice to live, work and raise a family. ConnectKentucky is an alliance of technology-minded businesses, government entities and universities working together to accelerate technology in the Commonwealth. For more information about ConnectKentucky visit www.connectkentucky.org

About Duke Energy Corporation: Duke Energy, one of the largest electric power companies in the United States, supplies and delivers electricity to approximately 4 million U.S. customers in its regulated jurisdictions. The company has approximately 35,000 megawatts of electric generating capacity in the Midwest and the Carolinas, and natural gas distribution services in Ohio and Kentucky. In addition, Duke Energy has more than 4,000 megawatts of electric generation in Latin America, and is a joint-venture partner in a U.S. real estate company.

Headquartered in Charlotte, N.C., Duke Energy is a Fortune 500 company traded on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol DUK. More information about the company is available on the Internet at: www.duke-energy.com.