



Governor to give computers to local children

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Tennessee Governor Phil Bredesen and Connected Tennessee's Computers 4 Kids program will be presenting 183 deserving foster children from Rutherford and Davidson counties and other areas in the Mid-Cumberland region with brand new Dell laptops valued at over \$100,000 on Friday, according to a news release today.

The event will take place at 11 a.m. at Belmont University in Nashville.

The recipients were recommended by the Department of Children's Services (DCS) based on specified behavioral and academic expectations, states the news release from Connected Tennessee, an public-private partnership dedicated to improving technology use in the state.

Computers 4 Kids is an innovative project designed to positively impact the future of disadvantaged children in Tennessee by distributing computers to children and families facing economic challenges, are in the foster care system or that struggle with behavioral disorders and other issues.

Connected Tennessee is pleased to announce that Commissioner Deborah Tate from the Federal Communications Commission will also be in attendance Commissioner Tate will provide comment on Internet security for the Computers 4 Kids recipients and families and announce Connected Tennessee's recent partnership with the iKeepSafe Internet Safety Coalition.

Almost half of the low-income families in Tennessee cite a lack of a computer at home as the reason they are not accessing the Internet. Computers 4 Kids is intended to help bridge the gap between those who can afford computers and those who cannot, while allowing thousands of disadvantaged Tennessee children and families the opportunity to participate in the educational, economic and civic opportunities made available by having a computer in the home.