

IT update

Digitize the Depot

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IT Honors TechBridge Volunteers

More than 25 IT associates gathered Sept. 12 to network with their fellow colleagues and members of the IT TechBridge Committee and TechBridge leaders. The IT TechBridge Committee hosted this annual event that recognizes IT associates for their volunteerism and dedication to the TechBridge program. When the partnership started in 2005, IT volunteered 105 hours. In fiscal year 2006, that number grew to 329 and, already this year, IT has donated more than 378 hours.



Chris Scudato, Sr. manager – Desktop Services, recapped a recent volunteer activity he helped coordinate. TechBridge had a need for used computers through a nonprofit program called Computers for Youth. Chris knew THD had many PCs that were going to be discarded. He immediately contacted legal and security and began the process to assemble a group of 20 IT associates to help remove the data and software from each machine on a Saturday morning for delivery to Price Middle School's 6th grade class. Because of these efforts, 121 10- and 11-year olds will have their very own personal computers to use at home. (The computers initially will be set up at school with the student and his/her parent receiving a lesson on how to use the PCs. After the instruction the parent and student will take the computer home.)

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IT TechBridge Committee and Volunteers

TechBridge (continued from page 1)

Andrew Martin, systems engineer of Desktop Support, recently helped some senior citizens at Lutheran Towers in Midtown Atlanta become familiar with their computers. “The time went by so fast, I hated to leave,” said Andrew. “I worked with an 80-year old great-grandmother. You should have seen her face light up when she figured out how to send an e-mail. It truly brought tears to my eyes. I am looking forward to doing it again soon.”

Special guests Bob DeRodes and TechBridge CEO Jack McMillan thanked the associates for their time and efforts. “Our mission is to help nonprofits use technology to better serve our communities,” said Jack. “There are about 1,350 major nonprofits in the Atlanta area, and there are more than 14,000 smaller nonprofit organizations that need our help and the help of volunteers like you. The Home Depot is the model volunteer program.” Bob DeRodes said, “There really are only so many ways to say thank you, and your giving is one of those. You do it from the heart.” Bob also offered the group a quote from Winston Churchill: “We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give.”

Nonprofit Organization	Details	Dates/Times/Locations
Computers for Youth (CFY)	Dismantling computer equipment so it can be recycled. No special skills are required.	Sat., Oct. 6 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Recycling Lithonia Warehouse; Sat., Nov. 6 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Recycling Lithonia Warehouse
Computers for Youth (CFY)	Family learning workshops; coach parents and 6th grade students how to use their CFY computer to strengthen core academic skills.	Sat., Dec. 1, 4-hour a.m. and p.m. sessions available at Price Middle School; Sat., Dec. 8, 4-hour a.m. and p.m. sessions available at Price Middle School
Computers for Seniors	Coach senior residents in basic computer skills and assist more advanced seniors with technical questions/problems.	At Lutheran Towers, Midtown from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. the following days: Mon. Oct. 8 & 22, Mon. Nov. 5 & 19, Mon. Dec. 3 & 17
Hemophilia of Georgia	Help with fun events at Camp Wannaklot, including registration, facilitation and general logistics support. (Your lodging and food will be provided.)	Camp Wannaklot, Sept. 28-30
Quality Advisors	Conduct interviews with TechBridge clients and summarize results to TechBridge in order to improve service delivery and customer satisfaction.	Contact TechBridge
Board Matching	Be assigned to sit on the Board of Directors or IT Committee for Atlanta metro-area nonprofits. TechBridge will help you with placement.	Contact TechBridge
Technology Task Matching	Assist nonprofits with technology needs	Contact TechBridge

IT TechBridge Committee Members

Denise Countryman, Faith Bridges, Mariama Issaka-Amoakuh, Dave Kardesh, Patsy Mulcahy, Doug Pisik, Chris Scrudato, Brian Tisdale

Executive Sponsor Bob DeRodes

TechBridge is a nonprofit organization delivering critical technology services and solutions to Georgia’s nonprofit community. To volunteer, contact Faith Bridges, THD/TechBridge Volunteer Coordinator, at ext. 13053 or faith_bridges@homedepot.com. Also, be sure to visit TechBridge at www.techbridge.org.