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## **HandyCapable Network Secures \$30,000 Grant to Aid in Computer Distribution to Seventh Graders at Local School**

GREENSBORO, N.C., August 7th, 2008 – HandyCapable Network is pleased to announce that they have received a generous \$30,000 grant from the Lincoln Financial Foundation to embark on their second year of distributing refurbished computers to students at Hairston Middle School. This funding will cover the organizational costs of refurbishing the large batch of computers necessary to accomplish the second phase of this project during the 2008-2009 school year.

This past school year, HandyCapable successfully distributed 243 free computers to Hairston students, their families, and faculty. Surveys of the recipients indicate that they are being used to play educational games, help complete homework assignments, and build important computer skills. Learning these skills is especially important for students because of the North Carolina Test of Computer Skills, an assessment that is administered starting in eighth grade; a passing grade is required to graduate high school. Additionally, Hairston Middle School reports that students' overall grades have improved after receiving a computer from this program.

HandyCapable's refurbishing process is completed by individuals with disabilities, and includes a hard-drive sweep that removes any personal data from the machine. The organization depends on computer donations from individuals and businesses in the community for the computers that ultimately end up in the homes of families that could not otherwise afford them. To help a child in need, old home or office computers can be dropped off inside of Ahead Computer, located at 2134 Lawndale Drive in Greensboro.

The mission of HandyCapable Network, Inc. is to promote self-sufficiency and to enrich the lives of people living with disabilities, or people who are otherwise socially and economically challenged, by providing training and access to computer technology.

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For more information about HandyCapable Network, please email [info@handycapable.org](mailto:info@handycapable.org), visit <http://www.handycapable.org> or call 336.209.7360.

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