

LARSON WELCOMES NORTHPOINT TO COMMUNITY CENTER

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LARSON WELCOMES NORTHPOINT TO COMMUNITY CENTERHARTFORD—U.S. Congressman John B. Larson (CT-01) today attended an open house at The Trust House Family Learning Center in recognition of the donation of free DSL (Digital Subscriber Line) service to the center by NorthPoint Communications Group, Inc. The donation is part of the NorthPoint's nation-wide Community Connectivity Initiative (NCCI). NCCI is a program by the company, in partnership with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and several other Internet companies, to donate the service to community centers in technologically underserved communities throughout America. Congressman Larson was instrumental in choosing The Trust House for this program.

"The digital divide in America exists on socioeconomic, racial, ethnic, and geographic lines, and bridging that technology gap is major legislative priority, both right now and in the future," said Larson. "Thanks to NorthPoint, HUD and their partners, we can see exactly the kind of partnership between the public and private sectors that is needed to close this gap and empower students with technology education. I applaud the efforts of NorthPoint and HUD thank them for their innovative and generous donation to the center. Because of this high-speed connection, more children will have access to the tremendous opportunities that technology presents."

"Many people have been talking about the digital divide, but at NorthPoint we have a bias for action," said NorthPoint CEO Liz Fetter. "By partnering with HUD to provide Internet access to computer centers in low-income neighborhoods, we make the tools found on the Internet available to people who previously could not afford them."

NorthPoint and its partners, which include MagaPath, Zyan, Flashcom, and Netopia, are donating the DSL access to the Trust House for a period of three years. The Trust House operates a computer lab for more than 75 area students who will use the service to learn basic computer skills, utilize the Internet access, and apply computer skills for educational and career-related purposes.

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