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## DirectBuy Helps Bridge the Digital Divide

Merrillville, Ind., April 24, 2008 –On April 8, 2008, [DirectBuy](#), the leading members-only showroom and home design center that offers merchandise at manufacturer-direct prices, donated over 100 CPU's and monitors to Net Literacy. The substantial donation will impact thousands of individuals living in and around the Midwest.

Net Literacy is a youth empowered nonprofit organization headquartered in Indianapolis, Indiana, that provides computer access to schools, charities, and libraries, in an effort to increase computer and Internet literacy, and Internet safety awareness. Net Literacy has provided computer access to over 80,000 individuals in hundreds of locations in Indiana, Illinois, Wyoming and Ohio.

Daniel Kent founded Net Literacy in 2003. Since then, he has served as president, youth chair, and member of the board. He's currently a freshman at Haverford College. Daniel was recognized as Indiana's Middle School Volunteer of the Year in 2003. He was also named a 2004 National "Points of Light" Winner, a Brick Award Winner in 2005, and has been recognized by a joint resolution from the Indiana State House and Senate. In 2005, Daniel was recognized by President George W. Bush as the recipient of the 2005 President's Volunteer Service Award.



**Community members learn to use computers donated by DirectBuy to the Net Literacy Program.**

“DirectBuy is a socially responsible company that believes in giving back to others,” says Daniel Kent. “Their contribution of 100 computers will eventually touch thousands of individuals, since we donate many of our computers to create or expand public computer labs in schools, libraries, and nonprofits. We applaud DirectBuy for being environmentally friendly and socially responsible. When someone throws a computer out, it harms our environment because the monitors have toxins that pollute our landfills.”

For DirectBuy's Senior Director of MIS, Donna Vaughan, the gratitude goes both ways. "We really admire Net Literacy and are thrilled that they will be able to refurbish and reuse our computers. We hope our donation will help facilitate computer literacy for years to come."

Net Literacy provides computers so that computer labs can be established at hundreds of locations, increasing computer access to the underserved. Labs are set up in community centers, Section 8 and HUD apartments, independent living facilities, senior centers, schools, churches, and other nonprofits like the Boys and Girls Club and the Salvation Army. Net Literacy has over 100 student volunteers taking part in refurbishing the donated computers in an EPA compliant manner.

Net Literacy honorary board members include state leaders including US Senators Lugar and Bayh, Superintendent of Public Instruction Suellen Reed, former Mayor of Fort Wayne Graham Richard, and CET President Marv Bailey.

### **About DirectBuy**

For more than 36 years, DirectBuy has been showing thousands of consumers unparalleled ways to save as they shop for virtually everything for in and around their homes – from furniture, carpet and flooring, and custom window treatments, to kitchen and bath cabinets and fixtures, appliances and much, much more.

DirectBuy enables members to purchase most every product offering from several hundred manufacturers and their authorized suppliers at more than 150 showrooms across North America. To request a "Free Insider's Guide to Buying Direct" and a Visitor's Pass to learn more about the superior value and benefits of DirectBuy membership, visit [www.DirectBuy.com](http://www.DirectBuy.com) or [www.DirectBuyCares.com](http://www.DirectBuyCares.com).