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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Blind Center of Nevada

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## Blind Center of Nevada to Host Computer Recycling Events

LAS VEGAS – The Blind Center of Nevada will hold the first of a series of computer recycling events November 18 in the KNPR National Public Radio parking lot, for the dual purposes of protecting the environment and showcasing the capabilities of blind, visually impaired and disable individuals in the Las Vegas valley.

"We want to ensure that these old computer materials don't end up in our landfills," said Bob Waldorf, vice president of The Blind Center of Nevada, "and we want to acquaint the public with the array of talents and services for the visually impaired and disabled available through The Blind Center of Nevada and Opportunity Village."

The event will be held from 8 a.m. to noon in KNPR's National Public Radio parking lot on the campus of Community College of Southern Nevada at the corner of Charleston and Torrey Pines. Items that may be recycled include: computer CPU's, keyboards, mice; monitors; printers and printer cartridges; batteries including nickel cadmium, lithium ion and most other consumer rechargeable batteries, as well as cell phone batteries. Copiers, fax machines, televisions and stereos will not be accepted.

"People are invited to drive up and drop off their old computers, then park their cars and visit the many educational booths we'll have set up," Waldorf added. "We'll be distributing information, not only about recycling, but energy conservation, health, the environment, and missing children. We'll also have live entertainment for the whole family."

Well-known local group, the Dummkopf's, will perform from 8 to 10 a.m. Identical twin singers and concert pianists Mark and Clark are scheduled to perform from 10 a.m. to noon and additional special guests to be announced.

(more)

Computer Recycling Add 1-1-1-1

In addition to The Blind Center of Nevada collecting old computers, other event partners will provide the following: Opportunity Village – document shredding; the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP) – recycling and environmental information; Paper Retrievers – recycling of newspapers and magazines; Cartridge World – recycling of printer cartridges; Republic Services – recycling information; Diverse Innovations – recycling; and Nevada Child Seekers – fingerprinting of children and information on missing children.

"E-waste, as it is known, is a growing environmental problem nationally and in southern Nevada," said Kathryn Fergus, recycling coordinator for NDEP in southern Nevada. "New computers are coming onto the market at a rapid rate, putting more and more obsolete equipment into the waste stream. This partnership with The Blind Center of Nevada and Opportunity Village is a great step forward in addressing the recycling problem in southern Nevada."

Fergus explained that computer equipment contain pollutants and heavy metals that environmental officials don't want deposited in landfills.

The Blind Center of Nevada is a non-profit organization that has been serving the needs of blind and visually impaired in southern Nevada over 50 years. Programs focus on Socialization, Personal Development and creating Meaningful Employment opportunities. Besides our computer recycling business, the Blind Center employs individuals in EBAY sales, distribution sales, manufacturing, packaging and assembly.

Opportunity Village is a non-profit organization, employing people within our community with intellectual disabilities. We provide rehabilitation, training and work to our individuals in an ongoing effort to enhance their lives and the lives of their families.

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