

The Cisco Community Fellowship Program and Cisco Corporate Philanthropy

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Overview

The Cisco Community Fellowship Program (CFP) is a pilot program created to provide Cisco employees with another option to give back to the community. This one year program leverages the skills of individual Cisco employees together with their knowledge around practical use of Internet solutions, to enable the nonprofit organizations to harvest the productivity increases generated through use of the Internet.

Nonprofits are provided with additional highly skilled staff members with expertise from the leader in using the Internet in its own operations. They have access to a network of other organizations using the program and indirect access to the expertise of other Cisco employees. More importantly, this program assists nonprofits to put in place an Internet strategy, which will enable them to deliver their services better, faster, and more efficiently. This will enable these nonprofit organizations to:

- § increase the efficiency of their operations
- § reduce administrative costs
- § improve their communications capabilities
- § increase the breadth and depth of services provided to their clients

Background

The CFP builds on Cisco's ongoing work with a variety of nonprofit organizations and uses the current economic environment and workforce reduction to help employees and non-profit organizations incorporate the Internet more fully into their operations. The pilot program was created as a result

of the intersection of Cisco's "Internet Technology in Nonprofit" initiative, which recognized the need for additional technical resources, and the economic environment, which created excess capacity in Cisco's workforce. Cisco's executive staff, in conjunction with Cisco Corporate Philanthropy, determined the creation of this program would bring benefit to the employee, Cisco, and the Community.

Cisco's history of Community involvement dates back several years through a number of different programs. It started through the efforts of Cisco employees to help out a local school, which gained corporate support, and has evolved through a number of programs over the years. Corporate Philanthropy is composed of three separate groups, the Cisco Foundation, Community Investment, and E-Philanthropy, which work closely together with common goals.

Our Vision is: Cisco and its employees apply their economic and intellectual assets to help create stronger communities throughout the world.

Our Mission is: We develop, support, and invest in programs that leverage the Internet to contribute to lasting positive change focused on education, basic needs, and increasing social engagement.

Programs offered by Cisco Corporate Philanthropy and other Cisco groups include:

- Grants

 - Corporate Grants

 - Community Grants

 - Regional Grants

 - Global Grants

 - Global Access

 - Global Reach

- Product Grants

- Matching Gifts

- Individual

 - Cash

 - Volunteer Hours

 - Stock

- Team Gift Matching

- Volunteer

 - Community Outreach

 - Technical Assistance

- Online Payroll Deduction

- Disaster Relief Programs

- Community Fellowship

- Bridges to the Community

- Giving Counselor

- Global Hunger Campaign

- Employee Product Donation

- Network Academies

- Government Affairs

- Intern Opportunities

- Training Course Discounts to Nonprofits

- Netaid.org

- Network for Good

The Program

We currently have 79 Cisco Community Fellows working in 21 nonprofit organizations around the country. These organizations range from small locally focused groups to large international NGOs which meet the guidelines of Cisco Corporate Philanthropy and were selected based upon their intent to utilize the Internet more effectively. The participating organizations are:

§	Care	Catholic Charities East Bay
§	Catholic Charities San Jose	Center for Nonprofit Management
§	City Year	ExplorNet
§	Food Bank North Carolina	Habitat for Humanity
§	Henrico County Public Schools	InnVision
§	Jumpstart	One Economy
§	Public Allies	Redwood Empire Food Bank
§	Rural Internet Access Authority	San Jose Unified School District
§	Save the Children	Second Harvest Food Bank
§	Southern Poverty Law Center	TeleComCares (United Way)
§	Winrock International	

The projects at these organizations cover a very broad range of topics. We have Fellows developing Scaleable Solutions to Bring Internet Access to Individual Families in Subsidized Housing, and others Developing a Consortium to find Low Cost solutions for Internet Connectivity in Third World countries. There are projects focused on Training Refugees on Acculturation and Basic Financial Skills, as well as Leadership Training for Senior and Executive Level Nonprofit Management. They are also working on Global Project Tracking and Individual Volunteer Time Tracking, and many more.

The needs of the Nonprofit sector continue to outpace the available resources but, through our economic and intellectual assets, our programs, and the efforts of our employees, we hope to continue identifying scaleable programs, partnerships and solutions in which we can help to Bridge the Digital Divide.