

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:  
December 22, 2016**

### **Technology Helping Kids - Community Outreach**

As part of Blue Hill's community outreach to apply technology to help local communities, this is a story about a public school classroom we helped in Philadelphia.

#### **Kindles Are A Gift For Teaching Reading.**

##### **A Teacher Reaches Out**

My students need Fire Tablets and cases to become the best readers and writers they can be! My students are young scholars that were born into poverty. My goal is to make sure this fact does not define them. It amazes me daily the problems my six year old students face, and yet come to school and try their best. The majority of my students do not have their primary needs met, and they are expected to come into the classroom and perform at a certain level. My job is to make sure that these scholars reach their fullest potential, which I believe they will.

The majority of my students' cannot afford to have three balanced meals a day.

In fact, most of them only eat meals at school. Most of these same students' rush through breakfast to come upstairs to hear what I have to say. That inspires me to put my best foot forward every day.

I teach little heroes. My goal is to help these scholars become the best version of them that they can be.

##### **How to Make This Happen: My Project**

I would like to help my students learn to operate technology and become more independent in reading and writing. Though funding our kindle project, you will help each student learn how to read in a more enjoyable, interactive, advanced way. You will also allow them to operate technology independently that they do not regularly have exposure to. This will give them a sense of confidence and freedom that they rarely experience.

My grade partner let me borrow her kindles for a week and I saw my students' light up. They enjoyed the learning games and reading tools so much that it inspired me to join Donors Choose!

##### **Blue Hill Contributes and the Kindles Arrive**

A note from their teacher:

*"Thank you so very much for your help with this project. My scholars are enjoying their interactive learning experience each day in our classroom. Kindles have allowed my students to continually practice their fact fluency in math and enhance their reading skills in reading.*

*Kindles have made learning fun and independent. We use the kindles every single day during our reading and math rotation time! This addition has enabled me to enhance my independent teaching with scholars that need the one-on-one support.*

*We are so grateful to have had this opportunity because of your help. It takes a village as I tell my scholars and I am so thankful you were able to help our village!*

***With gratitude, we thank you.”***

And another note of appreciation:

***“Dear Blue Hill Data Services,***

***We cannot thank you enough for your generous donation that funded the majority of our kindle project. Your kindness not only is going to help all twenty one of us become more strategic readers, but it is allowing us the opportunity to become competitive and confident in this technological world. Most of us do not have access to technology at home, so you have helped make coming to school exciting and challenging! We are learning how to read, write and use problem solving skills on our kindles throughout our school day. Learning has become interactive and fun!***

***There is such a great demand for technology in our school. We believe that each of our students deserve the same opportunities that students in our surrounding metropolitan area have and often take for granted. We are now able to stay challenged daily and excited to learn! We are forever grateful for our first opportunity to use this advanced technology to further our learning experience.***

***With love,***

***Martha, Toni, Odyssey, Joey, Shakiyl, Hakim, Samone, Kaelynn, Denise, Jiana, Morgan, Nikiah, Jasmine, Gerald, Makayla, Malia, Taraji, Jayden, Daniel, Freddy, and Milan***

***P.S. Thank you for our kindles that you gave mom’s school. You made students better at reading and happier. I hope that you raise enough money to keep your company running.”***

### **About Donor’s Choose: They Provide an Easy Way to Give and Know You are Helping Children**

Donor’s Choose makes it easy for anyone to help a classroom in need, moving us closer to a nation where students in every community have the tools and experiences they need for a great education. Their motto: Support a classroom. Build a Future. Teachers all over the U.S. need your help to bring their classroom dreams to life. Choose a project that inspires you and give any amount.

### **Donor’s Choose was started by a history teacher**

In 2000, Charles Best, a teacher at a Bronx public high school, wanted his students to read *Little House on the Prairie*. As he was making photocopies of the one book he could procure, Charles thought about all the money he and his colleagues were spending on books, art supplies, and other materials. And he figured there were people out there who'd want to help — if they could see where their money was going. Charles sketched out a website where teachers could post classroom project requests, and donors could choose the ones they wanted to support. His colleagues posted the first 11 requests. Then it spread. Today, we're open to every public school in America.

Donor’s Choose is a non-profit organization (501)(c)(3). Their Board members include Stephen Colbert, the heads of Creative Artists Agency, LinkedIn, Facebook, and partnerships with top corporations in the United States. Please view their video at <https://www.donorschoose.org/about>

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**About Blue Hill Data Services:**

Blue Hill Data Services helps clients **reduce their operating costs** and **minimize risk** by providing **fully managed data center hosting solutions**, and a full array of complementary IT support services, all from On-Shore USA. Our highly skilled and experienced staff, **world-class data center facilities**, and reliable 24/7 services have supported clients worldwide and from all industries since 1994. We specialize in **Mainframe, Mid-Range AS/400 iSeries, and Private Cloud Services; Applications Services; Colocation Services; Dedicated Disaster Recovery and Business Continuity Solutions**. Our deep technical skills and long standing experience enable us to support our clients' **legacy** environments as well as implement new technology solutions. Our differentiation is providing **customized solutions, flexibility with contracts and SLAs**, and personalized attention and services. We are proud our **client retention is 100%**.

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