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## Williamson foster kids get laptops

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Graduating seniors who are in foster care in Williamson County were among foster children from 12 Middle Tennessee counties who received new Dell laptop computers through the Computers 4 Kids program.

The students were targeted for inclusion in the program by their case managers based on specified behavioral and academic expectations.

The distribution was part of the Department of Children's Services Celebration of Excellence event held at the Smyrna Skate Center for graduating seniors from Rutherford, Williamson, Dickson, Humphreys, Stewart, Montgomery, Robertson, Sumner, Trousdale, Houston, Wilson and Cheatham counties.

"I hope to see every Tennessean realize the benefits of technology, and Computers 4 Kids is a step toward that goal for some of our most important citizens," Gov. Phil Bredesen said. "These are children who might not otherwise have the tools they need to access the abundant educational, informational and research resources available on the Internet today."

Connected Tennessee's Computers 4 Kids (C4K) initiative places computers into the hands of underprivileged children and their families across Tennessee. The computers go to children and families facing economic challenges, are in the foster care system or that struggle with behavioral disorders and other issues.

Almost half of low-income families in Tennessee say that they do not have a computer at home. Through C4K, Connected Tennessee will award 1,000 computers per year over the next three years to children in need across Tennessee.