FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 8, 2025

Media Contact: missiontelecom@riffcitystrategies.com

CACRC and Mission Telecom Team Up for Back-to-School Sale and Community Resource Fair in Baton Rouge

The event will allow families to access affordable technology and internet, connect with essential community resources

BATON ROUGE, La.—Capital Area Corporate Recycling Council (CACRC) is hosting a <u>Back to School Sale</u> and <u>Community Resource Fair</u> tomorrow where they will provide heavily discounted, refurbished devices to local families, to ensure they have the technology needed for the upcoming school year. CACRC has partnered with <u>Mission Telecom</u> to provide low-cost broadband internet options to families. Alongside the sale, the fair will offer a variety of community resources, including essential services and local support programs, all in one convenient location.

The Back to School Sale and Community Resource Fair is part of CACRC's <u>Computers for Louisiana Families</u> program which addresses the digital divide by providing affordable technology to thousands of families across the state each year. CACRC has provided families with deeply discounted technology since 1996.

In Louisiana, <u>millions</u> of residents struggle to afford broadband and devices, with nearly <u>one in three</u> households lacking high-speed internet access. Nearly one in four Louisianans do not have access to a computer and are reliant on a phone for internet access. This digital divide creates significant challenges for students, preventing them from fully participating in school activities, completing assignments, and accessing essential educational resources.

"We understand that access to technology can be a game-changer for students, especially when it comes to their education," said <u>Michael Rachal</u>, Executive Director of CACRC. "It's not just helping students, the entire family benefits from having a device to apply for jobs, access healthcare, or work remotely. Providing affordable, refurbished devices helps bridge the gap, ensuring all families have the tools they need to succeed both in life."

"At Mission Telecom, we're dedicated to providing reliable, affordable internet to schools, libraries, and nonprofits like CACRC that are working hard to close the digital divide," said Mark Colwell, Director of Broadband Operations at Mission Telecom. "By connecting students to the resources they need for school, we're helping them succeed today and empowering them to earn an education and build brighter futures."

Event details:

- What: CACRC's Back to School Sale and Community Resource Fair
- Where: East Baton Rouge Parish Library, 7711 Goodwood Boulevard, Baton Rouge, LA 70806
- When: Saturday, August 9 · 9 am 3 pm CDT

To learn more about CACRC, please visit: https://cacrc.com

To learn more about Mission Telecom, please visit https://missiontelecom.org

About CACRC

CACRC is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization committed to electronic scrap reduction through the responsible recycling of electronics. CACRC is also dedicated to providing high-quality, refurbished computers and components to schools, non-profits, and Louisiana families. Incorporated in 1996 and based in Baton Rouge, LA, CACRC proudly serves the citizens of our local communities and across the entire state of Louisiana. CACRC is certified to R2v3 (Responsible Recycling standard) and RIOS (Recycling Industry Operating Standards).

About Mission Telecom

Mission Telecom is a nonprofit telecommunications provider and grantmaker dedicated to expanding digital equity and driving systemic change. We are closing the digital divide with best-in-class, affordable wireless broadband services and equipping schools, libraries, and nonprofits with the connectivity and resources to power access and opportunity at every level.

Our bold philanthropic program funds grassroots organizations that advance multiracial democracy, movement infrastructure, and telecom justice, creating lasting impact in their communities.