

Around 80 Laptops to Be Gifted to Current and Former Local Foster Youth in Humboldt (Del Norte, Trinity, And Mendocino County Youth Are Also Involved)

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Current and former foster youth from ages 16 to 21 in rural counties across California are receiving laptops from a group that includes the Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC), National Homebuyers Fund, Inc. (NHF), and **iFoster**. Eventually, through a \$200,000 contributions each from RCRC and NHF “every eligible foster youth and former foster youth...within RCRC’s 35-member counties will be provided a laptop,” according to a press release.

About 80 youth from Humboldt, seven from Trinity, three from Del Norte, and 42 from Mendocino are eligible, explained Justin Caporusso, the RCRC Vice President. He said that the youth from Humboldt County have already received theirs. “They got them last Friday during a meeting,” he explained. “The laptop comes with paid assistance.” The laptops have customer service agreements so the youth will get support with problems.

A **digital locker** comes with the laptop. He explained, “It provides these youth with safe and secure document service that can hold their birth certificate, social security cards, and banking information.” This can be a crucial help for these youth, he pointed out. “If they are often are moving around, this digital locker keeps access available at a single point.”

“Everybody lives by their laptops and phones nowadays,” Caporusso said. “[The youth] are going to use them for everyday needs as well as to be able to connect them to resources available to former foster youth.”

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