



## **Minister Cullen launches technology donation programme for non-profit organisations**

### ***Children's charity Barretstown Gang Camp, first to benefit***

**Martin Cullen TD, Minister for Social and Family Affairs** this afternoon (12 December 2007) launched a national technology donation programme for non-profit organisations in Ireland. The programme, 'ENCLUDEit' run by the Irish charity ENCLUDE, is supported by **Microsoft, Cisco and Symantec** and will provide every qualifying non-profit with access to technology donations from these three supporting companies. It is estimated that up to 5,000 organisations can benefit from this new initiative and can receive technology with a cumulative value of up to €25m per annum.

The 'ENCLUDEit' programme enables eligible organisations to gain access to donated technology, allowing them to choose from a wide range of products from Microsoft, Cisco and Symantec.

**Barretstown Gang Camp**, the children's cancer charity, became the first charity today to benefit officially from this new donation programme. Barretstown plans to use the donated technology to support a new system that will enable the charity to improve its communications with its 110 partner hospitals around Europe and with families dealing with serious illness supported by the charity every year.

Speaking at today's 'ENCLUDEit' event, **Minister Cullen** said: "Technology is an enabler which helps organisations to achieve things for themselves and their clients which they would not otherwise be able to do. This programme will enable non-profit organisations around the country to secure significant quantities of software and hardware which should facilitate both the running of their organisations and enhance the services that they provide to users."

Complimenting the companies involved, **Minister Cullen** said: "I congratulate you on this initiative which I feel provides, through ENCLUDE a simple, effective and accessible way for non-profit and charitable organisations to access the very latest technology. I am delighted Microsoft Ireland, Cisco and Symantec are broadening the reach of their donations. They are leaders in their field and in this latest initiative they are leading too and I hope other technology companies follow



## **Department of Social and Family Affairs**

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their approach in assisting charitable organisations stay at the cutting edge of technology.”

Organisations wishing to access this new donation programme should log on to [www.encludeit.org](http://www.encludeit.org) for details.

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