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**Harford County Education Foundation Partners with Comcast to
Provide Internet Service to Students**

*With students spending a significant amount of time learning from home this year,
access to the Internet in the home is no longer optional.*

Bel Air, MD [November 17, 2020] - With many children learning virtually from home, having a reliable internet connection is essential. Harford County Education Foundation has partnered with Comcast to provide 12 months of Internet service to eligible families served by Harford County Public Schools through the company's Internet Essentials program.

"We recognize the importance of access to the Internet while learning from home," Debora Gavin Merlock, President of Harford County Education Foundation, stated. "It is vital that we do all we can to ensure that our students have the tools and the access they need to succeed in this digital learning platform. Comcast's Internet Essentials program is a means to help provide educational equity for students regardless of their socioeconomic status."

"We value this partnership with Harford County Education Foundation to help children and families get connected through our Internet Essentials program," said Misty Allen, Vice President of Government and Regulatory Affairs for Comcast's Beltway region. "For nearly a decade, Comcast has been dedicated to bridging the digital divide across the nation with our Internet Essentials program – which to date has connected millions of low-income families to the Internet."

Comcast's Internet Essentials – which brings high-speed internet, normally priced at \$9.95 per month, to low-income households - will be made available to our families thanks to donors like The Cole Foundation and the Community Foundation of Harford County.

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“The Community Foundation was delighted to help Harford County Education Foundation address this critical need for our students,” stated Jennifer Farrell, Executive Director of the Community Foundation of Harford County. “We are proud to be their partner in philanthropy and support them in their excellent work on behalf of the children of Harford County.”

The Education Foundation also provides free school supplies, books to increase access to reading materials in the home, grants to enhance innovation in the classroom, and resources to support equitable learning. You can learn more about Harford County Education Foundation and help support students with the tools to learn at home at www.harfordeducation.org.



Preston and Olivia Clark, students attending Aberdeen Middle and Church Creek Elementary Schools, are engaged in classroom instruction through a digital online platform due to the COVID-19 shuttering of schools. *(Photo courtesy of Karen Clark)*

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About Harford County Education Foundation

Founded in 2004, Harford County Education Foundation is a 501c3 nonprofit charitable organization that provides programs and resources to complement the learning and growth of the 38,000 youth in Harford County Public Schools. The Education Foundation works in partnership with the community to bring critical resources to help students succeed in their academic and personal goals through middle and high school leadership programs, college and career mentoring, scholarships, free school supplies for low-income students, grants to support innovative classroom instruction, digital learning tools, and celebrating the education profession with the community.