

Contact: Linda Saris  
Salem CyberSpace  
Phone: 978 740-6667  
Email: lsaris@salemcyberspace.org

**For Release November 22, 2004**

## **Salem CyberSpace Receives \$20,000 Grant From The Boston Foundation**

*Salem CyberSpace receives its third annual grant from The Boston Foundation to fund its CyberYouth Program*

**Salem, Mass., November 22, 2004** - Salem CyberSpace has received a \$20,000 grant from The Boston Foundation, the 10<sup>th</sup> largest community foundation in the United States. All of the funding will be used for the operation and growth of CyberYouth, a free after-school program in math, science and technology for the economically disadvantaged, and primarily Latino, youths in grades 6 through 10 in the Salem Public Schools. This is the second year of operation for CyberYouth.

“We want to thank The Boston Foundation for their generous grants and their belief and confidence in our youth programs. We will use the funds judiciously to support and expand our operations in Salem as well as to expand our programs to other organizations on the North Shore”, said Linda Saris, Director, Salem CyberSpace. “The demand for our youth programs has doubled since last year and the funds will be used to add more staff, fund new science and technology programs and to offer similar programs at other youth programs North of Boston.”

The grant was awarded for the third year in a row under The Boston Foundation’s New Economy Initiative, which is a five-year, multi-million dollar initiative to support the use of technology to increase digital equity and to increase opportunity for people and organizations in Greater Boston to participate, advance and succeed in the new economy. Under The Boston Foundation’s guidelines, this will be the final year of funding for the program.

“The CyberYouth after-school program encourages Latino middle and high school students to become more active learners, providing them with an opportunity to obtain the skills necessary to excel in high school and to go on to college and jobs requiring math, science and technology excellence," said Paul S. Grogan, President of the Boston Foundation. "This project, which has developed active collaborations with the business, civic, academic, and nonprofit sectors in the Salem community, won our support in a highly competitive environment, and we believe it can become a national model."

### **About Salem CyberSpace and North Shore Community Action Programs**

Salem CyberSpace ([www.salemcyberspace.org](http://www.salemcyberspace.org)), located at 98 Lafayette St. in downtown Salem, is a program of North Shore Community Action Programs ([www.northshorecap.org](http://www.northshorecap.org)), a 501 c (3) nonprofit organization. NSCAP is the designated anti-poverty agency serving Salem, Peabody, Danvers, Beverly and 25 cities and towns north of Boston. Its mission is to help low-income people become economically self-sufficient while encouraging the larger community to recognize and eradicate the social and economic barriers that stand between poor families and their economic independence. The goal of Salem CyberSpace (SC) is to help low-income and unemployed people, as well as the organizations that serve them, to learn new computer skills to effect positive change for themselves, their families and their communities. The specific goal for CyberYouth is to provide academic tutoring and digital arts-based experiential learning to build technical skills, self-confidence, teamwork, and leadership skills which will ultimately lead to better academic performance and expanded post-secondary and career choices.

Salem CyberSpace works in collaboration with six other community agencies including Salem Harbor Community Development Corporation ([www.shdc.org](http://www.shdc.org)), North Shore Career Center ([www.detma.org](http://www.detma.org)), Salem Access Television ([www.satvonline.org](http://www.satvonline.org)),

Point Neighborhood Association, Salem Public Schools Title 1 Program, and Grace Church ([www.gcis.org](http://www.gcis.org))

### **About The Boston Foundation**

The Boston Foundation, founded in 1915, is one of the oldest and largest community foundations in the United States. The Foundation currently holds more than 750 separate charitable funds, established either for the general benefit of the community or for special purposes, and the endowment has grown over the last decade to almost \$650 million.

###