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For Immediate Release

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REACH Ashland Youth Center Hosts Two-Day Health Hackathon Computer coding opportunity for low-income youth

San Leandro- The nonprofit YTH is holding a Health Hackathon Saturday, April 5th from 9:30am-6pm and Sunday, April 6th from 8:30am-3pm at REACH Ashland Youth Center, 16335 E-14th Street, San Leandro, CA 94578. Alameda County youth can register for free at www.yth.org/hackathon

The REACH Ashland Youth is thrilled to be working with YTH to host this event powered by The Level the Playing Field Institute (LPFI). YTH and LPFI are two organizations that honor and support youth by creating opportunities to be change agents in their communities. Youth will learn design thinking concepts and what apps can do to solve health problems in their communities. No tech experience is needed.

One \$2,500 grand prize and one \$1,000 second prize will be awarded. Judges from **Ubisoft, Omidyar, Kaiser Permanente and Pinterest** will select the winning teams on Sunday afternoon. Hackathon winners will showcase their innovations at the kick-off to the YTH LIVE conference on April 6, 2014 at Hotel Kabuki in San Francisco.

"The REACH members are so excited that YTH and LPFI are bringing their expertise to Ashland. The Hackathon offers members job training, networking opportunities, and a safe place to be for the weekend. It also amplifies their voices to help solve the challenges they are facing in the world and in their communities," says Pedro Naranjo, Executive Director at REACH Ashland Youth Center.

REACH Ashland Youth Center – reachashland.org

Opened in May of 2013, REACH is a 31,500 square foot facility, located in the unincorporated Alameda County community of Ashland. The facility houses a health & wellness center, media studio, dance studio, fitness room, library, outdoor amphitheater, computer lab, employment center, library, classrooms to provide educational, vocational and artistic activities, an infant and toddler development center, and an onsite café. REACH's target population is youth ages 11-24, living in Ashland/Cherryland.

YTH - www.yth.org

YTH is the partner of choice for those in search of new ways to advance the health of youth and young adults through technology. YTH is committed to pursuing emerging, startling, and simple technologies that can reach young people where they are. Through our [partnerships](#) and [projects](#), we discover what works, pilot innovative solutions, and disseminate what's truly effective.

The Level Playing Field Institute - www.lpfi.org

The Level Playing Field Institute is committed to eliminating the barriers faced by underrepresented people of color in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) and fostering their untapped talent for the advancement of our nation.