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PCs for People's New Certifications Guarantee Higher Level of Environmental Stewardship

Saint Paul, MN – March 2, 2018- Saint Paul-based nonprofit PCs for People has achieved three new certifications, adding to its already large community, environmental, health and safety efforts. PCs for People is now one of fewer than five R2-certified recyclers in Minnesota and the only recycler in the state with both R2 and AAA NAID certification for data destruction.

The **R2-Responsible Recycling** certification is the leading global standard for the electronics reuse and recycling industry. Certification involved a thorough review of PCs for People's processes for collecting, refurbishing and recycling electronics, as well as the "downstream" vendors it uses.

The **ISO 14001:2015** certification was granted because of PCs for People's implementation of an environmental management system, efficient use of resources and waste reduction.

OHSAS 18001:2007 means PCs for People meets best practices for employee and customer health and safety management.

Getting the three certifications required PCs for People to go through rigorous third-party audits of its facilities and processes.

"The R2, ISO 14001, and OHSAS 18001 certifications expand the commitment PCs for People has to our customers, partners, employees and the environment," according to Chief Program Sam Drong. "Our corporate, governmental and nonprofit partners, which provide the computers we ultimately distribute to those in need, have another layer of comfort in how we process the equipment."

About PCs for People: Over 16 years, PCs for People has helped more than 170,000 individuals gain access to technology in their homes in the form of low-cost computers and Internet access. This year, PCs for People will reuse and recycle close to 320 tons of electronic waste. The lack of a computer and broadband access, known as the "Digital Divide," negatively affects education, health, and earning power of people. In the process, PCs for People recycles and refurbishes more than 60,000 pounds of electronic waste each month.

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