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LOCAL RESIDENTS TO GET COMPUTER KNOW-HOW

Ipswich residents will have the opportunity to learn computing smarts after a local organisation was awarded funding under the Beattie Government's Technology Survival Skills program.

Member for Ipswich Rachel Nolan said the third round of Technology Survival Skills funding would see \$8,923 awarded to Harvest Rain Christian Care to incorporate computer training in adult literacy classes.

Ms Nolan said the funding was part of more than \$256,000 in grants awarded to 29 organisations across the state in the third round of the program.

"The Technology Survival Skills initiative is a \$1 million commitment over four years to help Queenslanders who are disadvantaged in their access to Information Technology to undertake training," she said.

"Despite the significant achievements made in the IT industry in recent years, some people in our community because of their age, income, location or disability have not had the same opportunities to develop these new skills.

"Computers are already part of everyday life and it's becoming more and more important that we all learn to use them."

Ms Nolan said the Beattie Government acknowledged that in a state as large as Queensland, not everyone has equal access to computer training.

"This program is helping to bridge the divide between those who have ready access to information and communication technologies and those who do not," she said.

"The State Government funding being given to this organisation will help their clients not only gain invaluable computer skills but will also be of benefit to their personal lives, for example, enabling them to bank online.

"I congratulate this organisation and commend their work in our community."