

## For Immediate Release

## DDI's HELP Program Expands it Reach through a Daniels Fund Grant

**Boulder, CO – May 15, 2006** – Digital Directions International, Inc. (DDI) announced today that the Roaring Fork School District (RE-1) has been awarded a Daniels Fund grant to distribute DDI's *HELP with English Language Proficiency Program*. This grant allows RE-1 and DDI to positively impact over 1000 English Language Learner (ELL) students in Colorado by giving them complete access to the HELP program. The HELP Program is a proven supplementary curriculum designed to remove language barriers in learning for both Hispanic and other ELL students.

Senator Ken Salazar of Colorado, the first Hispanic U.S. Senator since 1977 and an avid supporter of the HELP Program, said, "DDI is an innovator in developing and applying scientifically-based research to educational programs that address real world challenges that students and educators face. This HELP model has the potential to transform the process of closing the achievement gap between English and non-English learning students."

The HELP Program is designed to help middle and high school students learn math skills and content. It is particularly well suited for the large and growing Hispanic student population. School districts that incorporate HELP into their curriculum have seen demonstrated improvements in mathematics and have discovered that students really love learning with the program. Additionally, HELP can be accessed in the home, which allows non-English speaking parents to participate more fully in their child's learning.

DDI, along with the RE- 1, the Daniels Fund and the State of Colorado, are dedicated to meeting the needs of today's diverse learners to help level the playing field for all K-12 students. With this grant Colorado's large population of ELL students will achieve academic success much more quickly.

"This grant will have a tremendous impact on hundreds of ELL students in Colorado. We want to thank the dedicated people of the Daniels Fund for their incredible generosity," said John Ramo, M.Ed., Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, DDI. "These funds will be paid back many times over by the lasting student achievement gains derived from our HELP program."

## **About Digital Directions International**

Digital Direction's International, Inc., a Colorado based Education Technology Company, is the creator of the HELP Program (Help with English Language Proficiency), a proven online supplementary curriculum designed to remove language barriers in learning. HELP is a researched based math curriculum and recipient of a significant U.S. Department of Education grant. HELP lessons are aligned to the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics Standards and to state content standards. Visit www.helpprogram.net to learn more.

## **About The Daniels Fund**

The Daniels Fund operates the Daniels Scholarship Program and the Daniels Fund Grants Program in Colorado, New Mexico, Utah and Wyoming. The Fund was established in 1997 by Bill Daniels, a pioneer in cable television known for his kindness and generosity to those in need. Visit <a href="www.danielsfund.org">www.danielsfund.org</a> for more information.

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