

# Open Source and Giving

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# Who We Are

Michael & Michelle Hall

Founders of QuinnCo, a Florida Non-Profit

Developers of Qimo, the Linux Desktop for Kids

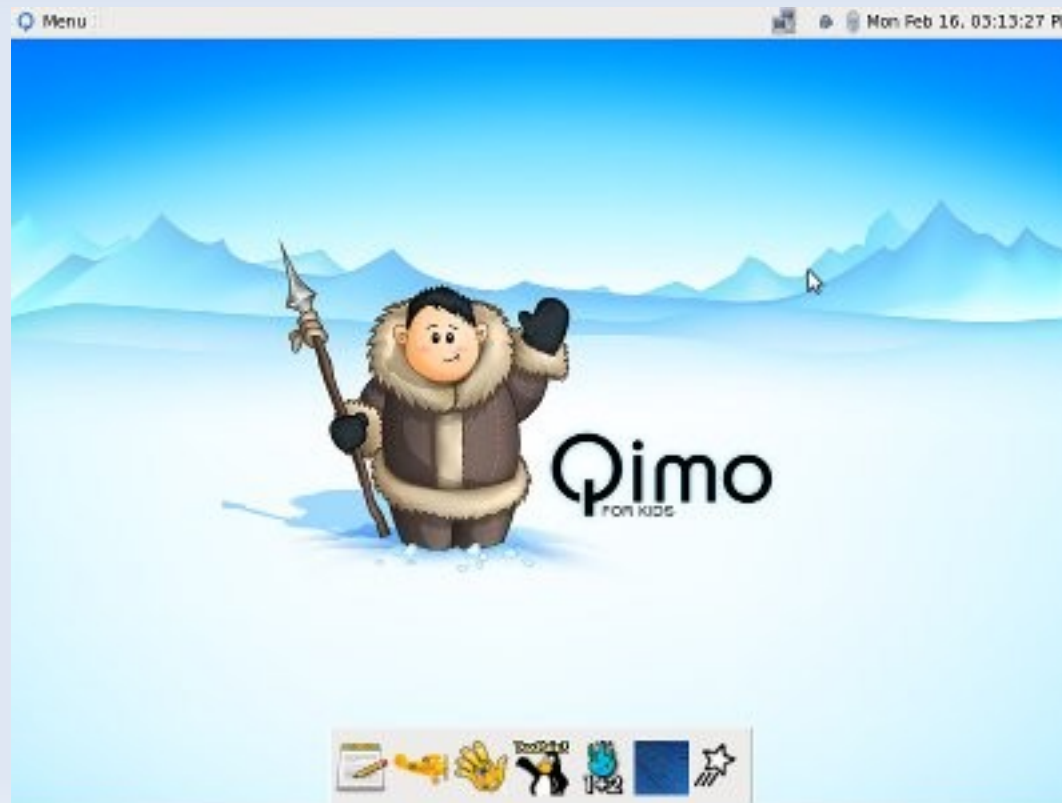
# Quinn Co

- Founded in September 2008
- Gives computers to disadvantaged and special needs children.



# Qimo for Kids

- Based on Xubuntu, with the XFCE desktop
- Customized to be easily navigated by young children who can not read.



# What Open Source Offers Us

- Open Source is Free (Gratis)
- Open Source is Free (Libre)
- Open Source is Stable and Secure

# What Open Source Offers Us

- Open Source is Free (Gratis)
  - No Licensing fees, we can donate as many copies as we need to.
  - The people we donate to can make and give out as many copies as they want to.
- Free doesn't mean cheap, Firefox, OpenOffice.org, Pidgin and Compiz are all top of the line

# What Open Source Offers Us

- Open Source is Free (Libre)
  - We could use the software in any way that we wanted
  - We couldn't have made the customizations in Qimo with closed-source software.
  - We could offer support that the software vendor didn't.
    - Target older, slower hardware
    - Child account lockdown

# What Open Source Offers Us

- Open Source is Stable and Secure
  - Not having to troubleshoot software crashes saves time
  - Not having to remove viruses, spyware and adware saves time and money
  - Fewer support calls means we can donate further from home

# Why Give?

- Charitably giving is a step along a path, not a destination.
- Giving increases the whole of the Community

# Why Give?

- Charitably giving is a step along a path, not a destination.
  - Food: Provide nourishment, and growth
  - Medicine: Increase lifespan and physical abilities
  - Technology: Empowerment
    - Access information and knowledge
    - Communicate freely
    - Employment Opportunities

# Why Give?

- Giving increases the whole of the Community
  - A community's health affects each member's health
  - Community education provides members with better products and service
  - A technological community provides more/better/faster for its members
    - Bridging the Digital Divide

# Why does Open Source Matter?

- Free upgrades make the path longer
- Free applications make the path wider
- Open software makes the path safer
- Giving makes the OSS community better

# Why does Open Source Matter?

- Free upgrades make the path longer
  - Not limited to the currently installed version, donations with WinXP will stay on WinXP
  - Not required to upgrade hardware for new versions, Vista won't run on old PC, Ubuntu 9.04 will

# Why does Open Source Matter?

- Free applications make the path wider
  - Not limited to the given set of software, can install more as desired
  - Not limited to available languages, can provide translations when none are available
  - Not limited to current functionality, can modify applications to suit new needs and desires

# Why does Open Source Matter?

- Free software makes the path safer
  - No concerns about viruses/spyware/malware or Blue Screens of Death
  - Own your data, no DRM restrictions, remote deactivation, or vendor lock-in
  - Lets children experiment safely, parents don't worry about them breaking the computer or deleting files (a big concern from Windows parents)
  - OSS is legal to use however, whenever and wherever you like. No concerns about copyright.

# Why does Open Source Matter?

- Giving makes the OSS community better
  - There is Strength in Numbers
  - Will pressure vendors into increasing support for OSS Systems
    - Hardware Drivers
    - Native Applications
  - Will increase support for open standards among business, government and private use

# Why does Open Source Matter?

- OSS can be shared with friends and family.
  - "Kids talk" -- Ken Starks, HeliOS Project
  - Kids like to share what they like with their friends
  - Kids like to collaborate/communicate with their friends on a common medium (social networks, IM, texting)

# Why does Open Source Matter?

- Primacy Effect, people will more likely remember, view favorably, and stick with what they use first
- New users means new contributors:
  - Coding
  - Testing
  - Translating
  - Implementing
  - Advocacy

# Who is Giving Now?

- QuinnCo in Central Florida
  - and Tennessee, Ohio, Ukraine, Italy
- Free IT Athens in Georgia
- HeliOS Project in Texas
- Free Geek, nation wide
  
- More at [GrowingUpFree.org](http://GrowingUpFree.org)

# Why you should too!

- We have an obligation to try and help those surrounding us.
- Using open source software in an effort to do so is beneficial to our outside communities, as well as our OSS community.
- Improving the lives of children, and giving them hope for the future, even if it's just a small change, will, eventually, change society.

# Products of Giving

- Robinson Elementary Essay Contest

My dream is to be as smart as my dad he is really smart I am telling the truth. If I get my own computer I know I will get smarter. I haven't been getting the best of grades and I need help! But my whole family is too busy to help me! And my brothers have the computer all day.

And this is how I live.

From  
Gilberto

# Products of Giving

Leslie  
11-20-08

When I Grow Up

There are lots of reasons why I want to be a nurse. But the most important reason is helping diabetec people, also making people proud.

First, of all me and Priscilla have an experiens because our dad is diabetec he suffers a lot because he can't hear or talk well a little. How that happen is it gave him a stroke in his head. He has been in the hospital for three or two months.

# Products of Giving

NS Mrs. Westover room Luz ~~Westover~~  
room

Dear, Mrs. Hall

When I grow up I want to be a teacher like Mrs. Westover. Because she is nice and taught us how to be a better student. I want to be a teacher so I could show more stuffs. To the childrens who will go to shcool that time. Also so they could be smater and make there dreams come truth. I all so need my own cumputer so I can find more informaytion. About sceince, Math, Reading, Writing. I also need it so I could do my Homework. So I could show my little brother how to use it. So when he gets home from shcool he could get the cumputer to do his home work. My Mom always wanted me to do a better job then working on the filed. Thats why she seened my to shcool. She also will be so proud of me if I win the cumputer from shcool. I onley want her to be so proud of me.

Love,  
Luz Luz ~~Westover~~

# Products of Giving

- Youth Build Day



# Products of Giving

