

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**KAISER PERMANENTE PLEDGES \$100,000
TO NAME THE BIOMEDICAL ENGINEERING LAB AT THE
CENTER FOR ADVANCED RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY (CART)**

Clovis, CA (March 18, 2003) – The Center for Advanced Research and Technology Foundation announced today that it has received a \$100,000 pledge from Kaiser Permanente to name the Biomedical Engineering Lab. Kaiser Permanente has a long history of serving the health-care needs of the Valley.

"We are appreciative of the generosity and commitment by Kaiser Permanente. We look forward to working with them to improve the quality of education and resources available to our students," commented, Steve Ward, Chief Operating Officer, CART.

Kaiser Permanente is America's leading integrated health care organization. Founded in 1945, it is a non-profit, group practice prepayment program. Kaiser Permanente serves the health care needs of 8.4 million members in nine states and the District of Columbia. Nationwide, Kaiser Permanente includes approximately 125,000 technical, administrative and clerical employees and about 11,000 physicians representing all specialties.

"In today's tough budget times for the school districts, CART is very important to this community and Kaiser Permanente is committed to investing in our future employers and workers. Providing community benefit resources to worthwhile local endeavors in areas such as education is a critical part of our social mission. We are committed to making sure that our corporate resources contribute to the long-term socio-economic development of the communities where our employees and members live and work," said Varoujan Altebarmakian, M.D., Kaiser Permanente's physician-in-chief.

ABOUT KAISER PERMANENTE BIOMEDICAL ENGINEERING LAB

In the Kaiser Permanente Biomedical Engineering Lab students explore questions about genetically engineered foods, DNA, microbes, tissue culture and how these influence both the problems and potential solutions of our society. Students also study engineering and its applications to health related professions. Students become familiar with the typical laboratory instrumentation necessary for both qualitative and quantitative analysis of chemical compounds. In addition, students explore the connection of scientific research to public policy and community planning.

ABOUT THE CENTER FOR ADVANCED RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY

CART (www.cart.org) is an innovative learning environment that enables juniors and seniors from the Fresno and Clovis Unified school districts to make connections with their future. Students utilize technology to solve real world problems from their community under the mentorship of dedicated teachers and business partners. At CART students are connected with a range of possibilities for the present and future as they become immersed in a program of continuous improvement and begin to regard education as an opportunity to think, learn, do, and most of all, "become" vital members of their communities.

"Your Future Is At Stake. . . Failure Is Not An Option"