

# RESPONDING WITH RESILIENCE

2019-20 ANNUAL REPORT



MARICOPA  
COMMUNITY  
COLLEGES  
FOUNDATION







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# DEAR FRIENDS,

Responding with resilience. There is not a phrase that better describes how over the course of the past year we, the Maricopa Community Colleges Foundation and the Maricopa Community Colleges District, have reacted in terms of facing a year that presented challenges, like no other. Usually, our annual report celebrates the Foundation’s successes, but this year success has been completely redefined by our ability to pivot our focus to address the immediate needs of our students, staff and community head-on in the face of an unprecedented pandemic.

In addition to the Foundation’s unwavering commitment to provide scholarship and program support, our entire District came together this year to abruptly face the challenges our new environment brought. These efforts included successfully transitioning 21,000 classes across 10 colleges to online or remote learning environments, delivering technology to students, faculty and employees and all of us working together to provide emergency support in various forms to our local communities.

At the Foundation, basic needs became a huge problem for our students as wages were being lost due to reduced work hours or job loss and our students

were struggling to keep food on the table, utilities on, pay for housing and keep up with their studies. As a result, we experienced an unprecedented increase of 957% in student emergency applications and immediately had to focus on providing support for Emergency Funds, Food Pantry Funds and Greatest Needs Funds—an effort that awarded more than \$159,900 aiding 740 students through June 2020.

In addition to the many stories we share in this report of giving, we also paint a complete picture of the past year and how, even with the pandemic, we have a lot of great news to share. During FY 2019–20, we awarded 4,234 scholarships totaling \$2.8 million and received \$5.2 million in contributions, and managed 933 named funds.

Thank you for supporting our vision of providing our students with the opportunity to improve their lives through education. On behalf of the Foundation, our Foundation Board of Directors, staff, the Maricopa Community Colleges District and District Governing Board, we are honored and driven to transform the lives of our students and to stay focused as we face the future together.



A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Roldolfo Parga, Jr." in a cursive style.

**Roldolfo Parga, Jr., JD.**  
Chair, Foundation Board of Directors



A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Steven R. Gonzales" in a cursive style.

**Dr. Steven R. Gonzales**  
Interim Chancellor,  
Maricopa Community College District



A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Brian F. Spicker" in a cursive style.

**Brian F. Spicker**  
President & Chief Executive Officer,  
Maricopa Community Colleges Foundation



FOR TWO CONSECUTIVE YEARS  
THE FOUNDATION HAS BEEN  
AWARDED THE GUIDESTAR  
USA, INC. PLATINUM SEAL OF  
TRANSPARENCY.







**SINCE APRIL 2020, WE HAVE  
RECEIVED 2,477 REQUESTS FOR  
EMERGENCY FUNDS—AN 957%  
INCREASE OVER LAST YEAR.**



# PHLEBOTOMY PROGRAM EXPANDS AS NEED FOR MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS GROW

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The demand for healthcare workers is critical and the education of this workforce has never been so important. That is why the Maricopa Community Colleges Healthcare Integrated Educational System provides more than 40 career options, concentrating on those professions most in demand in Arizona.

One such program that is growing rapidly is the Phlebotomy program, originally launched at GateWay Community College (GWCC) and expanded to the East Valley, in partnership with Chandler-Gilbert Community College (CGCC) and Mesa Community College (MCC).

“We are pleased that GWCC is able to create access to the Phlebotomy program at Mesa Community College’s Red Mountain Campus,” said Michael Voss, MCC Dean of Career and Technical Education. “The expansion of healthcare training in our space benefits MCC students and helps meet demand in the East Valley.”

The program began at the MCC-Red Mountain Campus in August 2020 and will launch at Chandler-Gilbert Community College-Williams Campus in summer 2021. Additional opportunities are available at sites throughout the Maricopa District.

The GateWay Phlebotomy program is designed to lead to quick entry and completion, allowing those interested in a healthcare profession a path to their career, in under three months. While the program is quick, the quality of the instruction has been recognized by the National Healthcareer Association (NHA), the accrediting body for the Phlebotomy program at GWCC.

According to NHA, GWCC’s Phlebotomy program has held the highest pass rate in Arizona for first-time participants for the past year—13% higher than any other Phlebotomy school in the state. GWCC has outperformed the national average by 10%.

At CGCC, the Nursing program sees it as an opportunity for those waiting to get into the program to earn a credential quickly that will aid them in their nursing careers or provide them with a skill to get into the healthcare profession immediately, while they wait.

“The timing for this expansion is critical, especially now,” according to Gabriela Rosu, Dean of Instruction at CGCC. “In this time of a global pandemic, the need for trained phlebotomists has never been more apparent,” said Rosu. “Providing an opportunity for more students in the East Valley is an important step to keeping our entire community healthy.”

Since 2015, the Maricopa Community Colleges Foundation has awarded more than 1,140 nursing students and 145 healthcare students with scholarships easing the financial burden placed in pursuing their educational goals in this vital and growing field of study.



Check out this video about the Phlebotomy program at <https://youtu.be/vS1HANWZRwQ>.

# DONORS ESTABLISH FUNDS IN SUPPORT OF STUDENT SUCCESS

A wide variety of funds were established in 2019–20. The following highlights just a sampling, many of which focus on emergency relief for Maricopa students:

**The Phoenix College (PC) Student Emergency Fund** allows for PC students to pursue their dreams without having to take on student debt or worry about how to pay for basic needs and tuition.

**The Hazel Davis Literacy Legacy Scholarship Fund** at Rio Salado Community College (RSCC) was founded by Hazel Davis, former Faculty Chair for Library Services at RSCC. It assists students who are doing well in their studies but need help paying for college, making it easier for them to attain their life goals.

**The Hye Tech Networks Technology Scholarship** at GateWay Community College provides support for students in financial need who are taking technology courses.

**The Tracy Thompson Emergency Fund** provides assistance to Paradise Valley Community College students who have immediate funding needs that are preventing them from enrolling in classes or paying tuition.

**The Mesa Market Fund** helps students at Mesa Community College (MCC) purchase of non-perishable food and hygiene products for all Mesa Market locations at MCC. Funds can also be used for travel, equipment, supplies, and training seminars.

**The Beverly L. Beesemyer Endowed Scholarship** for Women in Aviation is awarded to students demonstrating a commitment to the flight training degree program required for a career in commercial aviation. Fritz and Derek Beesemyer established this scholarship to honor their Aunt Bev and her fellow Women Airforce Service Pilots (WASPs).

**The Neighbors Helping Neighbors Scottsdale Endowment Fund Scholarship** at Scottsdale Community College provides support to veterans and family members of military personnel as well as First Responders and family members residing in Scottsdale.

**The Jacqueline Marschel Scholarship** supports opportunities for students enrolled in English as a Second Language (ESL) courses at South Mountain Community College.

**The Maricopa Community Colleges Foundation Greatest Need Fund** benefits all students by providing immediate and flexible funding for urgent needs, support programs and initiatives that benefit all ten of the Maricopa Community Colleges.

## SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT



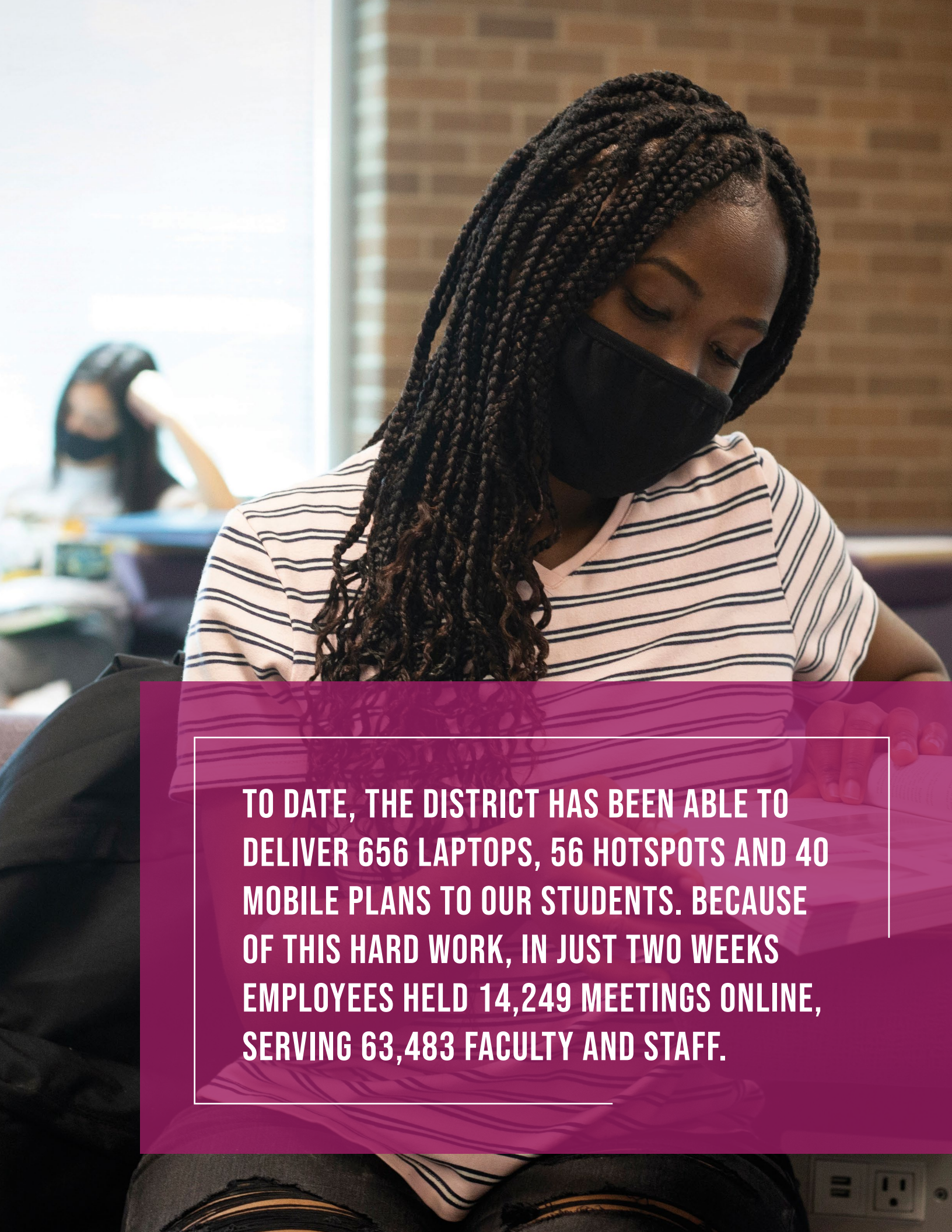
"I can continue my journey with peace of mind and confidence that I chose the right path. Thank you so much for your support and consideration." - *Matt, Scottsdale Community College*



**OUR FACULTY QUICKLY  
TRANSITIONED IN-PERSON CLASSES  
TO ONLINE. THIS WAS A DRAMATIC  
SHIFT, ESPECIALLY MID-SEMESTER.  
THEY WORK TIRELESSLY TO HELP  
STUDENTS SUCCEED.**





A young woman with long, dark braids is wearing a black face mask and a white t-shirt with thin black horizontal stripes. She is looking down at a laptop, with her hands visible on the keyboard. The background is a blurred classroom with a brick wall and another student in the distance.

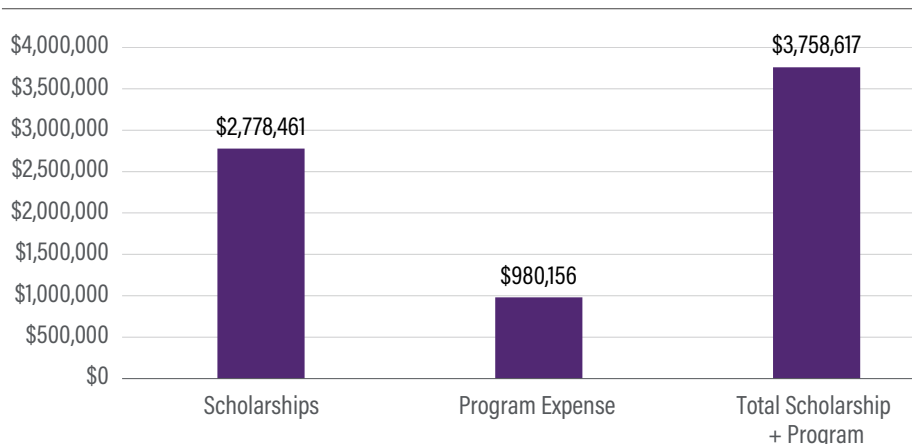
**TO DATE, THE DISTRICT HAS BEEN ABLE TO  
DELIVER 656 LAPTOPS, 56 HOTSPOTS AND 40  
MOBILE PLANS TO OUR STUDENTS. BECAUSE  
OF THIS HARD WORK, IN JUST TWO WEEKS  
EMPLOYEES HELD 14,249 MEETINGS ONLINE,  
SERVING 63,483 FACULTY AND STAFF.**



# SCHOLARSHIP, PROGRAM AND GRANT REPORT

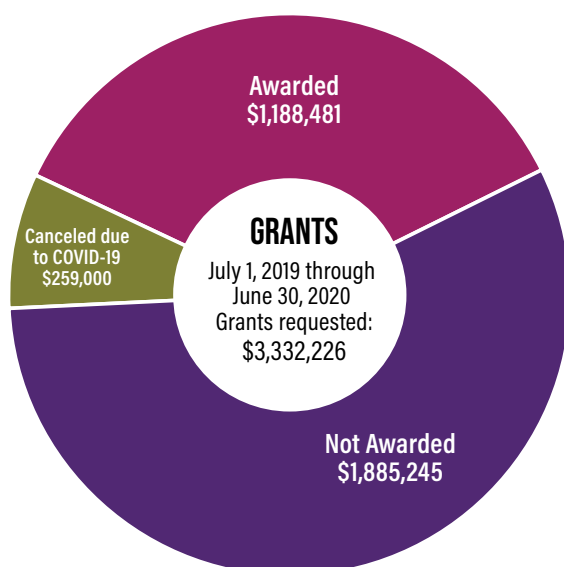
The Foundation awards scholarships and program support for students attending the Maricopa Community Colleges and Centers.

## 2019-2020 SCHOLARSHIP AND PROGRAM EXPENSE



As of June 30, 2020 we awarded **4,234** scholarships totaling **\$2,778,461** and **\$980,156** in program support for a total of **\$3,758,617**.

## 2019-2020 FISCAL YEAR GRANTS



This year, extenuating circumstances due to the pandemic and financial uncertainties, affected grant awards. The Foundation applied for **\$3,332,226** in grants and received **\$1,188,481**.

# AMR FOUNDATION GRANT PROVIDES MUCH NEEDED FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR EMS WORKFORCE TRAINING

Thanks to a grant from the AMR Foundation for Research and Education, low-income students enrolled in Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) and Paramedic programs at Glendale Community College (GCC) and GateWay Community College (GWCC) are well on their way to successful careers in high-demand healthcare fields.

The AMR Foundation for Research and Education's mission is to support clinical, education and health systems research designed to improve the care and safety of patients in the out of hospital setting. The programs at GCC and GWCC align perfectly and extend the reach of their goal to support research and educational activities within clinical practices, promoting initiatives focused on improving patient care and projects that contribute to the health and wellbeing of communities.

This is the second year that GCC has been awarded the \$18,000 grant which funds three \$5,000 scholarships for the Paramedic program and three \$1,000 scholarships for the EMT program. Both programs are run through the GCC Public Safety Science Department which trains over 350 students each year and has one of the highest first-time pass rates in Maricopa County, offering two certificates of Completion and an Associate of Applied Sciences.



“During the pandemic, many of my students are in the process of changing careers,” said Rainier Perez, EMS Program Director at GCC. “They are looking at earning higher income while trying to juggle unemployment, financial stress, illness, transportation challenges and more. The AMR Foundation for Research and Education scholarship relieves a lot of their burden.”

GWCC provides EMT training for both adult students and high school seniors, preparing them to enter the workforce career ready. More than 400 students have completed the program over the past three years, where emphasis is put on the fundamental principles and skills required to provide emergency medical care for the ill and injured. This coming year, six GWCC students will receive scholarships from the AMR Foundation for Research and Education. The \$500 scholarship covers half of the tuition cost for the program. “Several clock-hour healthcare programs are not financial aid eligible due to the total program length being less than 600 hours,” remarked Jennifer Kline, Program Manager, Healthcare at GWCC. “Having this scholarship available removes the financial barriers for students so that they can focus on their educational and professional goals.”

“We selected GCC and GWCC based on a competitive application process and are proud to support them during this time of change and uncertainty,” said Becky Blackett, Executive Director, AMR Foundation



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for Research and Education. “We feel our scholarships will help someone needing financial assistance and with the need for healthcare being great during this unprecedented time of a worldwide pandemic. It is more important than ever for dedicated, well trained individuals to enter the EMS workforce.”

Despite the challenges of COVID-19, interest in healthcare has continued to grow and both GCC and GWCC have changed the way they deliver their programs to students. GWCC offers a blended learning model and utilizes tools such as high-fidelity simulation, allowing the students to continue to learn and practice real world skills, without impacting the quality of the instruction. GCC, which offers scenario-based instruction training, is fortunate enough to be able to be meeting face-to-face but is operating at half capacity with strict protocols.

“COVID-19 has reshaped how we look at most of the world and EMS training is no exception,” continued Blackett. “Training has quickly shifted from in-person classrooms and didactic labs, to online and socially distanced learning. EMS often makes initial contact with the sick and injured. Keeping our EMTs and Paramedics safe and prepared for the call of duty and arming them with the best education and proper safety equipment is more important now than ever before.”

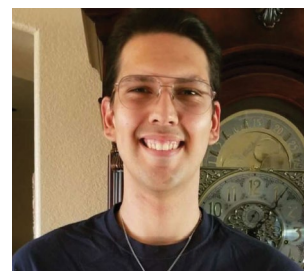
See GCC's EMT training program in action at <https://flic.kr/p/2ksecyQ>.



“During paramedic school I have worked to support myself, my partner, and my animals. The AMR Foundation for Research and Education Scholarship has made it possible for me to pursue my dreams and maintain high academic standing in the program.” - **Amy, GCC Paramedic Student**

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“The scholarship I received from the AMR Foundation for Research and Education is helping to make not only my career achievable, but putting my dream job within reach.”  
- **Jonathan, GCC Paramedic Student**



# DONOR SPOTLIGHT

## Dr. Meryl Haber's Generosity Ensures Students Don't Go Hungry

A love for art is what introduced Dr. Meryl Haber to the Maricopa Community Colleges District (MCCCD), but a passion for keeping students in school has inspired him to turn his attention to addressing food insecurity at Phoenix College.

Dr. Haber has been involved in education his entire career. He is Emeritus Professor of Pathology at Rush Medical College, Chicago and was previously the Borland Professor and Chair of Pathology, as well as Associate Dean for Graduate and Continuing Medical Education. After a successful medical career working in hospitals and universities across the United States, Dr. Haber retired to Arizona and cultivated his interest in the arts, serving on committees and as a Trustee of the Phoenix Art Museum (PAM) Board of Directors.

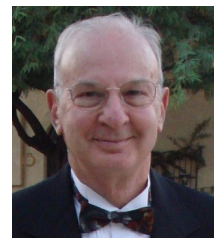
Dr. Haber became familiar with MCCCD when, as an art enthusiast, he attended the annual *Eric Fischl Series*, a collaboration between PAM and Phoenix College (PC). The Series provides students the opportunity to interact with world-renowned artists and compete for the prestigious Vanguard Award for best-in-show from among works submitted to the student art exhibition. Also included is a competitive scholarship, which pays students' tuition and supplies. After attending various events and meeting students, Dr. Haber was inspired to make a gift supporting the program. "Contributing to the education of our students by funding the Maricopa Community College's programs is of the utmost importance," he said. "The impact of the Maricopa Community Colleges has been significant in the community because of its far-reaching programs and educational innovations."

During an event at the campus, PC president Dr. Larry Johnson shared that community college students face food insecurities, which can cause them to drop out of college and impede progress toward their goals. Dr. Haber was again inspired to help, making a generous gift to the PC Pantry which provides food to students in need.

In March, when the pandemic began impacting students' finances, either due to loss of a job or a parent's loss of a job, demand for support at the pantry increased, and the call went out to faculty, staff, alumni, and friends for support. "COVID-19 has changed all of our lives and will continue to impact the educational process for at least the next year or two. This has produced innumerable hardships on all educational institutions, their faculty and students," said Dr. Haber.

PC President Dr. Larry Johnson reports that, "As the pandemic continues, we receive requests daily from students for emergency and food assistance. We are so thankful for the support of Dr. Haber and other donors to the food pantry, so students can focus on school, not hunger. Through this support, we help keep students enrolled and on track."

“Additional funds are always needed and are more important now than ever.”  
– Dr. Meryl Haber



To learn more about supporting students when they need it most, visit [mcccdf.org/students-in-need](https://mcccdf.org/students-in-need).

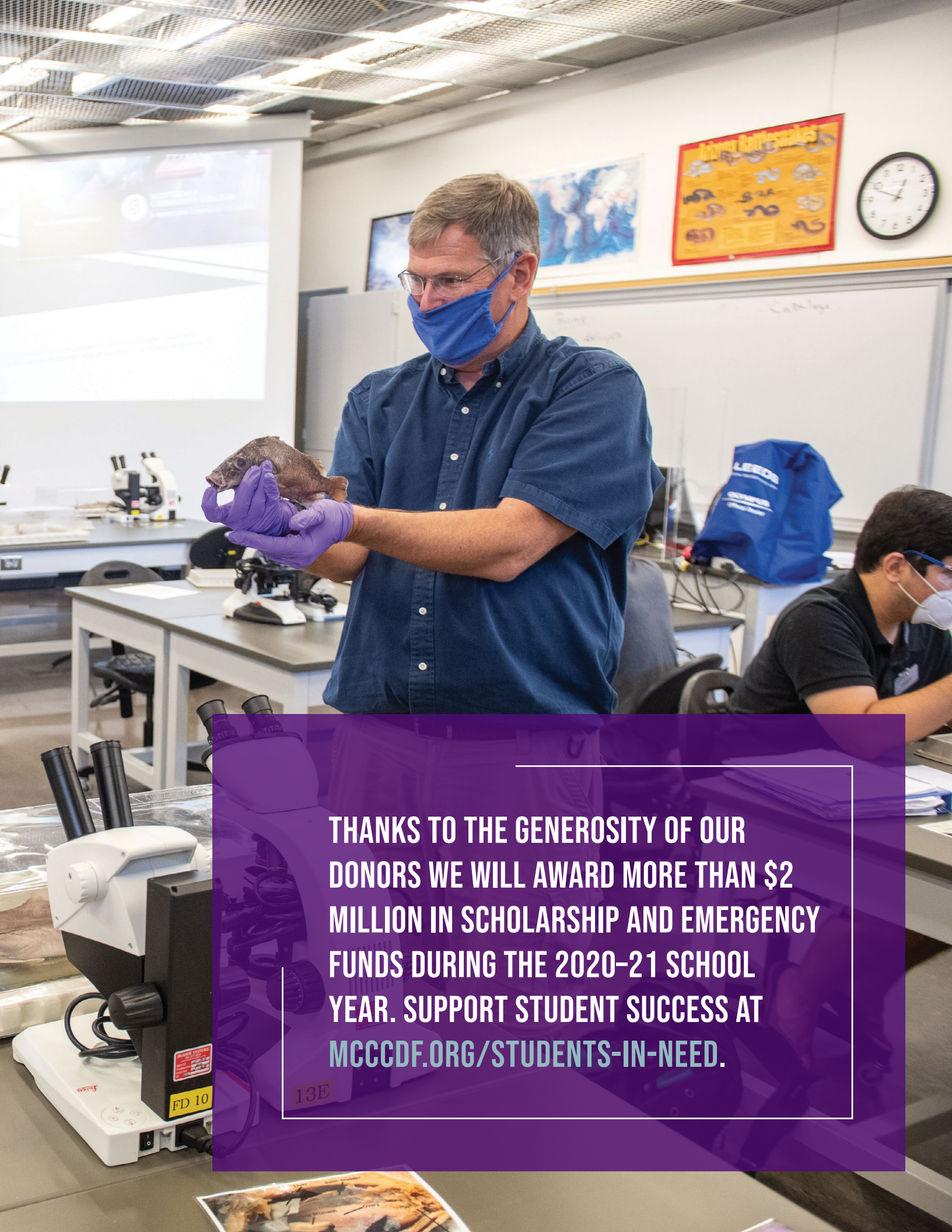
**WE PROACTIVELY SUPPORT AND  
SERVE COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS  
WHEREVER POSSIBLE, INCLUDING FOOD  
BANKS TO PROVIDE FOR FAMILIES IN  
NEED AND DONATING THOUSANDS OF  
DOLLARS IN MEDICAL SUPPLIES AND  
EQUIPMENT TO FRONTLINE WORKERS.**











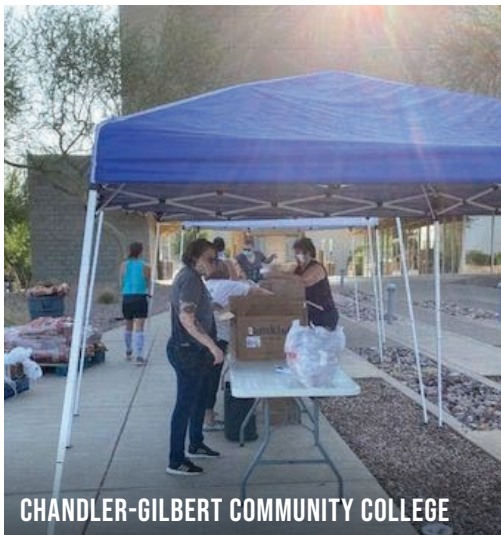
**THANKS TO THE GENEROSITY OF OUR  
DONORS WE WILL AWARD MORE THAN \$2  
MILLION IN SCHOLARSHIP AND EMERGENCY  
FUNDS DURING THE 2020-21 SCHOOL  
YEAR. SUPPORT STUDENT SUCCESS AT  
[MCCCDF.ORG/STUDENTS-IN-NEED](https://mcccdf.org/students-in-need).**

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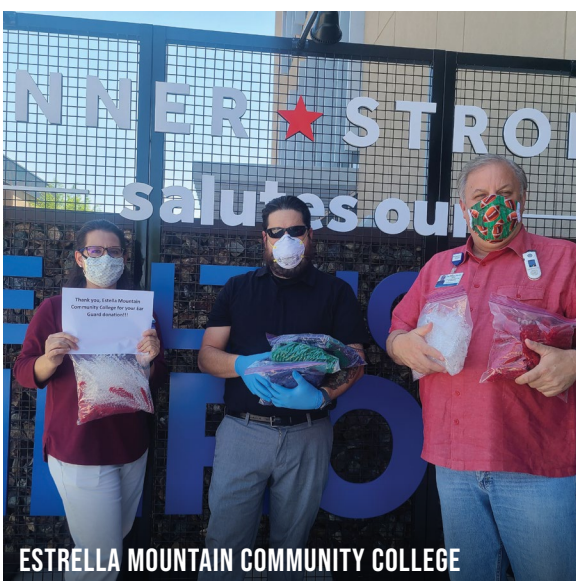
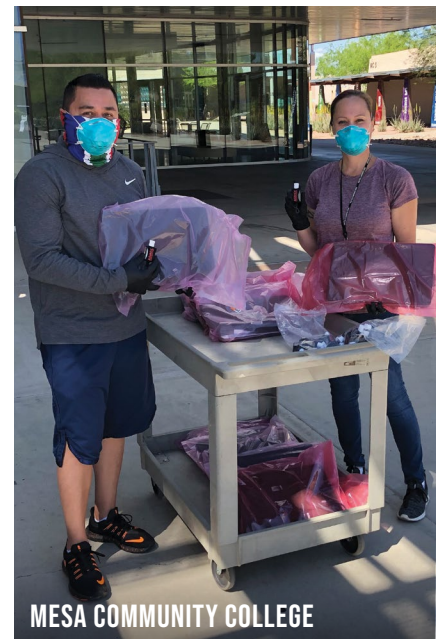


# THE YEAR IN PICTURES

A look at the resilience of each of our colleges. Our staff, faculty and students have found ways to adapt and address the needs of our communities during the pandemic.









**MARICOPA COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
NURSING STUDENTS, FACULTY, AND  
STAFF JOINED FRONTLINE WORKERS  
WORLDWIDE IN THE FIGHT AGAINST  
THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC. VISIT  
[HTTPS://YOUTU.BE/NJXWFMBZFYK](https://youtu.be/NJXWFMBZFYK) TO  
SEE HOW THESE HEROES ARE MAKING  
AN IMPACT IN OUR COMMUNITY.**





# EMPLOYEES GIVING BACK

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**DR. PAUL A. DALE, PRESIDENT,  
PARADISE VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

“My family instilled in me the value of philanthropic support of those causes you believe in,” said Dr. Paul A. Dale, President of Paradise Valley Community College (PVCC). “Supporting Maricopa students, especially during the pandemic, for me is a social obligation as a member of the community. We know that students learn better and are more focused on their Maricopa experience if other life challenges are minimized—so giving now, is also an important student success initiative.”

Dr. Dale has been with the District for twenty-three years and feels extremely fortunate that his life’s work has focused on creating conditions to ensure that students become lifelong learners—developing skills as critical, creative and entrepreneurial thinkers. “The Maricopa Community Colleges provide opportunity for economic and social mobility aiming at closing equity gaps and positive social change. We prepare students to enter the fastest growing occupations in the Valley and as one of the largest providers of transfer

“ Many years ago, as I was walking through our Learning Commons building, a student who I had previously met stopped me and in the process of thanking me for her PVCC experience, said to me “...my welfare is in your hands.” Her tone was not of a dependent nature but as a positive acknowledgment that her future was affirmed because she had found a measure of success as a student. I think of this often as a reminder of the importance of our work—especially now.”

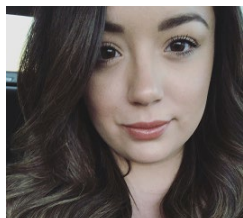
- Dr. Paul A. Dale

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students to the universities, the economic ROI clearly exceeds the taxpayer investment.” He continued, “We are also one of the largest educators in the state of first-generation, underrepresented students—given the changing demographics, this is also a critically important role.”

In addition to his support of a variety of student programs, Dr. Dale has also focused on the PVCC Employee Excellence Fund that provides monetary awards annually to faculty and staff who “go above and beyond” in their commitment to student learning and success. He also tries to teach one class a year and feels it keeps him connected with the student experience.

## SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT



“Scholarships give me one less thing to worry and stress about and put me closer to fulfilling my goals.” - *Marion, Paradise Valley Community College*



**STEPHANIE ALLEN,  
FACULTY LIBRARIAN,  
SOUTH MOUNTAIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

"I'm the granddaughter of two families of Irish immigrants who valued the importance of education and helping others," said Stephanie Allen, Faculty Librarian, South Mountain Community College (SMCC). "It is my family's example that leads me to give back to the community and I've found, it actually gives back a lot more to me!"

Stephanie loves working at SMCC. There, she has witnessed how determined and deserving her students are and has made it her priority to put them first, particularly this year. "Even though 2020 presented us with many pressing donor needs, I wanted to help our amazing students, who are our future, as much as I could. I do this so they can stay in school, while taking care of themselves and their families during this sad, scary year," she commented.

A long supporter of SMCC's Verna McClain Student Emergency Fund and STARS Scholarship Fund, Stephanie also supports and volunteers when she can at St. Mary's Mobile Food Pantry on campus and at Gabriel's Pantry in the SMCC Student Union, which invites any student to get a healthy food item of their choice every day for lunch.

Working in America's libraries for more than forty years, Stephanie says that it's a great pleasure every day to help people find the information they need to make their lives better. Providing library services virtually during the pandemic is another way of accomplishing this.

Looking towards the future, Stephanie hopes that it will not be too long before once again community members will feel at home visiting the SMCC Library (which is also a branch of the Phoenix Public Library System) and on campus and will consider SMCC for their future academic journey.



**LINDA BRIDWELL,  
STUDENT SERVICES ANALYST,  
SCOTTSDALE COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

Linda Bridwell's email signature says, ***It's a great day to be an Artichoke!*** referencing her excitement for Scottsdale Community College, where she is a Student Services Analyst.

Employed by the Maricopa Community College District for more than 20 years, Linda has always shown great support for not only the students at her college, but her fellow staff members as well.

Grateful for the opportunities that the District and Foundation provide in helping employees find outlets that allow them to help others, Linda said, "My spouse and I are blessed to still have jobs while working safely from home. So many others are not as fortunate as we are and are experiencing great emotional and financial hardships."

"Linda's passion to help our students is evident in all she does, including her giving," said Charles Silver, Development Director, SCC. "It's exciting to see a long-time staff member so motivated to give back and to always want to help even more. Her kindness and generosity are inspirational!"

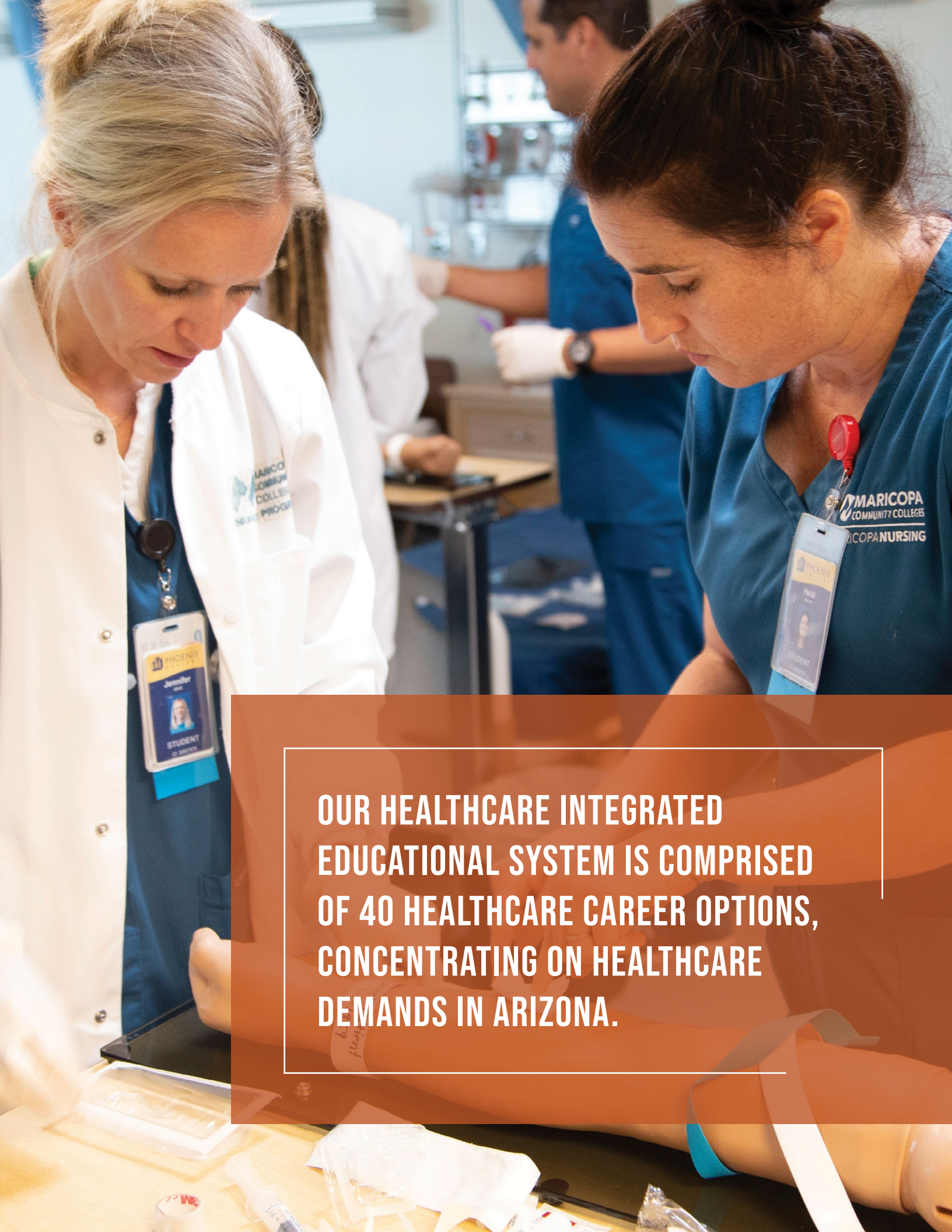
Linda supports many causes across the District including the Gehler Student Emergency Fund, the ACE (Achieving A College Education) Program and the Staff Emergency Fund, focusing specifically on support during the pandemic. "I feel it's important to lend support where you can," she said.





**SINCE 1977, THE FOUNDATION HAS  
AWARDED OVER \$38.9 MILLION IN  
SCHOLARSHIPS AND MANAGES 933  
NAMED FUNDS.**





**OUR HEALTHCARE INTEGRATED  
EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM IS COMPRISED  
OF 40 HEALTHCARE CAREER OPTIONS,  
CONCENTRATING ON HEALTHCARE  
DEMANDS IN ARIZONA.**



# DONOR SPOTLIGHT

## Melinda Rudibaugh Removes Obstacles to Allow Students to Learn

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Melinda Rudibaugh, Faculty Emeritus, says that she was “blessed to be a full-time math faculty at Chandler-Gilbert Community College (CGCC) for nearly 30 years.” She started there as an adjunct while in graduate school, right when the college started, and has truly enjoyed the feeling of camaraderie she’s had since the very beginning. “We knew all the employees and felt like we knew all of the students,” she said. “I loved my job teaching and later as a division head, helping the faculty. Our leaders inspired a student centeredness that has shaped my career.”

Today, Melinda helps students and faculty by supporting the Maricopa Community Colleges Foundation. “I see the Foundation as a way to provide scholarships to students who not only are in need, but who excel in academics and motivation,” she said. “I think Maricopa is always at the forefront of developments that enable students to succeed.”

During the pandemic, Melinda has seen students struggling. “There’s no campus life, no clubs, no recreational opportunities, no professors’ offices in which to get some help. Many students need technical support along with academic and financial support,” she said.

She was struck when several instructors noted students skipping meals because they couldn’t afford food. “Personally, I witnessed in teaching classes for faculty, that there were adjunct in nearly the same straits,” she said. “Supporting Food Assistance Funds and Emergency Funds can be a small way to help keep students in class when they just need a meal, help with transportation or an unexpected expense.”

In addition to the emergency funds she supports, Melinda contributes to many other of the District’s giving opportunities and her family has created an endowed nursing scholarship and recently an

engineering scholarship program. “We see this as a way to support students in critical fields and also as a way to help grieve a loss,” she said. “The more time one can invest in the lives of students, the more one is enriched.”

The Maricopa Community Colleges have played an important role in Melinda’s life not only professionally, but personally as well. She’s even taken classes herself at Glendale Community College and Mesa Community College (MCC). “I had fabulous instructors,” she recalled. Proudly Melinda shared that her children took courses at MCC, Phoenix College and CGCC to begin multiple degrees that they received as teenagers. “Again, the evidence of dedicated faculty and staff is there,” she exclaimed.

“College may not be for everyone,” Melinda said, while recalling her many years with the District. “But, for those with the perseverance to make it through, maybe we can all help to remove some of the obstacles.”

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“Community college students have very complex lives and often need just a little bit of help to make it through. It was heart-breaking to hear from a student who dropped a course because his book was lost and/or a student who could not make it to class due to car problems.”  
- Melinda Rudibaugh



# VOLUNTEER STORY

## Salt River Project (SRP) Volunteers



This year, more than 700 volunteers assisted in reviewing scholarship applications from students across the entire Maricopa Community College District. One company, Salt River Project (SRP), recruited and provided 30 employee volunteers, who reviewed over 600 scholarship applications, helping to ensure that each application received the attention it deserved.

Since 2016, SRP's employee volunteer organization has provided the Foundation with a team of volunteer scholarship reviewers, as part of their nationally recognized SRP VOLUNTEERS program. In addition to time, SRP VOLUNTEERS gives more than \$1 million per year to nonprofit organizations. "SRP has helped to shape the West since being founded in 1903," said Jen Martyn, Program Manager, SRP Community Outreach. "Our history is one of service to the residents of Arizona and that includes giving back to the communities where we live and serve."

The Foundation received a total of 8,361 scholarship applications for the Fall 2019 and Spring 2020 semesters. "The need for volunteers has never been more critical and we are extremely grateful to SRP for committing each year to help our students," said Karley Mellberg, Scholarship and Donation Relations Manager, Maricopa Community Colleges Foundation.

As the pandemic continues, the requests for scholarship support continue to come in and volunteers play a more important role than ever, in a process that not only impacts the lives of our students, but those who read their stories. "It's really rewarding to participate in a process that provides assistance to the most deserving of students, so that they can pursue and achieve their goals," said volunteer scholarship reviewer Cherry Collins, Senior IT Systems Analyst, SRP Information Management. "I'm inspired by so many students who continue to work towards their academic goals, despite additional hardships imposed by the pandemic." She continued, "The students are so clear about how their academic achievements will create significant change for their families. It makes me happy that there are still avenues for them to receive assistance, even in these uncertain times."

Randon Wilkins, Manager, SRP Residential Call Center, reviewed scholarships for the first time this year and said he definitely plans to do so again. "What made this rewarding was the fact that each applicant had a different story and experience that brought them to this point and that they're inspired to improve their lives through education," he said. Randon understands how overwhelming paying for higher education can be. He continued, "Tuition can definitely be daunting. I'm a

### SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT



"I am humbled to receive any assistance and extremely grateful. The assistance I receive helps with education costs and is a stress relief to my finances." - *Emily, Scottsdale Community College*



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Providing volunteers is only one of the ways that SRP supports the Maricopa Community Colleges Foundation. SRP's philanthropic efforts have provided scholarships to low and moderate income students and Veterans and supported emergency funding as well as program support for students enrolled in the Hoop of Learning and ACE (Achieving a Higher Education) programs.

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first-generation graduate like many of the applicants, so it is exciting for me to see them go after their goals and learn about their family's history. I have so much hope for all of them."

One thing that makes this volunteer opportunity so appealing for SRP is that their employees can participate easily from home. "Our volunteers are able to log-in on their computers whenever they like," Martyn said. "It's such an easy way for them to give back."

Many applicants have stories that touch the SRP volunteer scholarship reviewers deeply. Wilkins recalled one in particular, "One student mentioned

that he's disabled but is still pursuing a bachelor's degree in microbiology and plans to go on to medical school and become a physician. I love to see people overcome the odds and never give up on their dreams, good for him. I wish him the best!"

Interested in becoming a scholarship reviewer? Visit <https://mcccdf.org/volunteer>.

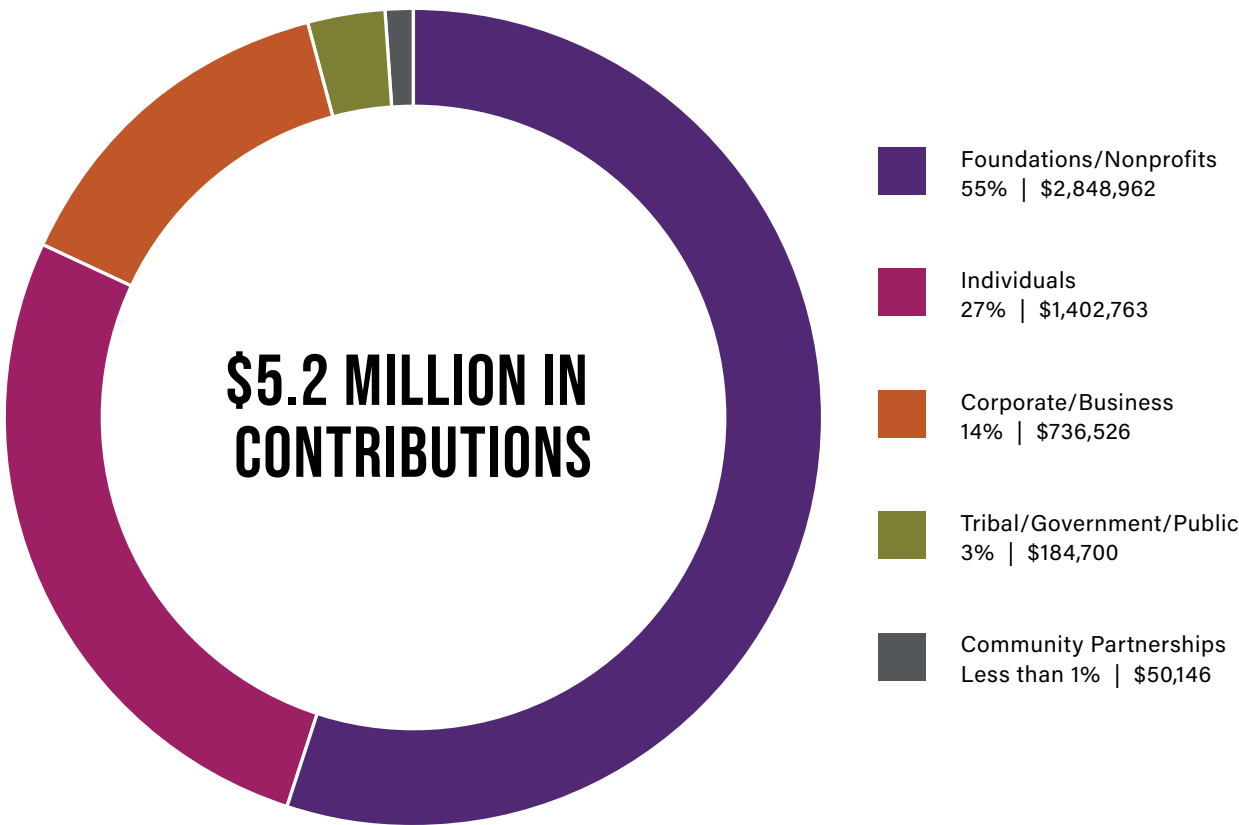
## SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT



"This scholarship, along with any other I am gifted, tells me that I am valued, that the effort I have put forward is reciprocated. It is with honest gratitude that I say, thank you." - *Payton, Glendale Community College*

# 2019-20 FINANCIAL POSITION

The Foundation received \$5.2 million in contributions in 2019-20, managed 933 named funds, and has assets totaling \$45.5 million. This strong financial position allows students to improve their lives through higher education.

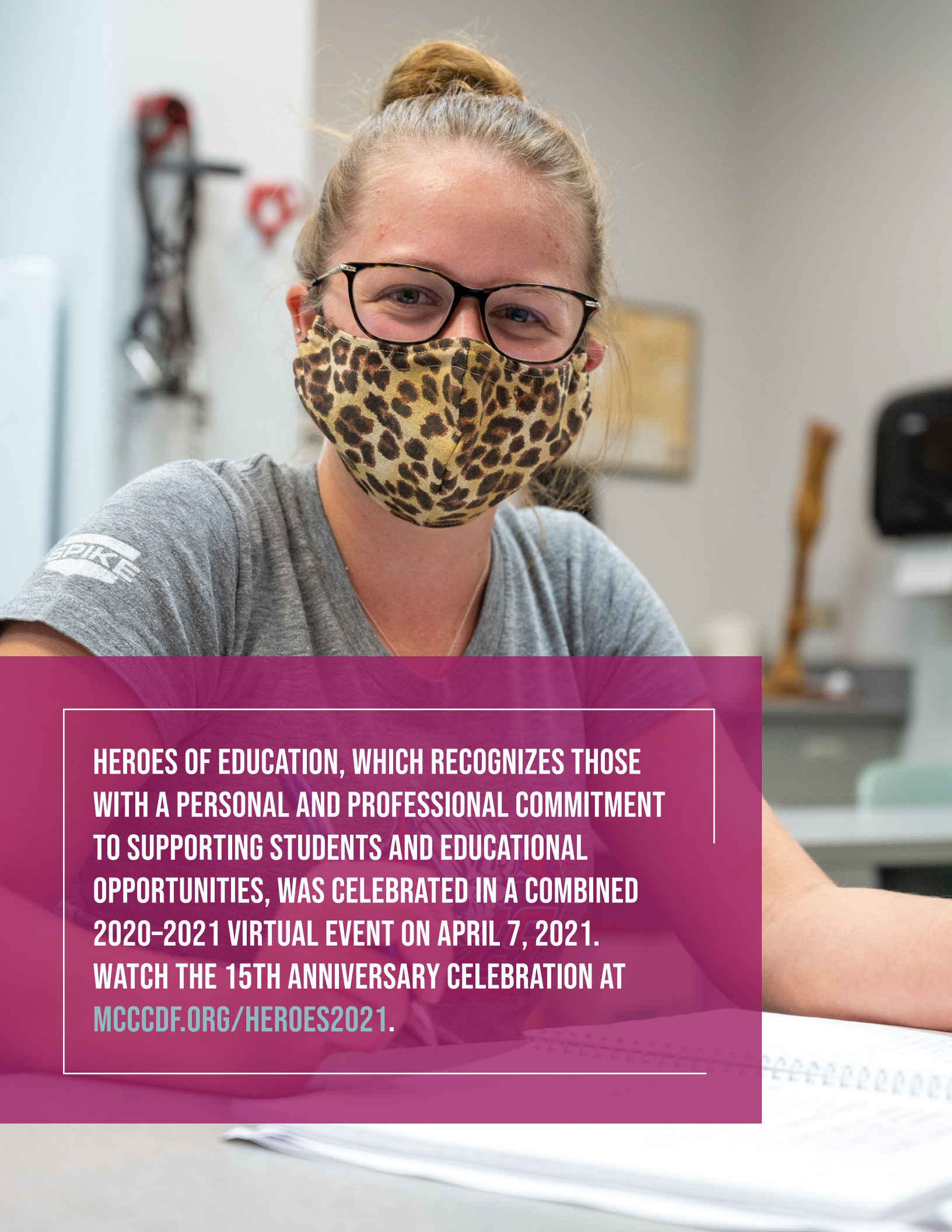


**SCHOLARSHIP  
RECIPIENT**



"My scholarship is not only assisting my financial needs in the present, but it is ensuring my success in my future academic and career goals." - *Marisol, Chandler-Gilbert Community College*





**HEROES OF EDUCATION, WHICH RECOGNIZES THOSE WITH A PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL COMMITMENT TO SUPPORTING STUDENTS AND EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES, WAS CELEBRATED IN A COMBINED 2020-2021 VIRTUAL EVENT ON APRIL 7, 2021. WATCH THE 15TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION AT [MCCCDF.ORG/HEROES2021](https://mcccdf.org/heroes2021).**

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**Mary Mickels**  
Fiscal Technician, Senior

**Kevin Nguyen**  
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**Nilam Patel**  
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**SMITHGROUP**





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**MARICOPA**  
COMMUNITY COLLEGES

Chandler-Gilbert | Estrella Mountain | GateWay | Glendale | Mesa  
Paradise Valley | Phoenix | Rio Salado | Scottsdale | South Mountain

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