



# ADAPTING, COLLABORATING AND LOOKING AHEAD

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## 2020–2021 ANNUAL REPORT



The Maricopa Community Colleges Foundation provides support for scholarships, programs and services on behalf of the 10 Maricopa Community Colleges, skill centers and satellite centers. The Foundation plays an integral role in impacting not only the lives of our more than 93,000 students, but also addresses the needs of local businesses and industries by paving the way for the Maricopa Community Colleges to become even more of an important resource in the community.

Over the course of the past year, we've had to adapt our focus in response to the ever changing needs our students have faced since the onset of the pandemic. We've come together as a District and with our community partners, to address head-on the unprecedented requests that we are receiving from our students, to ensure that the opportunity for an accessible and affordable education is available to all that want to realize their educational dreams.

We are inspired and grateful for the support we've received. On behalf of the Foundation, our Foundation Board of Directors, staff, the Maricopa Community Colleges District and District Governing Board, we look to the future optimistically, working together to make our community stronger and more resilient.

*“I want to say how grateful I am for this opportunity. I'm so excited to go back to school and finally work on finishing my degree. I get to start a journey that I know will fill my life's purpose which is the best feeling I could ask for. I can now say that I have a scholarship and I won't have to stress over how I'm going to finish out my education.”*

*- Skylar*

MARICOPA COMMUNITY  
COLLEGE STUDENT

THE FOUNDATION HAS EARNED THE PLATINUM GUIDESTAR NONPROFIT PROFILE SEAL OF TRANSPARENCY, THE HIGHEST LEVEL OF RECOGNITION OFFERED BY GUIDESTAR, THE WORLD'S LARGEST SOURCE OF NONPROFIT INFORMATION.



# WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT



In order to create a strong economy, we need a well-skilled workforce that aligns with the needs of our business and industry partners.

## MICROSOFT DATACENTER ACADEMY

Microsoft has teamed up with Estrella Mountain Community College and Glendale Community College for its ninth global [Microsoft Datacenter Academy](#). The specialized Academy lab, equipment, and courses will provide students from both colleges with a cutting-edge, hands-on, one-of-a-kind experience. Faculty will teach the courses guided by Microsoft staff, who may also serve as adjunct faculty or guest lecturers. Microsoft's \$140,000 investment provides scholarships for students participating in the academy, supports underrepresented students, with preference given to female or minority students, builds digital skills, and provides career pathways in this growing sector and also funds additional equipment at the EMCC location.

The partnership comes in conjunction with Microsoft's new data centers in Goodyear and El Mirage, near the two colleges. Students will not only be educated, trained, and prepared for the workplace, but they will have a streamlined pathway to the local IT job market. Students who participate in Datacenter Academy courses can earn a Certificate of Completion and/or an Associate of Applied Science Degree.

**110**

JOBS EXPECTED  
TO BE CREATED

**35**

STUDENTS WILL  
GRADUATE BY FALL 2022

## EMERGING IT/CYBER/AI

The Fall 2020 semester welcomed the launch of the [Artificial Intelligence and Machine-learning \(AIM\) program](#)—a collaboration between the Foundation, Intel and the Arizona Commerce Authority. The Maricopa Community Colleges are among the first in the U.S. to teach Artificial Intelligence technology.

“This program will train our students for a competitive workforce, strengthen Arizona's economy, as well as help close the opportunity gap we see across the state and be a model for Educational Institutions across the nation,” said Dr. Steven R. Gonzales, MCCCDC Interim Chancellor.

[Research estimates that AI employment opportunities will increase more than 22% by 2029. The median pay each year for students graduating from this program is \\$126K per year.](#)

Phoenix College launched the [Maricopa IT Institute at Phoenix College](#) (ITI at PC) in the Fall, 2020. The Institute is designed to be a groundbreaking hub of innovation that will help students meet the ever-increasing IT labor demands. Hybrid courses prepare students for best in class certifications, such as CompTIA, Linux, Web Development & Design, and Google IT Support Professional. The ITI also provides customized training solutions for employers designed to help their employees upgrade their skill levels.

State Farm also provided \$80,000 in scholarship and program support for Cyber/AI/Automation programs. Additionally, the APS Foundation granted \$75,000 to support programs that develop workforce readiness and raise girls' awareness of STEM/IT careers, increase STEM skills levels, and improve self-efficacy, resulting in a more diverse STEM/IT workforce.

## SMCC CONSTRUCTION TRADE INSTITUTE

[The Construction Trades Institute at South Mountain Community College](#) opened in Spring 2020 and is supported by community partners looking to grow the trades workforce in Phoenix—where growth continues to surge and construction is in high demand. [McCarthy Building Companies is a founding partner and donated \\$12,500 to the institute for the Fall 2021 semester.](#)

The donation directly benefited students in the Institute by funding certifications, books, and student resources. Each cohort at the SMCC CTI has approximately 16 students. MCC, GW, and SMCC have been working collaboratively to explore expansion of their programs regionally to accommodate industry demand for a skilled construction trade workforce.

The Cowley Family Foundation as well as the Henry George Mackintosh Foundation support Construction Trades majors earning a certification or degree.

**\$24.07**

CONSTRUCTION WORKER  
HOURLY WAGE

**23.6%**

JOB GROWTH  
OVER 10 YEARS

**4,200**

CONSTRUCTION JOBS  
NEEDED BY SEPT '23

“I have worked in the trade of communication technology installation for over 15 years. I lived paycheck to paycheck and worked upwards of 60 hours per week to support myself. I have always dreamed of furthering my career by learning more technical skills. I plan to earn a degree in cyber security and attain various certifications in computer technology and networking.”

– Paul | MARICOPA COMMUNITY COLLEGE STUDENT

# SCHOLARSHIP AND PROGRAM SUPPORT



In FY20–21 the Foundation made significant efforts to support diversity, equity and inclusion via scholarships and work-based programs.

## FIRST GENERATION STUDENTS

The Lyon's Pride scholarship program, established by the Russ Lyon Foundation to positively impact qualifying students' lives through higher education, developed as a result of a relationship they had with MCCCCD Governing Board member and longtime Foundation supporter, Linda Thor.

"The Lyon's Pride scholarship preferences head of household and first in family students to direct funds towards a demographic of opportunity, need and inclusiveness," said Todd Gillenwater, Chief Executive Officer and Owner, Russ Lyon Sotheby's International Realty. "It is a direct investment in the betterment of Arizona."

*"I am the first in my family to attend college. Getting this scholarship has allowed me to fully focus on my school and not worry about how I am going to pay. Receiving this scholarship keeps me motivated and hopeful that people do care about my education."*

- Sabawoon

MARICOPA COMMUNITY COLLEGE STUDENT

## NATIVE AMERICAN STUDENTS

Indigenous Mesa Community College students were beneficiaries of a generous [\\$150,000 grant from Bank of America \(BoFA\)](#) as part of the bank's overall efforts to advance economic opportunity and racial equality and allows for the development of Virtual Programming to inform and interact with students online, and provides educational stipends for university transfers.

This grant is one of many in which BofA provides for underrepresented students including a [\\$500,000 grant in support of the District's Guided Pathways program](#)—a structured educational model utilizing funds to advance success in the area of education to industry, focusing on closing the wage gap among minorities with improved outcomes for students of color, low income and first-generation students.

[The Eagle Feather Native American Endowment](#), established by Dan and Beth Whittemore is a \$100,000 scholarship and program fund, designed for Native American and underserved students obtaining post-secondary education or certifications, building their own business, or are engaged in entrepreneurial studies. Additionally, the Whittemores partnered with the [Johnson Scholarship Foundation](#) to create a matching component which increases the potential of this endowment to \$200,000.

## EMERGENCY AND BASIC NEEDS FUNDS

The impact of COVID-19 hit Maricopa Community College students particularly hard with job loss, food insecurity, the ability to pay bills, function effectively in an online environment, and so much more. Our goal is for no student to have to choose between basic needs and learning. That is why we redirected our focus to immediately address the hardships our students were facing.

Thanks to generous donations from business partners such as the Arizona Republic, SRP, State Farm and the Virginia G. Piper Charitable Trust in support of Emergency and Basic Needs Funds, many of the pressures that our students faced were lifted.

The inaugural Be a Student's Hero day of giving, held April 7, 2021 was a day of giving in which the entire Maricopa District came together in support of Emergency Funds for students in need. More than \$67,000 in contributions were raised, making a difference in the lives of our students, faculty and staff at all ten of the Maricopa Community Colleges.

*"Upon receiving the news that I was receiving support, I was ecstatic because it meant that my internet bill would be covered for the rest of the semester. I am one step closer to becoming a marine biologist."*

- Maria | MARICOPA COMMUNITY COLLEGE STUDENT AND NAVAJO TRIBAL MEMBER

**71%**  
STUDENTS  
ARE UNDERSERVED

**61%**  
STUDENTS ARE  
FIRST-GENERATION

**40%**  
STUDENTS ARE  
PELL-ELIGIBLE

# PARTNERSHIP AND COLLABORATION



The Foundation is honored to partner with companies that share the vision for higher education for all and is working together with the community to bring opportunities to more students.

## HELIOS/DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

This past year, the Department of Education (DOE) initiated a Title V Endowment Match Challenge to boost the maximum match before the five-year Title V grant programs ended. The Helios Education Foundation stepped up in response, awarding a grant to the Maricopa Community Colleges Foundation. With the match challenge, the grant has resulted in \$1.2 million in newly endowed scholarship funds through the Hispanic Serving Institutions Scholarship Fund. More than 115 students will benefit each year as a direct result.

## THE MESA COLLEGE PROMISE

The City of Mesa has made a commitment to its residents: all eligible graduating Mesa high school students can attend Mesa Community College (MCC) for two years with tuition and fees fully funded. In the Fall of 2021, MCC became the first Maricopa Community College to launch a College Promise Program specifically geared toward students with financial need who do not receive enough Federal Student Aid or scholarships to cover all college costs. Eighty-eight students were selected into the first [Mesa College Promise](#) cohort, of which 72% were first generation college students, 58% female, 86% between the ages of 18–19 and 63% Hispanic. Promise students also receive an orientation, career and financial aid advising, counseling, and additional wraparound services. This investment from the City of Mesa along with private match funds will pay dividends for years to come.

## THE TECH WORK DEVELOPMENT GRANT

Verizon is another company rising to the challenge of educating the future workforce. With a recent \$100,000 grant, Verizon is helping to remove financial barriers that necessary—but often unpaid—internships pose to college students. The Tech Work Development Grant will be distributed over three years, giving each student a \$1,000 stipend to complete an unpaid technology internship. As the largest provider of workforce development in the country, the Maricopa Community Colleges District uses these funds to help students prepare to join that workforce.

Utilizing the Tech Work Development Grant, Ethan Baldwin's unpaid internship actually led to a paid position with the Maricopa Community Colleges District. Thanks to the skills he learned in his internship, and the ability to focus on those skills rather than living expenses, Ethan landed a position working with Dr. Meredith Warner in the District Workforce Development Office and is now PipelineAZ Program Analyst.

*“I found my opportunity as a Business Analyst Intern under the Verizon grant. Throughout my whole life I've always taken an interest in technology. This brought my interest to understand and develop it further.”*

– *Ethan* | MARICOPA COMMUNITY COLLEGE STUDENT

THE FOUNDATION ASSETS TOTAL  
**\$55.8 MILLION**

**5,686**  
STUDENTS WERE DIRECTLY  
IMPACTED BY GRANTS SUBMITTED  
AND AWARDED DURING FY20–21



Jay Faulkner  
Memorial Atrium  
Class of 1947

## PLANNED GIFTS

We thank and remember those who generously designated to the Maricopa Community Colleges Foundation in their estate plan.

**Jay Faulkner** grew up in the 1940's on a farm near the Grand Canal in downtown Phoenix. In 1944 Jay started at Phoenix College (PC) and thrived there. Wanting to give youth today the positive, supportive and rewarding experience he enjoyed at PC, in 2004 he established and continued to give to what has become a substantial scholarship endowment to help students in the college's ACE (Achieving a College Education) program. The ACE program was created to remedy the school dropout problem in Arizona by helping at-risk high school students complete their education and get an early start on college. Jay passed away in February, 2021, leaving an endowment gift, **the largest alumni private scholarship donation in PC's history and across all the Maricopa Community Colleges.**

**Bertha Landrum**, who passed away on January 16, 2018, spent 41 years as a professor, Director of Research and Development, Dean of Instruction (the first female hired to this position across the entire state of Arizona) and District Director of Business and Workforce Development, at the Maricopa Community Colleges. She retired as Interim Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and went on to consult across the world. Dedicated to improving lives through education, Bertha is a founding member of our **Legacy Society**, joining others who are passionate about education and making a difference for our community.

**5**  
LEGACY GIFTS

**\$4,917,514**  
TOTAL DOLLARS

**250-500**  
STUDENTS SUPPORTED



15<sup>th</sup>  
HEROES OF  
EDUCATION

## HEROES OF EDUCATION

It may have looked a little different this year, but our **15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Heroes of Education** event did not disappoint. Nearly 300 friends joined-in to give and virtually recognize ten College Heroes along with the Foundation's 2020 Heroes David Adame, President and Chief Executive Officer of Chicanos Por La Causa, Inc. and State Farm® as well as 2021 Heroes Nita and Phil Francis and Salt River Project.

**\$330,000**

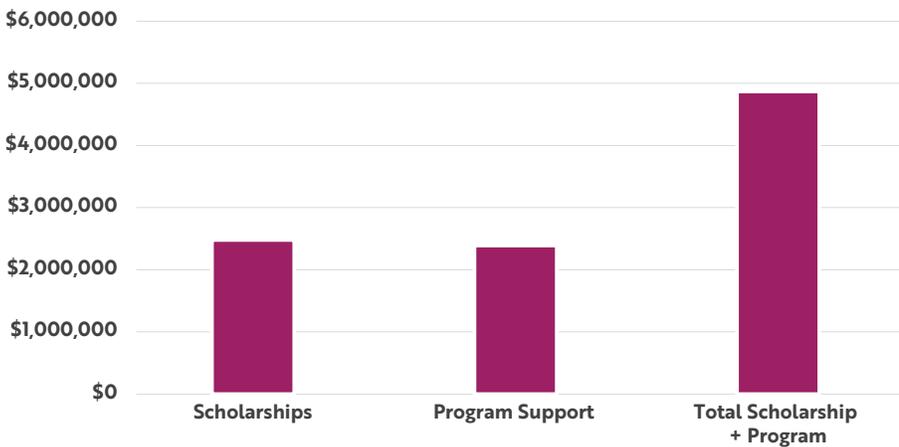
WAS RAISED AT HEROES OF EDUCATION,  
TO INVEST IN SCHOLARSHIPS, EMERGENCY  
FUNDS AND PROGRAM SUPPORT

# 2020-2021 FINANCIALS



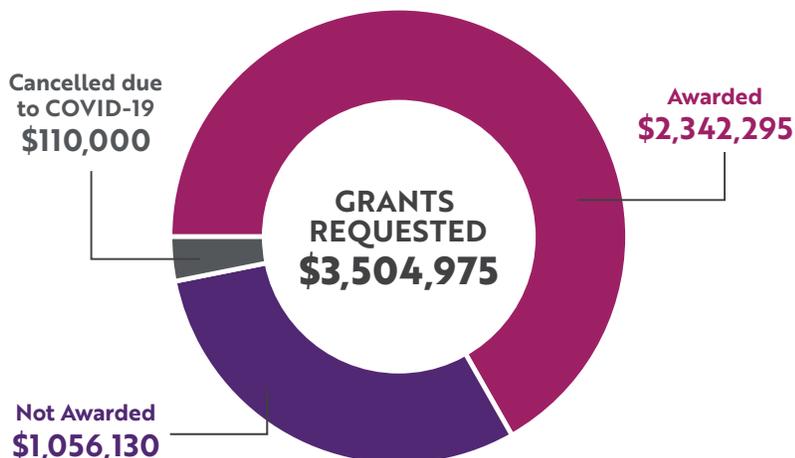
The Foundation awards scholarships and program support for students attending the Maricopa Community Colleges and Centers.

## SCHOLARSHIP AND PROGRAM SUPPORT



As of June 30, 2021 we awarded **4,014** scholarships totaling **\$2,479,500** and **\$2,389,365** in program support for a total of **\$4,868,865**.

## FISCAL YEAR GRANTS



The Foundation applied for **\$3,504,975** in grants and received **\$2,342,295**.