



FOUNDATION UPDATE

February 2021

We make postsecondary education accessible and affordable.

Dear Friends,

Welcome to our first newsletter of 2021! We're only two months into this new year, but we are moving full steam ahead to ensure that students across our District continue to have the resources they need to pursue their dreams and to transform their lives through education.

This month we share some exciting news...that Heroes of Education will return in April for a 15th anniversary virtual celebration! We are thrilled to honor our Heroes and to come together to celebrate their passion for education and hope you can join us for this wonderful event.

Featured below are stories of triumph and inspiration including student successes, grant updates, Foundation recognitions and the latest news from across our District.

A new year brings hope and a renewed commitment from all of us at the Foundation and as we continue to grow our culture of philanthropy, I once again thank you for your continued support and trust.

Sincerely,

Brian F. Spicker
President and CEO
Maricopa Community Colleges Foundation

Heroes of Education 2020/2021



15th
HEROES of
EDUCATION

Virtual Presentation

April 7, 2021

4:15 p.m. Pre-Event

4:30 p.m. - 5:45 p.m. Program

mcccdf.org/heroes2021

The Hero of Education award is given by the Maricopa Community Colleges Foundation, to honor champions of education in Arizona and recognize those who have a proven personal and professional commitment to supporting students and educational opportunities.

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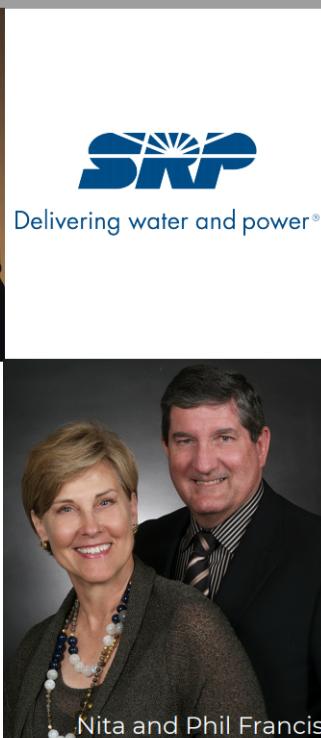


2020 Honorees



David Adame

2021 Honorees



Delivering water and power®

Nita and Phil Francis

Proceeds from Heroes of Education benefit student scholarship and program support in accordance with our vision that everyone has the opportunity to improve their lives through education.

Heroes of Education to be Honored at Virtual Event

We are pleased to announce that 2020/2021 virtual Heroes of Education event will be held April 7, 2021 honoring 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 (SRP). This award, celebrating its 15th anniversary, is given to champions of education in Arizona and recognizes those who have a proven personal and professional commitment to supporting students and educational opportunities. This is the first time that both individuals and corporations have been recognized and that two years have been combined. Additionally, ten College Heroes will be honored, representing each of the Maricopa Community Colleges. The event will be held on a virtual platform, managed and provided in-kind by SRP.

Proceeds from Heroes of Education benefit scholarship and program support in accordance with our vision that everyone has the opportunity to improve their lives through education.

Read more about Heroes of Education [here](#). To become a Heroes of Education sponsor, [click here](#).

Catching Up With Alumni



PVCC Alum's Entrepreneurial Spirit and Passion for Education Drive Her to Accomplish Goals

Not even a pandemic is going to stop alumna, Josie Emch, from launching her own business. In March 2020, she did just that. She combined her two passions, education and entrepreneurship, and created Sitters Select. Sitters Select offers babysitting, tutoring, pet sitting and housesitting. These are not your traditional babysitters. These sitters are education majors that are ready to

teach. Of her 45 employees, 75 percent of them are PVCC Education students or graduates. This supports the Sitters Select mission of “creating professional and financial opportunities for superior individuals in the field of education.” Josie recognized that current educators often need to supplement their teaching income and current students need practicum hours and resume building experience. She currently collaborates with the Education Departments at PVCC, ASU and GCU. [Read more.](#)

Students Express Gratitude

Your support means so much to our students. Here is just a sampling of the [many notes we receive](#) expressing gratitude. This excerpt is from Chris, a student at Mesa Community College.

*THANK YOU THANK YOU
THANK YOU!!!! Wow, I was NOT
expecting any scholarships at all, and
then as if it were a miracle from the
heavens, I get a notification saying that
I am a recipient of one, and it gives me
the most humblest of gratitude to
accept it! Thank you!*

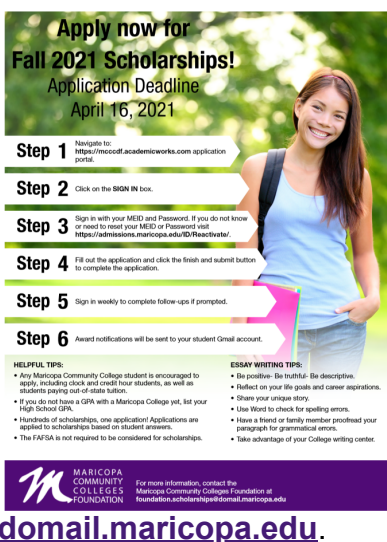


I'm a Music Theater Major at Mesa Community College! I chose this specific campus because it is ever so close to home and its Music Theater Program is one of the best in the state, even considering the fact that it's a community college! Whether I was cursed or blessed with a passion for Music and the

performing arts, I decided to pursue a career in such, defying all logic and expectations. My hope is not to become a Broadway star, but to become a Drama Teacher and help all the students that have the opportunity to pass my way to make it to the Broadway equivalents of their career, whether that be actual Broadway, a prestigious medical school, or anything of the sort. I simply want to inspire and spread good!

I can't express how grateful I am for your help. You truly are making this uphill climb so much less burdensome, so for the last time... THANK YOU!!!!

Apply For Scholarships



**Apply now for
Fall 2021 Scholarships!**
Application Deadline
April 16, 2021

Step 1 Navigate to:
<https://mcccdl.academicworks.com/application/portal/>

Step 2 Click on the SIGN IN box.

Step 3 Sign in with your MEO and Password. If you do not know or need to reset your MEO or Password visit:
<https://admissions.maricopa.edu/ID/Reactivate/>

Step 4 Fill out the application and click the finish and submit button to complete the application.

Step 5 Sign in weekly to complete follow-ups if prompted.

Step 6 Award notifications will be sent to your student Gmail account.

HELPFUL TIPS:

- Any Maricopa Community College student is encouraged to apply, including clock and credit hour students, as well as students paying out of state tuition.
- If you do not have a GPA with a Maricopa College yet, list your High School GPA.
- Hundreds of scholarships, one application! Applications are applied to scholarships based on student answers.
- The FAFSA is not required to be considered for scholarships.

ESSAY WRITING TIPS:

- Be positive - Be truthful - Be descriptive.
- Reflect on your life goals and career aspirations.
- Share your unique story.
- Use Word to check for spelling errors.
- Have a friend or family member proofread your paragraph for grammatical errors.
- Take advantage of your College writing center.

MARICOPA COMMUNITY COLLEGES FOUNDATION
For more information, contact the Maricopa Community Colleges Foundation at foundation.scholarships@domail.maricopa.edu

domail.maricopa.edu

Fall 2021 Scholarship Cycle Opens March 1

Beginning March 1, 2021, students interested in obtaining scholarships to any of the the Maricopa Community Colleges can apply [here](#).

To ensure that the application process goes as smoothly as possible, we suggest applicants first visit the Foundation's [scholarship application information page](#) where they will find a list of Frequently Asked Questions, helpful videos and tips for a great essay. Questions? Email foundation.scholarships@domail.maricopa.edu

Educating Our Workforce



Raising the Bar for Beauty and Wellness

Mesa Community College and GateWay Community College have collaborated with Rolf's Salon beauty gurus to create a one of a kind program for beauty professionals. The beauty and wellness program is designed to provide, empower and elevate students to successfully implement innovative principles in the beauty industry. [Check out this video](#) to learn more.

District News



The Maricopa Community Colleges Have the Most Affordable Tuition Rates in Arizona

The Maricopa County Community College District (MCCCD), the largest community college system in the nation, is built on high quality — not high costs. The COVID-19 pandemic has changed our communities in unimaginable ways: In many cases, it has greatly impacted college plans due to concerns with being able to afford tuition. Tuition and fees for MCCCD classes (\$85 per credit hour and on an average annual cost of just over \$2,500 for full-time students) are considerably lower than those at other Arizona universities and private colleges.

To provide additional assistance, the Maricopa Community Colleges offer two new tuition discounts for Maricopa County residents and Out-of-State residents residing in Arizona.

Students with in-state residency status are eligible for a \$1,020 flat tuition rate. The flat rate applies when enrolling in 12.5 - 21 credits.

Students with out-of-state residency status residing in Arizona are eligible for an \$85 per credit hour tuition rate.

[Read the full story.](#)

Foundation Recognized



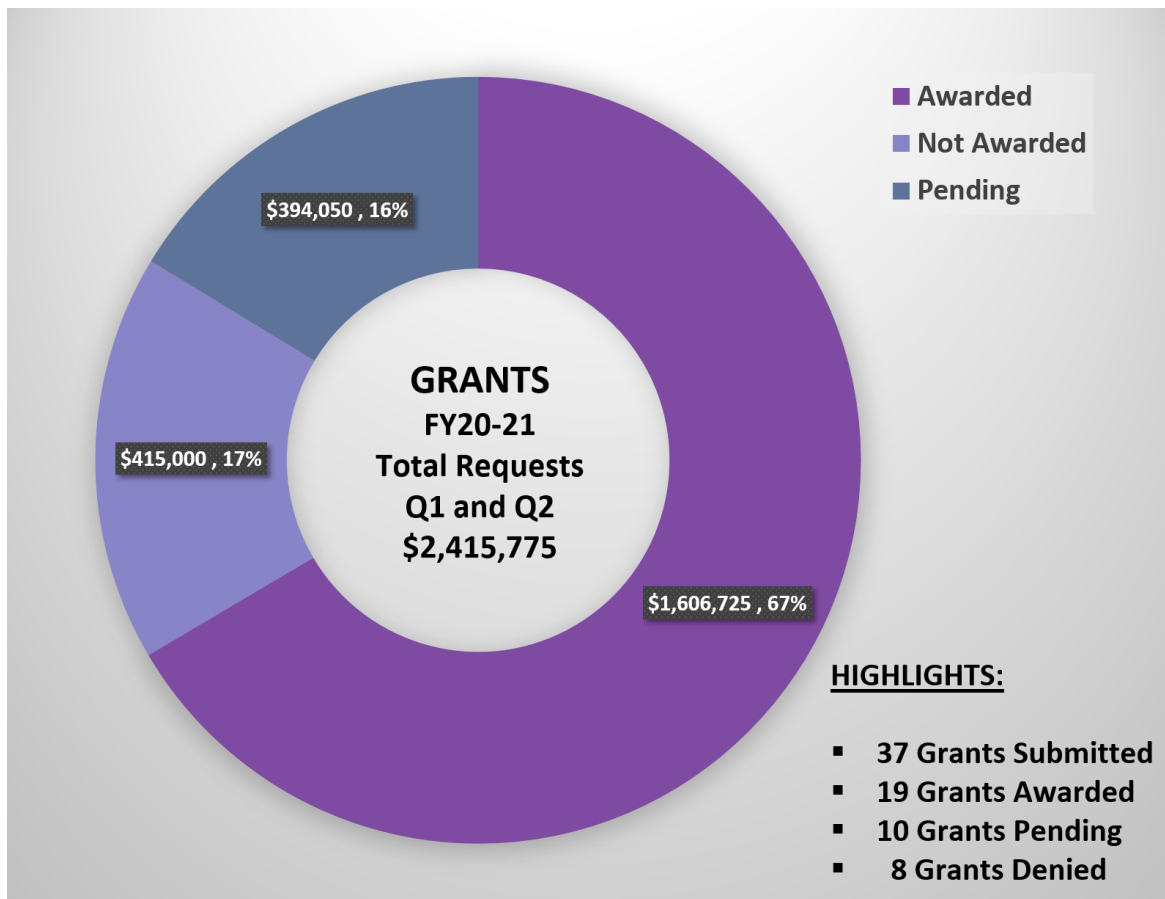
Second Year Foundation Earns Platinum Recognition

We are pleased to announce that for the second year in a row, the Maricopa Community Colleges Foundation has earned the Platinum GuideStar Nonprofit Profile Seal of Transparency.

Platinum is the highest level of recognition offered by GuideStar, the world's largest source of nonprofit information. By sharing metrics that highlight the progress the Foundation is making toward its vision, to ensure that everyone has the opportunity to improve their lives through education, GuideStar helps donors move beyond simplistic ways of nonprofit evaluation.

To learn more about GuideStar Platinum, visit <https://learn.guidestar.org/platinum>.

Grants Update



Campaign Triumphs

2021 CASE DISTRICT VII AWARDS *of* EXCELLENCE Winners

COVID-19 Fundraising Campaign Receives Gold Award

The Foundation was honored on February 5th at the 2021 CASE District VII Awards of Excellence virtual event. Our campaign, [Maricopa Community Colleges District Coming Together on Behalf of Our Students](#) was the recipient of a Gold Award for an entry in the Fundraising Pivot category. A total of 540 entries were submitted from 2 and 4 year colleges and universities in California, Nevada, Utah and Arizona. Only 166 were award winners.

In March 2020, the Maricopa Community Colleges District shutdown immediately due to COVID-19, sending students, faculty and staff into a remote work and learning environment. All courses became virtual, leaving thousands of students without the technology they needed.

As the pandemic grew, basic needs became a huge problem for students. Wages were being lost due to reduced work hours or job loss, students were struggling to keep food on the table, utilities on, pay for housing and keep up with their studies. We knew this pandemic would also have a detrimental effect on persistence and retention. As a result, the Foundation experienced an unprecedented increase of 11,141% in student emergency applications.



We instantly focused on supporting students and launched the first-ever cohesive communications effort, across all of the colleges. The effort focused on telling the story of students in need in hopes of inspiring employees, alumni, donors and others to help our students and our community in one of three areas: Emergency Funds, Food Pantry Funds and Greatest Needs Funds. A total of \$312,679.53 was raised, aiding 680 students.

You can watch the event by [clicking here](#) and read more about the CASE awards [here](#).

To help students still struggling due to the pandemic, visit mcccdf.org/students-in-need.

Foundation Announcement

Changes Position Foundation for Future Success

Brian Spicker has been at the helm of the Maricopa Community Colleges Foundation as Interim, President and CEO, since coming on board in March 2019. Today, the Foundation is pleased to announce that he has accepted the position as President and CEO in a permanent capacity, after receiving incredible support from the District, colleges, Foundation Board and staff.

"I am humbled to work in this role and am ever so grateful for the opportunity to continue, along with my entire team, to support students by making post-secondary education and certifications accessible and affordable," Spicker said.

Additionally, Judy Sanchez has been named Chief Development Officer after working tirelessly in her efforts to support the Foundation, District and Resource Development Council. Judy's scope of work has expanded significantly and as Chief Development Officer, she will be spearheading grants and the marketing and database analytics team, expanding the role of revenue management as the Foundation continues to position itself for success.

These announcements come as the Foundation undergoes a repositioning that includes Fiscal Director Diana-Aguirre-Rosales, who oversees accounting and finance, emergency funding, scholarships and donor relations. "These changes allow us to better focus upon such important areas as revenue generation, workforce development, planned giving, student emergency funding, more scholarship and program support aligning with our overall vision to improve lives through education," commented Spicker. He continued, "The past year has been filled with challenges that no one could have imagined, and I feel truly blessed for the partnerships the Foundation has with the Chancellor, District Leadership, College Presidents, Workforce Development, Resource Development Officers, faculty, staff as well as the Governing Board, Foundation Board, donors and the community overall. Looking to the future, I feel so grateful to have such a high performing Foundation team at my side, as we build a gold standard for the work that we do, ensuring a successful culture of philanthropy."



Brian Spicker



Judy Sanchez



Diana-Aguirre-Rosales

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