



## FOUNDATION UPDATE

November 2021

*We make postsecondary education accessible and affordable.*

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Dear Friends,

There is no better time of year to give thanks to so many who work tirelessly on behalf of our students at the Maricopa Community Colleges. That is why this month, Foundation Update focuses specifically upon our gratitude for the many grants that we've received from our outstanding community partners and the philanthropic efforts of our donors and supporters.

Today, not only do we share exciting news about the programs that are being funded in support of multiple efforts including diversity and entrepreneurship, we also celebrate YOU for National Philanthropy Day and specifically the philanthropic outreach that we receive each and every day by so many in our community.

The past year has brought many challenges to us all, but through it all we have persevered and risen to new heights in commitment and dedication. As we enter into the holiday season, I once again would like to thank you for your continued support, trust and generosity.

Sincerely,

Brian F. Spicker  
President and CEO  
Maricopa Community Colleges Foundation

## ***Celebrating Philanthropy***

### **NATIONAL PHILANTHROPY DAY**

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF THE  
MARICOPA COMMUNITY COLLEGES FOUNDATION



National Philanthropy Day celebrated on November 15th was a special day that we recognized and paid tribute to the great contributions that philanthropy - and those active in the philanthropic community - have made to our lives, our communities and our world.

This year, we took the opportunity to express gratitude to our entire community for their support of Maricopa Community College students and celebrated the impact that is made each and every day by our supporters, on their behalf.

“Whether someone makes a one-time gift, includes us in their payroll deduction, or establishes a scholarship fund, they are integral in what has allowed us to award more than \$41 million in scholarships to more than 70,482 deserving students, since 1977,” said Brian Spicker, President and CEO, Maricopa Community Colleges Foundation. “In fact, even with the challenges this past year has brought, we will be able to provide more than \$2 million in scholarships during the 2021-22 school year, thanks to your generosity.”

The commitment by more than 12,000 individual donors, community partners and others, to provide scholarship and program support to ensure that higher education dreams become realities, allows the Foundation to stay focused on carrying out its vision of providing students with the opportunity to improve their lives through education.

“Together, with our supporters, we are making a difference in our student’s lives each and every day,” said Spicker.



Long supporters of higher education, Dan and Beth Whitmore established a scholarship and fund designed for Native American students pursuing an education at a Maricopa Community College.

Today, we honor them and all of our supporters for the impact their generosity makes across our District.



National Philanthropy Day®

Visit us at  
mccff.org to learn more.

CHANGE THE WORLD



WITH A GIVING HEART

National  
Philanthropy Day®

**Dr. Teresa Leyba Ruiz  
President,  
Glendale Community  
College (GCC)**

supports student success by contributing to many scholarship funds and the GCC Food Pantry fund. Today we honor all of our District employees and thank them for their generous philanthropic support. Together each and every day, we are making a difference in the lives of our students.



Supporters of multiple funds and initiatives, including the Glasper Family African American Student Scholarship, emeritus Maricopa County Community College Chancellor Dr. Rayna Glasper and his wife Delora are among those we honor today for their continued commitment to ensuring their educational dreams become realities for students across the ten Maricopa Community Colleges.

Today, we thank our entire community for their generosity and dedication to making a difference in the lives of our students.



National Philanthropy Day®

Visit us at  
mccff.org to learn more.

## *Advancing Entrepreneurship*



### **Foundation Awarded \$1M Grant from Wells Fargo in Support of Advancing Entrepreneurship**

The Maricopa Community Colleges Foundation (MCCF) has received a \$1M grant from Wells Fargo in support of Advancing Entrepreneurship at the Maricopa

County Community College District (MCCCD). The grant was announced by Wells Fargo CEO, Charlie Scharf, at a roundtable discussion held October 22, 2021, themed around small business growth and recovery efforts, attended by various community organizations and leaders including Arizona Governor, Doug Ducey.

**WELLS  
FARGO**

The Advancing Entrepreneurship grant is focused on uplifting economically disadvantaged and diverse-owned small businesses, as well as students of color pursuing business and entrepreneurial studies at the Maricopa Community Colleges. It provides scholarships and programming support to increase college enrollment and completion rates as well as provide funding to support business incubators, bootcamps, workshops and student pitch competitions.

In partnership with the Maricopa Workforce and Economic Development office, more than 1,200 small businesses and 230 of MCCCD students will benefit as a result of the grant which will also provide economically disadvantaged and diverse-owned small businesses access to capital and services, confidential counseling by SBA certified “Arizona Access to Capital” advisors, and opportunities allowing them to achieve digital transformation through the AZSBDC “LevelUp AZ Small Business” program.

[Read the full story.](#)

## ***Reducing Barriers to Higher Education***



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MARICOPA  
COMMUNITY  
COLLEGES  
FOUNDATION





## **PepsiCo Grant Provides Scholarship Opportunities to Black and Hispanic Students**

PepsiCo and its philanthropic arm, The PepsiCo Foundation, announced a \$500,000 2-year grant award to the Maricopa Community Colleges Foundation (MCCF). The grant is part of the PepsiCo Foundation Community College Program to provide scholarship opportunities for Black and Hispanic students across the country. The Maricopa Community Colleges District (MCCCD) is one of 13 community college systems in the country to be added to this growing scholarship program.

“This grant specifically aims to help reduce barriers that so many of our MCCCD students face in completing their higher education aspirations,” said Brian F. Spicker, MCCF President and CEO. “In addition to scholarships, the PepsiCo Foundation Uplift Scholarship Program helps to close the wealth gap by providing access to higher education that will enable our students to acquire jobs in high growth career paths.”

The PepsiCo Foundation Uplift Scholarship program focuses on Black and Hispanic students enrolled in Associates degrees or professional certificate programs relating to careers within the Food Systems Industries, including Marketing & Sales, Advanced Manufacturing, Logistics, Information Technology, Cybersecurity, and others.

Approximately 1400 scholarship recipients nationwide will receive financial assistance to remove historical barriers to enrollment,

persistence, and graduation, by the end of 2022. Scholars receive tuition assistance, eligible living expenses such as childcare and transportation, plus

exclusive enrichment opportunities including PepsiCo career exploration, facility tours, job shadowing, and access to career preparation tools such as virtual workshops, resume writing, interview skills, and more.

The timing of the grant is particularly critical for the economic recovery of low income Black and Hispanic students, the leading demographic for college stop outs and drop outs during the pandemic.

Read the full story, [here](#).

## ***Creating Better Social and Economic Outcomes***



**BANK OF AMERICA**

### **Grant Supports Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Engagement**

We are pleased to announce that we have received a \$500,000 grant from Bank of America in support of the Guided Pathways program at the Maricopa County Community College District (MCCCD).

Guided Pathways, a MCCCD program implemented to increase students' success in degree and certification completion by providing a structured educational model, will utilize the funds from Bank of America 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 concentration will be on career attainment in the fields of Information Technology, Cybersecurity, Business, Healthcare and Advanced Manufacturing.

“This partnership will bring to scale critical services and programs designed to increase student success and pathways to employment that not only helps students directly, but in the longer-term, strengthens our local economy,” said Benito Almanza, President, Bank of America Arizona. “Our investment in Guided Pathways is a direct demonstration of how Bank of America works with our partners to create better social and economic outcomes in the communities we serve.”

[Read more.](#)

## *Highlighting Workforce Development*



**Microsoft Assists Scholars Pursuing IT Sector Careers**



On Thursday, October 21st, representatives from Microsoft's workforce development team, Bob Reitinger and Anthony Putorek, made a visit to the Microsoft Data Center Academy located on the Estrella Mountain Community College (EMCC) campus. The Data Center is available to students at EMCC or Glendale Community College pursuing an information technology related certification or degree. During their visit, Microsoft presented the Foundation with a check for \$60,000 for students who apply to become a Microsoft Data Center Scholar. Reitenger and Putorek also spent time meeting with several of the scholarship recipients and Data Center faculty and staff during their visit.

The Microsoft Datacenter Academy is a workforce development program from Microsoft Datacenter Community Development team. Through this program, Microsoft works with education partners in datacenter communities to deliver training and certifications to enable employment in the growing cloud computing and IT sectors.

## ***Impacting STEM Education And Workforce Needs***



### **APS Foundation Grant Supports STEM Outreach Programs**

The Arizona Public Service Foundation awarded a \$75,000 grant to the Maricopa Community Colleges Foundation to support science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) programs at Mesa Community College, Chandler-Gilbert Community College, Estrella Mountain Community College and Phoenix College. The largest portion of the grant, \$35,000, benefits STEM-focused, mentored,

work-based experiences for underrepresented STEM students at Phoenix College; \$17,200 supports the annual Girls Get It! conference sponsored by Mesa Community College, and \$22,800 supports the Hermanas program at Estrella Mountain Community College and Chandler-Gilbert Community College.

This year Girls Get IT! is slated for Nov. 19 at Scottsdale Community College and is open to 150 female 9th-12th grade students within the Mesa Public Schools and 60 professional women from various industries around the Valley. Nine breakout sessions will cover gaming, nanotechnology, networking/AI, cybersecurity and more. Keynote speaker is Fredi Lajvardi, program manager for the Marine Science Magnet program at Carl Hayden High School, where he leads the Falcon Robotics Team, an extracurricular STEM program that has received national and worldwide attention.

Participants explore a full range of educational and professional opportunities available for women in IT and make connections by engaging with other girls and young women interested in studying or already working in the field of IT.

“Women are vastly underrepresented in terms of STEM education and careers,” said Diane Meza, Director of the Maricopa Information Technology Institute-East Valley (MITI-EV), which sponsors the event. “We’re working to address the community’s educational attainment and workforce development.”

Read more, [here](#).

## *Sharing Gratitude*

### **Student Expresses Relief From Financial Pressures of Education**

Your support means so much to our students. This month, we'd like to share a note we received from Olivia who was awarded the Helen Leslie Hall and Theodore C. Jarvi Partnership Scholarship and is also involved in the [Green Flag Mesa program](#) which is funded by the [Santander Consumer USA Foundation grant](#).



*I wanted to say thank you for gifting me this amazing scholarship which will help with my education more than you know. When I opened the email I was struck with tears of joy not knowing how I would be able to pay for this year's tuition. This is a true blessing.*

*I am a business administration major and I am studying for a minor in Spanish. Currently, I am in the Green Flag program which has allowed me to start my own Postpartum Doula Organization which is focused on getting the birthing people of color maternal mortality rate down. With my degree, I want to go to law school and eventually start up my own firm to change incarceration rates in the United States, and maybe even abroad.*

*Because of this scholarship, I am now able to go into this semester worry-free. I am able to focus on starting up my organization and saving lives and I am now so much closer to not only my degree but also my dreams. Thank you for your kindness and support.*

We share student thank you notes regularly on our website. [Click here.](#)

## Creating A Community



## Police Program Positively Impacts Underserved Youth

The Maricopa Community College Police Shop with a Cop/Shop with a Sheepdog program, pairs Maricopa Community College police officers with local at-risk or in-need youth to Christmas shop. This effort is one of many that this organization participates in to help bring positive change within our community. Not only does this program encourage a dialogue with police, but opens the world of community college education to those who may not have considered it an option prior to this program.

[Check out this video](#) to learn more about the program or [visit their website](#) for the latest information.

## *Volunteering to Create Opportunities*

### **Volunteer Scholarship Reviewers Play Critical Role in Helping Students Achieve Educational Dreams**

This year, more than 700 volunteers assisted in reviewing scholarship applications from students across the entire Maricopa Community Colleges District. Many volunteers participate individually and some become involved as part of their workplace or community organization.



"The Foundation received 8,361 scholarship applications last year," said Karley Mellberg, Scholarship and Donation Relations Manager, Maricopa Community Colleges Foundation. "The need for volunteers has never been more critical and we are extremely grateful to everyone who commits each year to help our students."

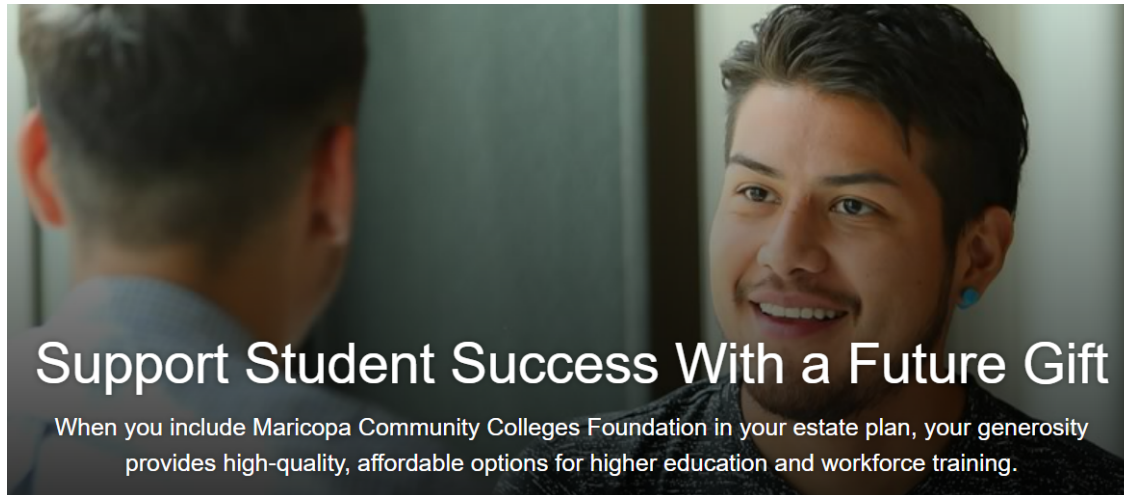
One such volunteer is Randon Wilkins, Manager, SRP Residential Call Center, who volunteers through the SRP VOLUNTEERS program which provided the Foundation with a team of 30 employees who reviewed more than 600 applications last year. "What made this opportunity rewarding was the fact that



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," Randon said. Randon understands how overwhelming paying for higher education can be. He continued, "Tuition can definitely be daunting. "I'm a 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."

As the pandemic continues, the request for scholarship support continue to come in and volunteers play a more important role than ever. Interested in becoming a scholarship reviewer? [Register here](#).

## *Exploring Planned Giving*



### **Stock Markets Increase in 2021, Gifting Saves Taxes on Growth**

Thank you to our donors who have made a gift to the Maricopa Community Colleges Foundation using appreciated stock.

Did you know that you can achieve a greater impact by donating long-term appreciated securities, like stock, directly to a charity? Compared to donating cash or selling your appreciated securities and contributing the after-tax proceeds, you may be able to automatically increase your gift value and increase your tax deduction.

Many donors saw their investment portfolios increase this year, so gifting stock to a charitable organization might be the perfect choice. The Maricopa Community Colleges Foundation has



helped several donors with their stock transfer. If you would like to learn more, please contact Judy Sanchez, Chief Development Officer at [judy.sanchez@domail.maricopa.edu](mailto:judy.sanchez@domail.maricopa.edu) or for other planned giving information, [visit our website](#).

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