

We make postsecondary education accessible and affordable.



Dear Friends,

The weather may be cooling down, but things at the Foundation have certainly been heating up! Over the course of the past few months it's been full steam ahead as we work hard to ensure that students all across the Maricopa District have access to the resources they need to continue their education during these changing times.

This issue of Foundation Update is packed full of stories that show gratitude for the support we receive, features innovations

that are taking place, announces exciting new grants and programs and celebrates student success.

As we relish in the coming of Fall, I want to take this opportunity to thank you once again for supporting the Foundation, the Maricopa Community Colleges District, our students and our faculty and staff. Your continued generosity has put us in a position to make such a difference in our community and it is truly exciting seeing it all come to fruition.

Thank you for your trust.

Sincerely,

Brian F. Spicker
Interim President & CEO
Maricopa Community Colleges Foundation

Student Gratitude



Emergency Fund Scholarship Recipients Express Thanks

Your support for those in need has never been more appreciated and our students could not be more thankful. That is why we created a [new page](#) on our website in which we share the thank you notes and videos that we've received.

Here's a sample of the gratitude we hear, from Kaitlin a student at Glendale Community College:

Thank you sincerely for the funds that have been offered to me! Attending Glendale Community College has been a wild ride and I questioned at times if I would be able to continue attending or if I would be able to afford my textbooks. I'm nearing the end of my studies for my two year associates degree, and this scholarship will help me cut down on some of my debt I have accrued from my textbooks on Amazon and from the recent struggles I've had financially with my car. Being selected for this scholarship truly put a huge smile on my face as I haven't really been a recipient of a scholarship before, so this is a huge delight! It inspires me to keep going and continue my studies and motivates me to do well and achieve good grades this semester. I'm so glad to be near achieving my first degree, and although it's only an associates, it's a start to something even greater. Thank you for making this possible.

Today's environment is rapidly changing as a result of COVID-19 and we are focused on supporting our students and the hardships they now face in obtaining their education and/or certifications. Three very important ways that you can contribute to the success of Maricopa Community College students is through Emergency Funds, Food Pantries and the Greatest Needs Fund.

To learn more about supporting students in need, [click here](#).

You can read more thank you notes and watch heartfelt student videos, [here](#).

Featured Grants

Helios[®]

Education Foundation

Maricopa Community Colleges Foundation Receives Helios Education Foundation Grant Resulting in \$1.2M Scholarship Funds

The Helios Education Foundation has awarded a grant to the Maricopa Community Colleges Foundation (MCCCCF) to fulfill a dollar-for-dollar US Department of Education (DOE) Title V Endowment Match Challenge, resulting in \$1.2 million in newly endowed scholarships funds.

The effort, which began with three Maricopa Community Colleges: Estrella Mountain Community College (EMCC), Glendale Community College (GCC) and GateWay Community College (GWCC) participating in an endowment challenge in their DOE Title V grants with the goal of raising the maximum match before the 5-year Title V grant programs ended. The Helios Foundation stepped-in with a matching grant to help achieve the DOE match.

"Helios Education Foundation is excited to partner with the Maricopa Community Colleges Foundation to establish the Hispanic Serving Institutions Scholarship Fund," said Paul J. Luna, President and CEO.

"These scholarships will help ensure more students in Arizona have the opportunity to pursue and complete a postsecondary degree including Latino and first-generation students."

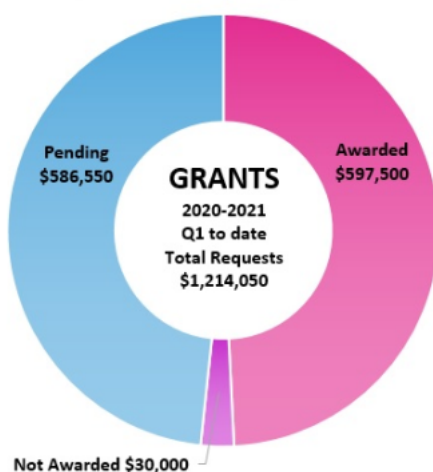
Between the Helios grant and local fundraising, the Title V Endowment Challenge successfully achieved a match of \$640,000, resulting in endowed funds totaling more than \$1.2 million. Revenue generated by these endowments will provide annual support for scholarships and programs targeting low-income and underserved students.

"More than 115 students will benefit each year directly as a result of these endowed funds," said Brian Spicker, Interim President and CEO, Maricopa Community Colleges Foundation. "It's exciting to see how our longstanding partnership with Helios has grown over the years from a \$15,000 Heroes of Education sponsorship in 2007, to an investment of nearly \$5.8 million throughout multiple scholarships and programs. Their generous dollar-for-dollar match marks a new chapter in their relationship with both the Foundation and the Maricopa Community Colleges District and builds a lasting legacy creating opportunities for success in postsecondary education."

To learn more about this program and other opportunities to support the Maricopa Community Colleges Foundation, contact Judy Sanchez, Director of Development and College Relations at judy.sanchez@domail.maricopa.edu or call 480.731.8739.

Grants Update

Maricopa Community Colleges Foundation



Recent Awards

APS Corporate Giving COVID-19 Relief Grants, \$5,000
Helios Education Foundation \$580,000
Motivote Impact Fund \$12,500

Alumni Spotlight

Nursing Student Cynthia Herda Keeps Going And Going

Does Cynthia Herda look familiar? Perhaps you saw her at our 2016 Heroes of Education event in which she shared her incredible story of overcoming many challenges including dropping out of high school, teen pregnancy, homelessness, domestic violence, and drug addiction and how at the age of 43 she decided to attend Glendale Community College (GCC) to study nursing.

Or maybe you read about her in our [2016/17 annual report](#) in which we shared how a donor attending that same event was so touched by Cynthia's story that he offered to underwrite the costs of her attending the



Australia.

Today Cynthia has more exciting news to share, as she is the recipient of the 2020 Diane M. Thomas Transfer Scholarship which awards \$10,000 to a GCC graduate transferring to an in-state university. Cynthia has graduated from the Maricopa Nursing CEP Program, and is on track to finish her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Northern Arizona University in November. She passed her NCLEX (National Council Licensure Examination) in July and is working as a Nephrology nurse. She hopes to eventually work one year as a nurse abroad, and then pursue a Masters Degree in social work or case management.

"This scholarship provides the road to my dream," Cynthia said. "I believe that I've been called to be a nurse and now that calling is becoming a reality. Without this scholarship, my educational goals would be delayed indefinitely until I could come up with the tuition to finish."

Cynthia has been a dialysis technician for the past 15 years but had to reduce her work hours to maintain her grades. It was a difficult decision that had to be made to fulfill her obligations of taking care of disabled loved ones and balancing her time between classes and studying. Unfortunately, her income does not provide enough to cover all of her expenses such as rent, food, car payments, internet service, books and more.

During the pandemic, Cynthia has been giving back as a volunteer with the American Red Cross as a recovery case manager providing resources and encouragement to those less fortunate. She also volunteers for St. Mary's Food Bank.

By supporting the Maricopa Community Colleges Foundation, you make it possible for students like Cynthia to have access to a high quality education, innovative programs and new technologies. [Click here](#) to learn more about a number of ways you can contribute.

College Innovation

IT Institute at Phoenix College

Maricopa IT Institute Is Hub of Tech Innovation

Phoenix College has opened the Maricopa IT Institute in the heart of downtown Phoenix at 640 North 1st Avenue. The IT Institute is a new hub designed to optimize students' needs and is an example of the high-quality programs that Phoenix College offers in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) education.



"The Maricopa IT Institute will support more than 30 certificate and degree programs in eleven different program areas that will meet workforce needs. This will be a place where new, continuing, or returning students can find and develop their IT skills and be readily employable," says Maria Reyes, Phoenix College's Dean of Industry and Public Service.

The Maricopa Community College's Workforce Development Office has identified an immense need for information technology training. In Maricopa County, there are at least 21 technology-based occupations that generate 8,750 new positions a year with 87,975 jobs already established. Arizona's information technology employment opportunities are 15 percent above the national average. The MCCCDC Workforce Development Office expects the pay in this profession to range from \$26.09 to \$53.21 per hour with a median earning of \$38.60 per hour. Many professions would benefit from the IT institute. Among the professions with job demand and earnings above the median include computer and information systems managers, network architects, network and computer system administrators, **software** developers (applications and systems software), information security analysts, and computer programmers.

The Maricopa IT Institute at Phoenix College will serve as a collaborative space for all students in Computer Information Systems (CIS) classes, Microsoft Server Technologies (MST), and Information Technology Security (ITS) classes. The IT Institute will help prepare students for Arizona's jobs of the future by utilizing cutting-edge tools that will help students familiarize themselves with vital technology before they enter the job market. The site will also serve as a convening location for workshops, industry advisory groups, meetups and networking functions. Classes will be offered during the day, evening, weekend, and in flexible formats, such as hybrid or online classes. [Read more](#)

To learn more, request information or register, [click here](#).

In The Community



MARICOPA
COMMUNITY
COLLEGES
FOUNDATION

“ We’ve quickly made changes that would ordinarily take years to make, like incorporating telemedicine into the clinical training experience. ”

— **Rochelle Rivas & Brian Spicker**
Maricopa Community Colleges



Podcast Focuses on Community Colleges Navigating Pandemic

Community Colleges are the gateway to careers because of the many internships, certificates and programs that are typically arranged with local organizations. The Maricopa Community Colleges District, which serves 200,000 students on ten campuses, provides this kind of community-based access and career training. The Foundation's very own Brian Spicker along with Rochelle Rivas, Director of Healthcare Education for the District, join Raise the Line host Shiv Gaglani to share how the District rallied to retain students thrown off-course by COVID-19, describe new partnerships spurred by the Black Lives Matter movement, and talk about the innovations in their nearly 50 healthcare programs to keep learning on track despite a reduction in clinical training opportunities. [Listen here](#).

Volunteer Opportunity



VOLUNTEER TO
BECOME A
SCHOLARSHIP
REVIEWER

A Small Time Commitment Makes A Huge Difference

Do you have a few hours to spare? Volunteer scholarship reviewers give 1-2 hours every few months and work right from the comfort of their own homes! Not only is it easy, it's extremely rewarding. You'll read amazing stories about the obstacles our students have overcome and the difference that scholarships make in helping them to achieve their educational goals.

Complete an online application form by [clicking here](#).

Congratulations



Chancellor Named 2020 Leader Of The Year

Each year, the Arizona Capitol Times recognizes those who have contributed greatly to Arizona's growth and who are committed to improving the quality of life for those in our state.

This year, **Steven Gonzales, Interim Chancellor, Maricopa County Community College District** was named as a Leader of the Year in the Education category and was recognized with other recipients at a virtual awards ceremony.



District Information

RESKILL AND RECOVER



Addressing Arizona's New Workforce Demands

COVID-19 has transformed our nation's workforce, challenging our communities to adjust to a new "normal." The Maricopa County Community College District (MCCCD) has come together, in bold efforts, to address Arizona's new workforce demands and provide our community with the skills needed to be successful during and after a global pandemic.

According to the U.S Bureau of Labor Statistics, Arizona has seen an increase in unemployment from June to July 2020. With over 377,307 Arizona residents who have filed for unemployment this past July, it has caused a ripple effect on job and industry demands. The employment and in-demand industries reports from the Arizona Office of Economic Opportunity projected the highest growth in the following industries:

- construction
- health care and social assistance
- professional and technical services
- information technology
- finance and insurance

In alignment with MCCCD's vision to be Colleges for the community, working collectively to meet the educational demands of the diverse students and communities, it serves, MCCCD has taken part in the Reskilling and Recovery Network initiative. The initiative prepares Arizonians to return to a competitive workforce more agile and upskilled. The Workforce Development initiative creates a pipeline of extraordinarily skilled professionals to meet the qualifications of current high-demand professions across the state to foster a healthy economy and local community amid COVID-19.

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