

# 2020 Quarter 3 Newsletter

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#### Message from the Program Manager



Greetings to all! We hope that you are all safe and healthy during this unprecedented circumstance of the Corona Virus outbreak. Technology for Tomorrow (T4T) has adapted our work to provide continued success in 2020 despite COVID-19. We are in the process of expanding to other states, most noticeably by hiring an employee in Austin, Texas where we are engaged with several programs as well as providing an

online training program Connecticut. Please read on for greater details.

Thanks for your support and participation.

**Bjorn Norstrom** 

## Community Impact...



Total Participants:

In Quarter 3, 2020, T4T provided technology education and training to 431 individuals.

2019 Impact Report

In 2019, Technology for Tomorrow had a great impact on many communities and community members. Please read our <u>2019 Impact Report</u> for more details. We served a total of 1,037 individuals. Of those, 69% were New Americans while 48% were older adults.

## **Meet Our New Employee**

#### Zaira Macegoza

Zaira Macegoza is a professional leader with over 8 years experience in the non-profit industry. Zaira holds a Bachelor of Business Administration in Finance and a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from The University of Texas at Austin. Zaira has worked for international organizations and local nonprofits at Central Texas. She has contributed to support organization's goals with different leadership roles from creating and executing strategy performance goals, fundraising and development, coordinating event logistics, direct mail and digital strategy, managing programmatic operations, supervising volunteers and staff, assisting in preparation of internal reports, helping in outreach efforts, social services and



general administrative management. Zaira currently lives in Austin and is working to replicate and develop a successful Technology for Tomorrow program in Texas.



#### **Older Adults**

We have entered a collaborative partnership with Dell Technologies and Cathedral Square in which Dell lends ten laptops to Cathedral Square in order to help Cathedral Square provide devices so their residents can access the internet and participate in T4T training and support.

T4T and Age Well are collaborating on a program for older adults to provide iPads and remote support and training for the older adult clients to access the internet and participate in the online virtual community as well as lessen their social isolation.

We are once again providing technical support for Education and Enrichment for Everyone (EEE). Unlike past work centered at a physical location, we are now providing weekly lectures online as webinars where T4T assists in setting up and managing webinar content.

We are providing a virtual Chromebook training session series in collaboration with the Champlain Senior Center as part of its programming for its older adults visitors.



#### **New Americans**

We were awarded a grant from Ben & Jerry's to provide online technology training to new Americans in collaboration with the USCRI. <u>Click here</u> for the press release.





We are collaborating with USCRI Vermont to provide a virtual program for new Americans in Vermont on how to use a Chromebook. Recently, we held a socially distant event in Winooski where we provided the learners with Chromebooks, links to pre-recorded webinars on how to connect to wi-fi and Zoom, and practices these procedures,

including how to properly care for and clean the Chromebook.

#### **Home Education**

Due to the COVID-19 situation, we ramped up our online program to provided needed opportunities for children who were left with only <u>home education</u> in Vermont, across the US and around the world through the teaching platform <u>Outschool</u>. Were are teaching daily classes in several technology subjects. During quarter two, we provided on-line education to learners from approximately 25 states and Canada.

#### **Workforce Development**

In October, we will provide online support and training for the Vermont Council of Special Education Administrators as it holds its annual conference, which is online this year.

## **Connecticut Program Updates**

We are also collaborating with the AARP Connecticut where we provide a series of virtual training on various topics in September and October for AARP Connecticut members. Also in Connecticut, we are providing webinar



support for Connecticut Community Care when they provide a series of online events and webinars to their older adults clients.



This summer, we were able to connect and establish a relationship with Dell **Technologies**.

We appreciate Dell not only providing laptops but also expanding our collaborative partnership by engaging their Employee Resource Groups

(ERGs) with T4T programs. This fall, T4T will be officially launching its first pilot with Dell called the Legend's Program. This program is designed to work with the parents, loved ones and family of ERG members to bring awareness and teach basic digital skills. The first training will focus on internet safety.



In September, we had the opportunity to introduce T4T during Netspend Corp.'s Lunch Connection. We will try to replicate "The Legend's Program" with Netspend's ERGs and offer additional services as appropriate. Netspend is another company based in Austin, TX.

Another potential pilot to be launched this fall will be in partnership with Building Promise, an Austin non-profit, to provide online workforce training to individuals currently in prison as well as formerly incarcerated individuals. By doing this, T4T is expanding its services to the Second Chance community.

As we continue to expand our presence in Texas, T4T will keep exploring other opportunities to provide our programs and additional support in the area.

### A Word from the Board:



In our Q2 newsletter I was introduced as a new member of the T4T board. What a privilege it was to be asked! What a privilege it is to serve! As Dipen Shah stated in our last newsletter, this year's pandemic has brought about a paradigm change to our 'normal' lives which continues into the foreseeable future. Living in a 50+ community in Arizona I have seen firsthand how those fortunate enough to be at ease with technology have been able to cope much better than those individuals challenged with using basic technology on their devices.

This community of very socially engaged

individuals taking full advantage of the numerous community activities, events, clubs, and recreation centers were severely impacted when everything shut down. In speaking with many neighbors, some were impacted more than others. This is where those with good basic technology skills simply made a switch to online classes and virtual club meeting rooms. As the days went by, there was a notable inclusion for many in any neighbors, and the set of the days went by the set of the days.



classes and virtual club meeting rooms. As the days went by, there was a notable increased desire for many in my community to use virtual conferencing with families and healthcare professions. Unfortunately, many folks did not have a clue on how to use these technologies. Most recently I was also made aware that many in my community need support on how to avoid internet security problems and how to clean browsers. Technology for Tomorrow is stepping up. We have a long way to go in Arizona, but opportunities abound, and we are starting to gain traction with providing this help.

These are just a few examples of where Technology for Tomorrow (T4T) is making a difference. We have just scratched the surface! We are working diligently with building collaborative partnerships for not only meeting the needs of the older American community but to continue fulfilling T4T's mission statement.

Thank you, Peter Sanschagrin, T4T Board

## **In Closing**

We hope that everyone is able to stay safe and healthy during these uncertain times. We look forward to resuming our regular services as soon as possible.

We want to thank all of our generous donors. You enable us to maintain our current programs as well as to develop new and exciting ones. If you are not yet a donor, we encourage you to learn more about us at our <u>web site</u>, and to make a donation to our organization (below).

We also want to thank our collaborative partners that help us make our programs successful. Make sure to visit our <u>social media channels</u> and <u>website</u> as we regularly post updated information about our developments as well as our dynamic calendar of events.

We graciously thank you for your support, especially Ben & Jerry's for their grant, and we look forward to unveiling even more programs throughout 2020 and beyond!

Sincerely,

The Technology for Tomorrow team

