

## 2021 Quarter 4 Newsletter

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#### **Message from the Program Manager**

Greetings, Everyone. All of us at Technology for Tomorrow (T4T) would like to extend warm wishes for a pleasant holiday season and greetings for the New Year. We are excited to share with you our events, activities and news from the fourth quarter this year. The year 2021 has been an unusual year with the pandemic forcing us to adapt to serve our target communities.

With Warm regards,

Ranga Chilakamarri

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#### **Community Impact**

In Quarter 4, 2021, T4T provided technology education and training to 172 individuals and hosted/enabled 30 events.

Every year T4T publishes an Impact Report consolidating our outreach and impact across all quarters. Please see our 2021 Impact Report.

In 2021, we served a total of 785 individuals. Of those, 72% were older adults and 30% were new Americans.

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# **Program Updates**

#### **Older Adults**

In Vermont, T4T continued serving Age Well's iPad program participants through Q4 by providing them with 1:1 remote support and training. This program, funded in part through an Aging Disability Resource Connections (ADRC) initiative seeks to help older adults reduce social isolation and

introduce them to virtual communities.





Also in Vermont, T4T collaborated with <u>Central Vermont Council on Aging</u> (CVCOA) to participate in their iPad Creative Community Kit (CCK) program. Through this program CVCOA is partnering with meal sites, volunteers, T4T, the VT Arts Council, and local business to bring creative skill building opportunities into the homes of older adults while also bridging the digital divide and alleviating social isolation/loneliness.

In Q4, T4T collaborated with <u>AARP Vermont</u> to offer a series of six classes during November and December. More than 130 older adults participated in these classes that introduced new technology topics and tools. Survey results from these classes indicate that the participants found the classes informative and educational.

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Through Q4, T4T continued to offer free technology classes for older adults twice a month. These classes offered through Zoom allow participants from anywhere in the country to get familiar with new technologies and tools to make their life easier.

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### **Workforce Development**

In Vermont, we continue to help Vermonters prepare for the Microsoft Office Specialist (MOS) certification in collaboration with ReSOURCE to support participants' professional goals.

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#### New Americans w/ Refugee background

In Vermont, T4T partnered with U.S. Committee for Refugees and Immigrants (USCRI) to provide Zoom training for the new Americans. This initiative assists participants to be digitally literate and communicate with friends and family.





Also in Vermont, T4T partnered with Age Well to provide technology skills and Tai Chi workshops for new Americans. These sessions were conducted in a hybrid format with on-site and remote participation from the T4T team.



#### **Update from Texas**

In October, T4T participated in Netspend's Day of Service initiative by conducting an informative and interactive hour-long technology training session. During this session, participants and their loved ones learnt about the basics of smartphone security. The session covered timely topics such as password protection, two-factor authorization, Phishing, and Spam.

## From Members of our Board of Directors



Greetings! I've been on the Technology for Tomorrow Board of Directors since the organization was founded. A lot has happened in that time, and we on the Board are very excited for how the organization is growing. We're now at a point where T4T's value is reaching even beyond the State of Vermont. With outstanding partnerships such as AARP, we are able to move forward with both results and credibility, easing our entry into new opportunities. Ironically, Covid-19 has given us the opportunity to hone our skills for remote training delivery, which is an unexpected bonus in bringing us to more people. One of the major responsibilities of the Board is to set direction and priorities for the organization. To that end, we're busy refining our target populations to maximize delivery value and prioritize the development of new curriculum; with Board members now outside of Vermont, we continue our growth strategy to replicate and also customize training and service offerings to reach more customers. Lastly, we work constantly to find and engage new supporters, both through donation and participation. We thank all our supporters since the beginning, as you have made our growth possible, and we thank

our partners for their help in pursuing a national strategy. Many good years lie ahead for T4T. We welcome the challenge and are thankful to reach ever more participants. Come join us in making a difference!

Mike Maslack Board Member Technology for Tomorrow

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In August and September of 2021, in my role with the U.S. Committee for Refugees and Immigrants (USCRI), I spent a few weeks at Ft. Dix in New Jersey supporting Afghan refugees as they were evacuated from Afghanistan and welcomed to military bases in the United States. In the months since then, Vermont communities have welcomed dozens of Afghan individuals and families. In addition to providing support with housing, employment, social services, and medical needs, USCRI also provides free English and technology training to refugees. One of my most fulfilling roles is as an online English teacher for recently-arrived Afghan women. Our twice-weekly Zoom classes provide social connection and English practice to support these women in integrating into their new communities. Language and technology skills are empowerment tools that will enable these new Vermonters to thrive on their path to self-sufficiency in their new home. I feel privileged to support their efforts and celebrate their success along the way.



Jennifer Borch Board Member Technology for Tomorrow

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#### In Closing

The Covid-19 pandemic changed the operational model for most businesses and yet T4T continued to serve our target communities. In Q4 we resumed in-person training with the Age Well project for new Americans. We are hopeful that 2022 will see reduced effects of the pandemic and a return to normalcy.

A big thank you to all our generous donors for their donation this quarter. If you are not yet a donor, we encourage you to learn more about us at our website. You can also make a donation to our organization by clicking on the button below..

We also want to thank our collaborative partners that help us make all of our programs successful. We encourage you to visit our social media channels and website for up-to-date information about our services and calendar of events.

Sincerely,

The T4T team

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Donate to our Cause

Note: 100% of your donation contributes to our efforts of making the greatest impact on

the people and causes we support. We are a public charity; your tax-deductible donation, large or small, will make a difference.

TIN # 46-1287652 DUNS # 099722747

Thank you!

## Contact us and Follow us on Social Media

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