Technology for Tomorrow

Empowering People in Need with Technology Education
A non-profit 501(c)(3) organization

Quarter 2 2025 Newsletter

Welcome Message

Hello there!

Welcome to our Q2 2025 newsletter! It's been an incredible spring building deeper connections with our local communities.

This quarter brought exciting transitions—some of our winter projects wrapped up while new summer programs launched. As a trainer, I've had the joy of working with local immigrants, older adults re-entering the workforce, and leading webinars that reach people nationwide.

We're thrilled to share that we served an additional 921 students this quarter, bringing our 2025 total to 2,407! From our special Comcast event with State Senator Kesha Ram Hinsdale at Burlington Parent University to classes at SIT World Learning and beyond, there's so much to celebrate.

We also represented Vermont at conferences nationwide, including the National Digital Inclusion Alliance conference in Arizona and Burlington School District's "Everyone's Welcome" conference right here at home.

There's lots more to share, so let's dive in!

Learn it & Live it,

Maliki I. LaForce, Program Manager & Tech Trainer

Program & Partnership Updates

Comcast Grant Announcement

We're excited to announce a **generous grant of $65,000** from **Comcast**! We celebrated with a special announcement at our **Burlington Parent University** class on June 24. Comcast Senior VP Carolyne Hannan and Community Impact Director Brad Palazzo, along with State Sen. Kesha Ram Hinsdale, joined us for the event.

"Comcast is proud to support Technology for Tomorrow in its mission to help residents across Vermont overcome barriers to Internet adoption," Hannan said.

ACC AmeriCorps member Wolde North led the class that centered on effective password management. Comcast's generous gift enables Technology for Tomorrow to deliver digital literacy classes and digital navigation services to our community.

Thank you, Comcast, for your support!

A4TD ASSOCIATES FOR TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT

Mature Worker Workforce Program 2025

We're thrilled to share that our current class series with**Associates for Training and Development (A4TD)** is successfully underway, and we're grateful to A4TD for their continued partnership and support of our mission to bridge the digital divide.

Thus far, 41 people, across four cohorts, have completed training. This quarter's classes focused on helping people develop digital literacy skills for new employment opportunities. We covered essential topics including scam prevention, smartphone and computer basics, and workplace programs like Microsoft 365 and Google Workspace.

We've loved watching our learners develop their skills each week and are proud of their progress toward new career opportunities.

SIT World Learning Series

We recently completed our phase two class series with SIT World Learning, wrapping up an amazing project that helped so many young people prepare for college.

Since February, we've been traveling from Burlington to Brattleboro to teach more than 80 students who are preparing for undergraduate programs across the country. In phase two, we covered Google Slides, Sheets, and Forms, building on the Google Workspace fundamentals we taught in phase one.

We're proud of all our students and excited for their next chapter. Thanks to SIT for this wonderful opportunity and for being such a great partner.

SENIOR PLANET
FROM AARP

Senior Planet Class Series

During quarter 2, we completed our four-class series in partnership with Williston Recreation and Parks, where we covered topics including online safety and privacy, MyChart, and smartphones. This was a fantastic series to run, thanks to our enthusiastic participants, who showed up to class every time, eager to learn.
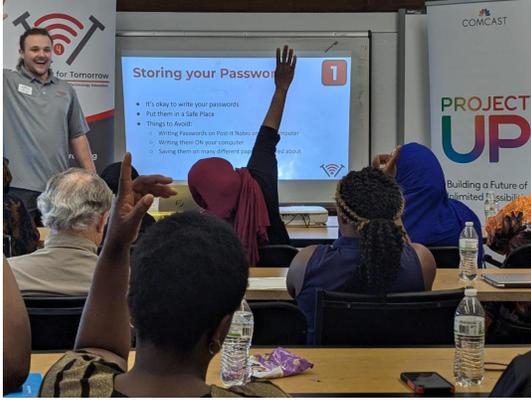

Two more classes series are underway now with The Converse Home and Central Vermont Council on Aging. Thanks to the generosity of our funders and in partnership with Senior Planet, we deliver these classes free of charge.

Burlington Parent University Class Series

Working with Burlington Parent University, we've developed a new class series for recent immigrants that was provided free of charge to our partner and participants, thanks to our generous funders. We partnered with Denise Torrey, BPU's program manager and T4T board member, to create this series featuring brand-new topics, tailored to this audience and their needs.

These new classes began May 1 and concluded on June 26. We'd like to thank BPU for once again trusting us, and bringing us so close to New Americans in our community!

AARP 2025 Tech Thursdays

We're happy to share our 2025 series with AARP Vermont is going great. Twice a month, we offer virtual webinars to AARP members nationwide, providing free digital literacy training. This quarter, our classes included lessons on smartphones, Google Photos, and online safety when dealing with scams and malicious AI usage.

We love working with the AARP Vermont team and look forward to continuing this partnership with such a wonderful organization.

Conferences

This quarter, we've had the incredible opportunity to attend two conferences. On May 17, our staff traveled back to Champlain College for Burlington School District's "Welcome All" conference, which focused on education with new Americans.

Maliki sat with Denise Torrey, and other organizations to discuss Burlington Parent University, while Damien and Wolde delivered a talk on the use of Agile Methodology in a

classroom setting to adapt classes for all students.

Just days after, on May 19, Wolde, Damien and Vijay traveled to the Gila River Indian Community in Arizona to attend NDIA's "Net Inclusion 2025." This conference focused directly on digital equity, and bridging the digital divide.

Damien, Wolde, and Vijay made some incredible connections with organizations across the United States, and attended sessions on how digital equity intersects with multi-lingual learning, digital navigation, disability rights, and more.

On June 28, Maliki and Vijay attended the 2nd Annual Education and AI conference, hosted by aiVermont. They attended sessions on lesson planning, personalized learning, and the use of AI in the classroom. After the conference, Maliki remarked, "The conference really honed in on the reality of AI and opened the doors for discussion between educators. I'm excited to see the prospects of what AI can do for our public school teachers, learn it, and teach it to them."

From our Director

In December 2023, I arrived in the U.S from Afghanistan. I was stepping into an entirely different world, where nearly everything—finding a job, scheduling a doctor's appointment, paying for parking, or even getting a luggage cart at the airport—required interacting with technology. I still remember my very first day in the U.S., standing at John F. Kennedy Airport, unable to figure out how to take a cart because it required using a machine. I had no confidence to step towards it and try to figure it out. It was a small moment, but it highlighted a much bigger challenge: the digital gap that many new Americans face when starting their lives here.
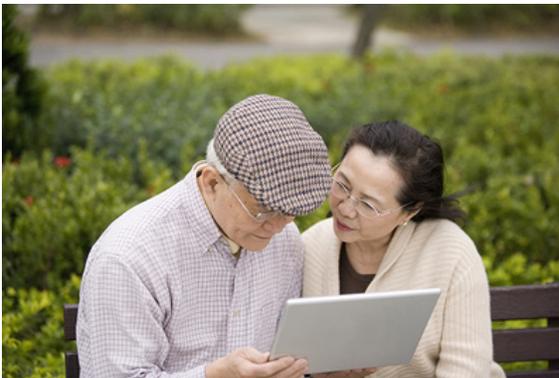
In Afghanistan, digital literacy is a privilege, not a given. Many people, including myself, grew up without access to a computer or exposure to the digital systems that are second nature to most Americans. But in the U.S., technology is not optional—it is essential. To access healthcare, you need to navigate MyChart or similar apps. To find a job, you must use online platforms. Even basic daily tasks require setting up accounts, verifying emails, and understanding digital security. Without these skills, new Americans can feel isolated, dependent on others, and unable to fully integrate into society.

That is why the work Technology for Tomorrow does is so meaningful to me. It's not just about teaching technology—it's about giving people the independence, confidence, and tools they need to rebuild their lives. I love everything T4T does, and I want to contribute in any way I can, whether by sharing my insights, supporting outreach, or helping expand our programs. I know firsthand how overwhelming this transition can be, and I want to be part of the solution for others facing the same challenges.

Mahtab Mitra, T4T Director

Quarterly Impact

Quarter 2 Metrics

As of July 1, 2025, we have served <u>2,911</u> participants across <u>162</u> events, including workshops, webinars, and class series. These include <u>692</u> New Americans, <u>491</u> individuals seeking employment, and <u>745</u> Older Adults.

In 2024, we served more than 5,000 students across the entirety of the United States of America.

You can read about this and more in our 2024 Impact Report.

Partner Testimonials

"We recently had Damien from Tech4Tomorrow come to our location to teach

digital literacy classes for our senior community, and it was a truly wonderful experience. The sessions were thoughtfully designed for older adults and were both informative and engaging."

"Damien was fantastic! He was patient, knowledgeable, and incredibly kind. He made everyone feel comfortable and took the time to ensure each participant understood the material. Our seniors found the program very helpful and appreciated the opportunity to build their confidence with technology in such a supportive setting. We're so grateful for this partnership and the positive impact it had on our community."

Taylor Hayes,
REC Program Coordinator, Williston Recreation and Parks

Partners and Grantors

We'd like to thank our community partners and grantors for their continued support. It is with their assistance that we are able to build foundations and help strengthen our community through bridging the digital divide.

Community Partners

Grantors

Calendar and Catalog - Join us!

Make sure to bookmark our link and subscribe for more updates!

Click here for more information:

Technology for Tomorrow Event Calendar

If you are interested in seeing what classes we offer, consider checking out our course catalog!

Contact us and Follow us on Social Media

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