



An Arizona 501(c) (3) Organization

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## L4L 2020 Year End Report

January 21, 2021

The very first grant *Laptops 4 Learning* received for the 2020 year was from AZ Women's Partnership in April for \$2,000. We were ecstatic knowing that it meant that at minimum 10 students would now have their very own laptop. *L4L* was able to stretch the funding from AZWP to cover a total of 15 individual students, by asking that those who could pay \$50 minimum towards the laptop cost do so. *L4L* believes that if a student, or the family, contributes even a small amount, they then have made an investment and will tend to have a greater appreciation for the technology gift. The year had started out slow for *L4L* in receiving funding, so this grant from AZWP was a welcome shot in the arm we desperately needed, to provide the growing number of students registering with us with laptops. *L4L* was getting 15-20 students per week registering with us for laptops, sparked by the urgent move to online schooling as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Little did we know that this donation from AZWP was an omen of many more good things to come for the students in our program.

Thanks to AZWP kick-starting the year for us, *L4L* had its' best year ever in meeting our mission of closing the digital technology divide for students and veterans in need of laptops. The prior year, 2019, *L4L* provided 187 students with laptops. In 2020, thanks to the generosity of AZWP and organizations such as Desert Financial Credit Union and Becton Dickinson Companies, both of whom conducted employee fundraisers, we were able to more than triple that number, providing 722 students with laptops!

The Desert Financial Credit Union employee and member fundraiser resulted in 225 students receiving laptops. These were students from low-socioeconomic families, attending Title 1 schools in the Cartwright and Litchfield School districts, who were desperately in need of laptops. Another 100 laptops were given to foster care students at North Star Independent Living Services. The Becton Dickinson employee fundraiser was used to provide 22 families who struggled, because of having multiple children in need, with two laptops per family. Another 15 families who received laptops were from the Torah Day School of Phoenix. *L4L* currently has 425+ students registered with us who still need laptops.

Please know *L4L* greatly appreciates the financial support and this partnership with AZWP. You gave us the infusion of hope and funding we needed to keep hanging in there to do what we do. Your ongoing check-in emails and referrals to places like Goodman's Furniture, are above and beyond the call and received by us as more than simply a "considerate gesture". Thank you for believing in *Laptops 4 Learning* and for your support in changing the lives of students and their families who are in need of laptops to succeed in their education and in life.

I could not find specific demographics for the two school districts but they are both at least 60% Hispanic populations and as stated, Title 1 schools. If you need more statistics let me know and I'll be happy to reach out for overall totals. It is such a pleasure having AZWP on our team!!

Best regards,

Brenda Powell 602-358-6649 Executive Director

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