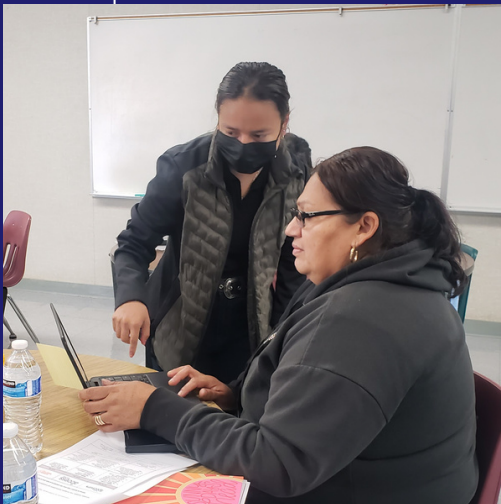




Strengthening Community Through Technology

2022

Impact Report



Board President's Message



Dear Fellow LFC Stakeholders,

As we reflect on the past year, I want to start by expressing my gratitude to all of our staff, volunteers, partners, board members, clients, community members, and donors who have supported LFC in our mission to end the digital divide and promote digital equity for our community. Across the US and here in California, 2022 was another year of both significant change and tremendous opportunity as our collective emergence from the pandemic reinforced the ubiquity and necessity of technology in our daily lives. Many of the trends that formed during the pandemic have continued to grow, with more schools incorporating different forms of virtual learning, and more companies embracing remote work models. While the total amount of technological resources and tech learning opportunities available grew extensively over the last few years, neither are distributed evenly or equitably across our society. What we saw instead is that those with greater access and skills before the pandemic had an easier time acquiring even more, while many of those with less struggled to keep up, and some of those with the least ended up getting left behind.

LFC's framework for *Digital Equity* is based on 3 interrelated technology essentials: Devices, Connectivity, and Skills. All three are required for people to leverage technology into opportunity. All three are required to strengthen community through technology. In 2022, having the right devices, connectivity, and digital skills more often than not became the assumption of government institutions, employers, and school systems. The increasing requirement of technology and tech skills, reaching deeper into almost every facet of daily life, meant that the digital divide continued to grow. The economic factors driving down the cost of hardware, coupled with the increased speed of adoption and government programs aimed at providing connectivity during the pandemic, mean that more people than ever have access to devices and internet access through their work or school. While significant gaps remain in terms of devices and connectivity, the experiences of 2022 and 2023 shine an ever-brighter light on the growing gap in digital skills.

At LFC, we emphasize the necessity of foundational digital skills: those that are not tied to any specific software, hardware, or industry. These are the skills that are required throughout most educational and career settings, such as web browsing, email and attachments, videoconferencing, word processing, and basic data entry. Having these foundational digital skills means that you can participate in connected daily life and do it safely without falling victim to scams or misinformation. It means you can make an appointment with your healthcare provider online and attend a telehealth video appointment, use web-based learning and training resources (many of which are freely available), and apply for jobs online. The latest data shows that more than 1/3 of the US population still do not have the foundational digital skills that are required by more than 90% of job openings. The racial disparities are even more profound, with 57% of Latino workers, 50% of Black workers, and 36% of Asian American/Pacific Islander workers missing the needed digital skills. Having foundational digital skills also means that you can learn the specific digital skills that are required by your school, employer, or career industry.

President's Message continued

Over the last year, we have expanded our programming to teach these foundational digital skills to more people in more ways, growing our staff with a team of talented and passionate professionals, and working with nonprofit, industry, and government partners to anticipate what programs and resources will be most needed in the coming years. As we look to the future, we know that our work is more important than ever. With your continued and generous support, LFC will keep innovating to create lasting positive change for our community, and keep inspiring others to join us in the fight for digital equity. Thank you on behalf of everyone at LFC for your commitment to us and to the communities we serve. We are deeply grateful for your continued support and partnership as we work together to create a more equitable and just society.

Sincerely,



Stephen Lieberman

President of the Board of Directors

steve@loavesfishescomputers.org

May, 2023

https://nationalskillscoalition.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/NSC-DigitalDivide_report_Feb2023.pdf

<https://nationalskillscoalition.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/Digital-Skills-Racial-Equity-Final.pdf>

Digital Inclusion Matters for Economic Development

Digital Inclusion requires that our community has access to three basics: affordable access, quality devices, and foundational skills to use technology safely. Access to these basics ensures that individuals have more job options and opportunities, increases opportunities to advocate and engage in civic life, and reduces a person's risk of falling victim to scams and misinformation. These benefits have an overall positive impact. LFC is dedicated to digital inclusion by providing services that support digital access and, thereby, a person's ability to achieve economic self-reliance.

Proper connectivity, access to quality devices, and digital skills are critical for inclusive economic development. Through our work in efforts such as the Salinas Inclusive Economic Development Initiative (SIEDI), LFC is focused both internally and externally, on promoting economic growth for all members of the Central Coast. Learn more about our participation in SIEDI and our action plan for an inclusive Salinas Economy at www.siedi.org

"I have been facing housing insecurity and homelessness for the past five years. I am actively working on improving my situation and would greatly appreciate the assistance of a laptop for my CNA program."

- "Zia", LFC Client 2022



2022 Impact Highlights



1,140

Computers Distributed



250

Digital Literacy
Classes



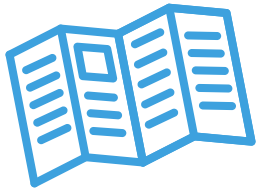
200

Seniors Served



2,500

Volunteer Hours
Contributed



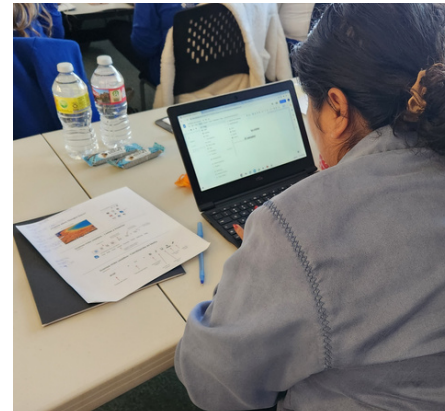
200+

Internet Safety Guides
Distributed

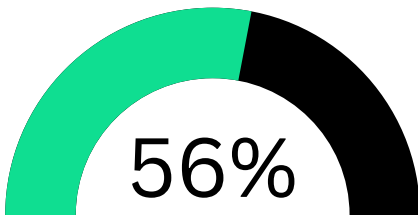


176+

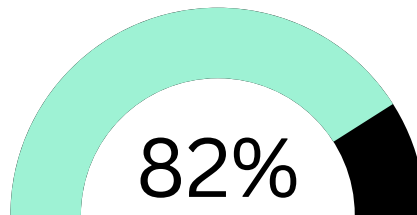
tons of e-waste recycled
since 2009



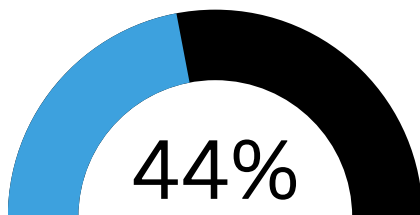
Client Demographics



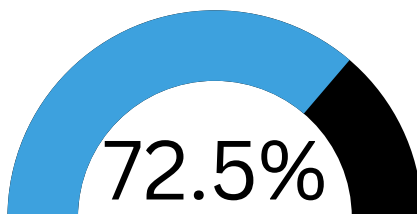
Clients who identified as
Hispanic or Latinx in 2022



Customers who will use their
computer primarily for
education



Seniors ages 75 or older



Female seniors served

"This computer will help me tremendously to further my knowledge with technology. It will open me up to more job opportunities and allow me to learn online."

4,500
individuals
impacted in
2022

Digital Inclusion Impact

Testimonials on Digital Skill Building and Tech Adoption

When I first started volunteering at LFC I was scared because I come from the fields and didn't know anything about computers. It was difficult at first but with time I learned the basics like sending emails and adding appointments to the calendar as well as answering the phone. I learned how to sell computers and how to put them in the system. I also got help from my peers. If I ever had a question, there was always somebody to help me and show me how to do it. I received an award for my hard work as an administrative assistant. It has been a year since I volunteered at LFC, and it has been a great year. I loved volunteering at LFC.

- Yesica Aguilar, LFC Volunteer 2021 - 2023



Evens Lanot and Yesica Aguilar



Ana F.

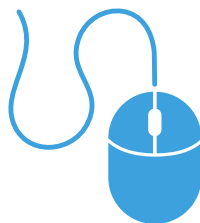
Mi experiencia en la clase de computación fue perfecta. Las maestras fueron muy amables y con mucha paciencia para explicarme paso a paso. Habían muchas cosas de la computadora que yo no sabia y gracias a ellas hoy se usar mi computadora estoy muy feliz. Gracias.

My experience in the digital literacy class was perfect. The instructors were very friendly and very patient, explaining things step by step. There were many things I didn't know about computers, and thanks to them, I know how to use my computer and am very happy. Thank you.

- Ana F., SCESD Digital Literacy Participant 2022

I have been homeless since 2016 and currently live out of my car. I have a job but am seeking a higher-paying one to provide support once my Section 8 voucher is dispersed. I would benefit from this computer to learn and receive better employment.

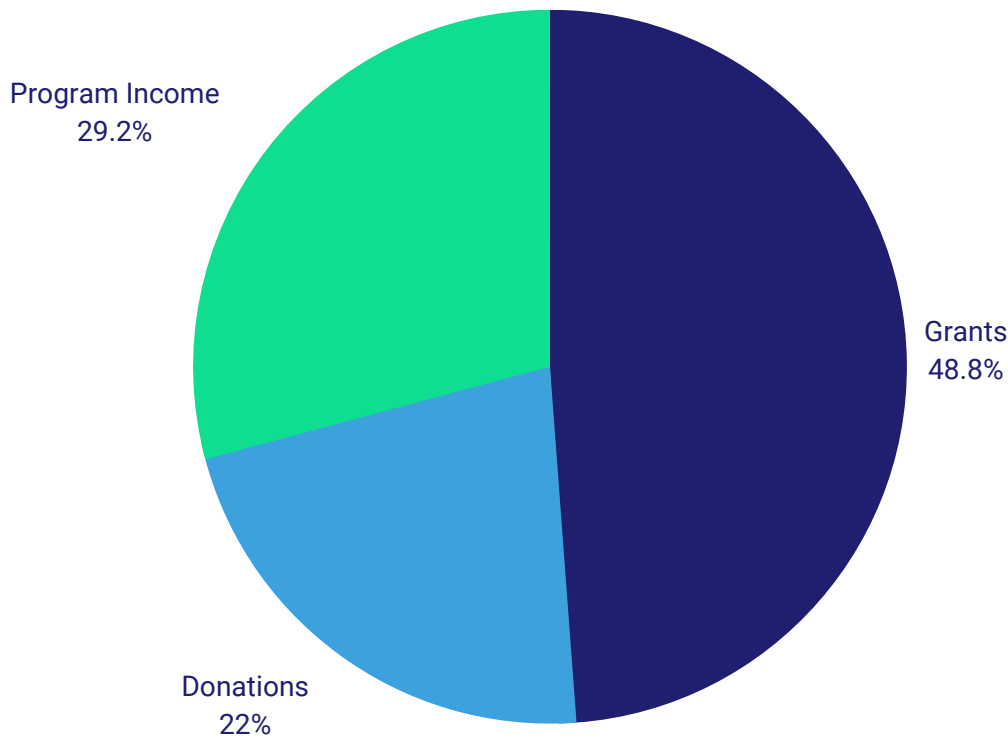
- P. Carreon, LFC Client



[I came to LFC to buy a computer because] I cannot afford to shop at a large commercial store and need to do school work which has been hard on my phone. I am single mother of 3 children trying to finish school and maintain my current job while transitioning to be able to work for myself from home someday.

-Anonymous LFC Client

Financial Highlights



\$348,864

Total raised in grants and donations during 2022.



Nicholas & Gabriela

Donor Story: HELP Monterey County Foundation

Amidst the pandemic, Nicholas Udwardia, a high school student, spearheaded an effort to support those impacted by COVID-19. Not only did he raise money to support local nonprofits but, he established his own foundation. In 2022, after Nicholas' work and fundraising efforts, HELP Monterey County Foundation generously awarded LFC with a donation to continue providing assistance to community members in need!

Partners and Supporters

Thank you to our donors, partners and supporters for their generosity and collaboration in 2022!

Donors



Partners

| | |
|--|---|
| ALBA | NMCUSD |
| Area Agency on Aging | Rancho Cielo |
| Americorps/Napa County Office of Education | Re-employability & Corvel |
| Chispa | Salinas City Elementary School District |
| Corvel | Salinas Public Library |
| CSU Monterey Bay | Salinas Union High School District |
| Goodwill | Stevenson School |
| Gonzales Adult School | VIDA Project Monterey County |
| Hartnell College HEP Program | York School |
| Monterey County Free Libraries | Our amazing volunteers and interns! |
| Mujeres en Accion | Hundreds of community members and businesses that |
| MCOE Migrant Education | donated their computers and equipment to LFC |

2022 AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am Featured Charity and PGA Tour Charity of the Year



2022 was an incredible year of recognition from our partners. LFC was named the 2022 Pebble Beach Featured Charity, allowing us to promote our message and advance our mission. In November, LFC was recognized by the PGA TOUR as Charity of the Year! Thank you to the PGA TOUR for this recognition and generous grant that will provide additional support for our programs. We would also like to thank Monterey Peninsula Foundation, host of the AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am, for the nomination and their long-standing partnership in bridging the digital divide! To watch the announcement video, click [here!](#)



Loaves, Fishes & Computers enables individuals to reach their full potential by providing low-cost computers and computer literacy classes to local low-income families while providing volunteers the opportunity to learn and explore technology through their service to the community.



LFC Board of Directors

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- Stephen Bernasconi, Director
- Arlene Krebs, Director & Chair Emerita
- Ally Wenzel, Director

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