



CDE FOUNDATION

CALIFORNIA BRIDGING THE DIGITAL DIVIDE

When school campuses across California closed due to COVID-19 in March of 2020, over six million students, their families and hundreds of thousands of educators had to pivot overnight to distance learning. At the outset, the closure seemed like it would be over in a matter of weeks; unfortunately, we know this was not the case. The stark reality we faced, was that close to 1/5th of California students lacked the resources to continue their education from home, without internet connectivity, a device or both. In the midst of a global pandemic, Governor Newsom, the First Partner, the State Board President and The State Superintendent of Public Instruction joined forces with urgency and partnered with the Californians Dedicated to Education Foundation to form the Bridging the Digital Divide Fund (BDD) in a matter of days.

Through press conferences, phone calls and emails, the team and most notably the Governor and the First Partner put out the call for assistance to corporations, philanthropy and individuals to join the state's efforts to close the digital divide for our students. Thankfully, many answered the call, and that was the first critical piece in the puzzle to bridge the decades long divide.

In addition to addressing the pandemic-related digital divide, the BDD Fund enabled CDE and CDE Foundation to respond immediately to the technology needs of every school district impacted by the 2020 wildfires. The contribution of over \$18.4 million and thousands of devices donated to the BDD Fund spurred outside donations in the tens of millions directly to communities and school districts throughout the state, and ultimately to the investment of \$5.3 billion by the Governor and the Legislature to support distance learning in schools, \$2.1 billion of which was spent on technology.

On behalf of students, educators, and communities, we thank you to the 138 donors who contributed to the California BDD Fund.



405
DISTRICTS
REACHED



\$18.4m
DONATED THROUGH
MARCH 2021



138
DONORS
CONTRIBUTED



97%
COUNTIES
REACHED



75,274
COMPUTING DEVICES
DISTRIBUTED



101,306
HOTSPOTS
DISTRIBUTED

THANK YOU

to Our Donors and Partners

Thank you to the donors and partners who contributed funding and in-kind donations to the CA BDD Fund.

- Aaron Levie
- Amazon
- AT&T
- Benificus Foundation
- Box
- Chan Zuckerberg Initiative
- Craig Newmark Philanthropies
- Donald Glover
- Emily Dunkel & Brian Milch Fund
- Essex Property Trust
- Eyesafe, LLC
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- Google Employee Gift Matching
- The Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation
- Heising-Simons Foundation
- Hewlett Packard
- Innovative Computing Systems
- Jack Dorsey's #startsmall
- Jerry Yang and Akiko Yamazaki
- Kapur Center
- Kat Taylor
- Lenovo
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- Microsoft
- Niemela Pappas & Associates
- Office Depot
- OmniPro
- PayPal
- PG&E
- Roxanne Stachon and Todd McKinnon
- Scott Cook and Signe Ostby through The Valhalla Charitable Foundation
- Silver Giving Foundation
- Southern California Edison
- Stuart Foundation
- Susan Sandler Fund
- Target
- T-Mobile
- VIPKid
- Zagg Inc.
- Zoom
- Anonymous Foundations
- Individual contributions through GoFundMe campaign

KEY PARTNERS



Thank you to our key distribution partners who enabled us to deploy technology to school districts in a cost-effective and timely manner despite worldwide shortages of Chromebooks during the COVID-19 pandemic. We could not have managed this without their incredible effort.