



WE CARE TUCSON



# ANNUAL REPORT

2023

[www.wecaretucson.org](http://www.wecaretucson.org)



# ABOUT WE CARE TUCSON

We Care Tucson is an organization dedicated to creating a thriving, sustainable, and interconnected community in Southern Arizona. With a strong focus on bridging the digital divide and providing access to essential medical equipment and supplies, We Care Tucson is significantly impacting the lives of individuals in need.

Our mission is to cultivate an equitable and sustainable community by offering individuals access to information technology, medical equipment, and supplies. We understand the importance of technology and healthcare in today's society and strive to ensure no one is left behind.

We collect used technology and restore what we can while responsibly recycling the rest. This prevents these devices from ending up in local landfills and makes them available for sale to the general public at affordable prices. We also offer low-cost computers to economically challenged individuals, helping to bridge the digital divide and empowering them with access to technology and information. By restoring these devices, we provide affordable options for individuals who would otherwise struggle to acquire essential technology, opening up new opportunities for education, employment, and personal growth.

In addition to bridging the digital divide, we operate a vital program for durable medical equipment and medical supplies. In a world where access to basic healthcare necessities remains a luxury for many, We Care Tucson stands as a beacon of hope. We recognize that financial constraints, lack of insurance coverage, and homelessness should never be obstacles preventing someone from receiving the medical support they need. That's why we passionately work to bridge the gaps, ensuring everyone can access the care they deserve regardless of their circumstances.

Our impact lies in addressing the critical needs of those who have fallen through the cracks of our healthcare system. We reach out to individuals facing challenging socioeconomic conditions who cannot afford the essential, durable medical equipment or medical supplies required for their well-being. Additionally, we extend our services to those without health insurance or whose insurance providers refuse to cover these vital resources. We are dedicated to dismantling the barriers that hinder individuals from accessing the care they deserve.

However, we could only have accomplished this with the support of our generous donors. Their contributions to We Care Tucson directly impact the lives of individuals in our community who are economically challenged or facing medical hardships. Your donation will help us continue to bridge the digital divide, provide essential medical equipment, and promote sustainability in Southern Arizona.





## A YEAR IN REVIEW

What an extraordinary year it has been at We Care Tucson! 2023 was truly a year of remarkable milestones and groundbreaking initiatives. We embarked on a journey of innovation and community empowerment, setting new standards of excellence along the way.

Our inaugural Youth Tech Camp stands as a beacon of inspiration, providing a transformative experience for middle school students eager to explore the dynamic world of computer technology. Guided by our visionary Director of Technology and E-recycling, Coleman Hammer-Tomizuka, participants delved into the intricacies of computer components, learning the rebuilding and repairing of desktop computers while gaining invaluable insights into tech-related careers through hands-on activities and enriching field trips. Each participant received a laptop that opened doors to boundless opportunities. Building on the success of our Youth Tech Camp, we broadened our horizons with the introduction of the Youth Tech School Day Out program. This initiative offered a condensed version of our Youth Tech Camp. Both programs helping to foster STEM in those from underserved communities.

Teaming up with United Health Care Medicare Store, we started offering basic computer classes to make digital literacy more accessible. Our workshops were designed for both beginners and tech enthusiasts, focusing on demystifying Windows 10 and helping participants feel comfortable using it. Through hands-on learning, we aimed to show the practical side of technology and make everyone feel included in the digital age.

Culminating the year on a high note, our Pickle-icious Jingle Jam Pickleball fundraiser epitomized the spirit of camaraderie and philanthropy that defines We Care Tucson. Despite facing unforeseen challenges, including inclement weather, our community rallied together, showcasing unwavering support for our cause. With an impressive turnout of 155 teams and 260 players, we surpassed all expectations, raising an astounding \$52,000 to fuel our mission of making a tangible difference in the lives of those we serve.

As we reflect on the achievements of 2023, we stand poised at the precipice of possibility, fueled by our unwavering commitment to our mission to provide technology access for underserved communities, deliver essential medical supplies, and advocate environmental sustainability through recycling initiatives. Together, we're shaping a more inclusive and equitable future for all.



# BUSINESS REVIEW

## DONATIONS & PROGRAMS

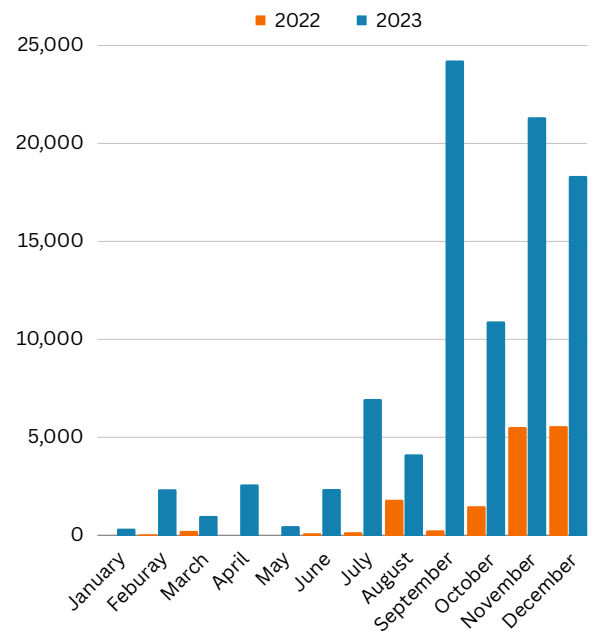
This year marked a phenomenal achievement as we soared to new heights, boasting a remarkable 42% increase in donations and grants compared to the previous year. Our success story is intricately woven with the unwavering support of our esteemed donors, whose generosity knows no bounds. Notably, our inaugural Pickle-icious Jingle Jam fundraiser emerged as a resounding triumph, catapulting our fundraising efforts to unprecedented levels.

We expanded our program offerings through strategic grant acquisitions. Our new initiatives, the Youth Tech Camp and Youth Tech School Day Out program captured the imagination of 40 eager minds, igniting a passion for computer repair, recycling, and careers in technology. Thanks to invaluable community partnerships and a transformative grant from One AZ Credit Union, each participant received a laptop, symbolizing the gateway to endless possibilities. Furthermore, our commitment to digital literacy blossomed with the introduction of basic computer classes, made possible by a visionary grant from Digitunity. Collaborating with esteemed partners such as United Healthcare Medicare Store and Marana Parks and Recreation, alongside hosting sessions in our own facility, we empowered 460 senior adults within the program's inaugural four months. This remarkable journey exemplifies our unwavering dedication to fostering inclusive learning environments and catalyzing transformative change within our community.

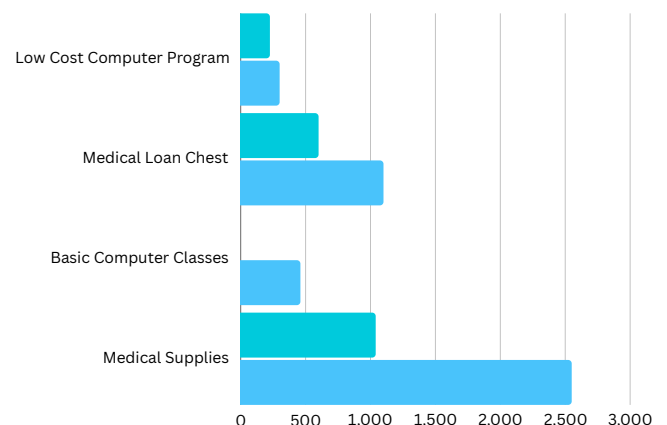
Our flagship services experienced growth, driven not only by increasing demand but also by our strategic networking and impactful media coverage. Through these efforts, we successfully elevated community awareness of our vital programs, including the low-cost computer referral program, free medical supplies, and the community medical loan chest. The surge in donations of used technology and medical equipment empowered us to expand our ability to meet the escalating needs of our community. This virtuous cycle of giving enabled us to amplify our impact and broaden the scope of assistance provided.

As we advance toward our vision of a vibrant, sustainable, and interconnected community, each milestone achieved reinforces our commitment to making this vision a reality

Monetary



Programs



# THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS



## OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS





We Care Tucson



# THANK YOU

We are incredibly grateful for the generous support of our donors, whose contributions are instrumental in advancing our mission and making a meaningful difference in the lives of those we serve. Your commitment and generosity empower us to continue our work and positively impact our community. Thank you for believing in our mission and for your unwavering support. Together, we are creating a thriving, sustainable, and interconnected community.

## CONTACT US



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