



AT&T and Human-I-T Provide 200 Laptops The Fresno Center

Through AT&T Connected Learning, laptops will be distributed to students and families in need

FRESNO, Calif., Aug. 18, 2023

What's the news? More than 200 refurbished laptops will be given to Fresno students and families as part of AT&T's <u>nationwide commitment</u> to help bridge the digital divide. The laptops, funded by an AT&T donation to Human-I-T, will be given to students and families in need. AT&T is working with Human-I-T to provide local students and families with laptops and digital literacy resources to help them fully participate in our digital world.

Why is this important?

In Fresno, it's estimated that more than 35 percent of K-12 students¹ don't have digital basics at home, including access to the internet, computers or skills needed to benefit from the online world, an issue known as the digital divide.

These efforts are part of the AT&T Connected Learning initiative to help address the digital divide through internet accessibility, affordability and safe adoption.

The donation of laptops is part of our commitment to help bridge the digital divide in California, which includes investing programs that help people and communities develop digital literacy skills to thrive in our modern world.

AT&T is investing in our California communities. Across the Golden State, AT&T is investing in our networks, providing affordable high-speed internet and connecting Californians to greater possibility. In California, we invested nearly \$8.6 billion in our wireless and wireline network infrastructure from 2020-2022.

The Fresno Center is a nonprofit organization that assists individuals in becoming self-sufficient, self-fulfilled and more productive members of the community. The donated laptops will help students with schoolwork and to fully participate in our digital world.

What are people saying?





"On behalf of The Fresno Center, we appreciate the opportunity that AT&T and Human-I-T are providing our students and families," **said Pao Yang, President and CEO, The Fresno Center**. "Each laptop will help open the path of knowledge and empower young minds. We applaud AT&T and Human-I-T for furthering our community's pursuit of learning and growth."

"AT&T is proud to collaborate with organizations like Human-I-T to help close the digital equity gap in California," **said Marc Blakeman, President, AT&T California**. "Many students across our state lack the devices needed for digital learning. Access to connectivity is vital in helping to bridge the digital divide and we are glad we can provide these resources to those that need them most."

"We're excited to partner with tribal leaders to create new opportunities for young people and their families," **said Gabe Middleton, CEO at Human-I-T**. "At Human-I-T, we believe access to technology is a right, not a privilege, and that digital tools help to unlock an individual's full potential. Thank you to our partners for welcoming us to your community. We look forward to collaborating toward achieving digital equity for all."

About Philanthropy & Social Innovation at AT&T

We're committed to advancing education, creating opportunities, strengthening communities, and improving lives. As part of our companywide \$2 billion commitment from 2021- 2023 to address the digital divide, we launched AT&T Connected Learning to invest in connectivity and technology, digital literacy, and education solutions to help today's learners succeed inside and outside of the classroom. Since 2008 we've committed to programs that help millions of students across all 50 states, Washington D.C and around the world, particularly those in underserved communities.

About Human-I-T

At Human-I-T, we create equitable access to opportunity by providing devices, internet access, digital skills training, and tech support for communities left on the wrong side of the digital divide—while at the same time, empowering businesses and organizations to do good by diverting technology from landfills to protect our planet. We believe access to technology is a right, not a privilege. It's what allows people to study remotely, apply for jobs, attend telehealth appointments, connect with distant family, or explore new ideas and perspectives. In order to shrink this divide, we make it easy for our partners to do good—join us to create a world where everyone can access opportunities to unlock their full potential.

¹ Interactive Map: America's Unconnected Students - Digital Bridge K-12 (digitalbridgek12.org)





Chris Collins AT&T Corporate Communications

Phone: 469-260-8885 Email: cc7528@att.com

