



Port Chester, October 2024

75 Teens and Adults Receive Laptops from The STEM Alliance and AT&T

<u>AT&T</u>* and Human-IT provided <u>The STEM Alliance</u> of Westchester County with 75 refurbished laptops yesterday to distribute to families in need.

Laptops were distributed to members in the community from <u>The Port Chester Carver Center</u> in Port Chester, <u>Alcance Latino</u> in White Plains, and the <u>Community Resource Center</u> in Mamaroneck. The laptops, funded by an AT&T contribution, were given to students and adults who were pre-selected prior to this event.

"AT&T has been a dedicated supporter of digital equity initiatives here in Westchester and beyond. In today's world, device ownership is critical to thriving as a student but also for success in so many other arenas: looking for a job, banking and even saving money", says Margaret Käufer, President of The STEM Alliance. "We applaud AT&T's commitment and are thrilled that these students are starting their school year equipped for success."

The STEM Alliance distributed the devices to provide support to those individuals with previous computer skills but lacking devices. In partnership with AT&T, The STEM Alliance is serving teenagers working toward high school/college completion and adults seeking employment opportunities.

"On behalf of the Community Resource Center, we extend our deepest gratitude to The STEM Alliance for their invaluable partnership in advancing digital equity within our community," says Jirandy Martinez, Executive Director at the Community Resource Center. "Through their generous donation of 25 laptops, our client members now have increased access to essential digital tools, enabling them to engage more fully in educational, professional, and personal development opportunities. This contribution is not just a gift of technology, but a profound investment in the future of our community. We are excited to continue working together to bridge the digital divide and empower those we serve."

It's estimated that 11% of households in New York do not have access to the internet or connected devices needed to fully participate in the online world, an issue called the digital divide. AT&T has committed \$2.1M+ from 2021–2023 to organizations and initiatives focused on closing the digital divide in New York, and has funded 6,100+ laptops for students and families across the Empire State.

This effort is part of the <u>AT&T Connected Learning®</u> initiative to help address the digital divide through internet accessibility, affordability and safe adoption. AT&T is <u>committing \$5 billion</u> to help 25 million people get and stay connected to high-speed internet by 2030.

"AT&T is proud to collaborate with organizations like The STEM Alliance to help close the digital equity gap in Westchester County," **said John Emra, President, AT&T Atlantic Region.** "Connectivity is vital for students, and we're glad we can provide these resources to those that need them most."

Learn more at att.com/connectedlearning.

Photo caption:

Teens and adults receiving their new laptops at Port Chester Carver Center.



Photo caption:

Assemblyman Steve Otis pictured with a high school student receiving his new laptop.



###

About The STEM Alliance:

The STEM Alliance is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to enhancing K-12 STEM education and enrichment initiatives to benefit students, parents and educators in our schools and community. Their stated mission is to bridge systemic gaps to provide equal access to critical science, technology, engineering and math learning resources with the goal of empowering communities, inspiring innovation and creating opportunity for all.

For more info: www.theSTEMalliance.org

Follow on Facebook: www.facebook.com/TheSTEMAlliance

*About Philanthropy & Social Innovation at AT&T

We're committed to advancing education, creating opportunities, strengthening communities, and improving lives. As part of our company wide commitment 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.

For more information, contact:

Karen Twomey

Senior Public Relations Manager, AT&T Northeast

Email: karen.twomey@att.com

Phone: 508-370-2535