



**2023**

# **IMPACT REPORT**





## CHANGING LIVES THROUGH EDUCATION AND TECHNOLOGY

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

It is with great pleasure and pride that I present to you InspiredU’s Annual 2023 Impact Report. As we look back on our 3rd year at InspiredU, we are thrilled to share the strides we have made in transforming lives through the intersection of education and technology.

In an ideal world, every child and family would have access to the ever-expanding knowledge and resources available through home computers and reliable internet connectivity. While programs to increase broadband coverage have received funding at both state and federal levels, we recognize that connectivity alone does not suffice. Many families also lack access to home computers and, crucially, the essential training needed to navigate these devices effectively.

This is where InspiredU steps in.

Our organization is dedicated to filling these gaps in digital equity by providing training and devices to families in underserved communities within Georgia. By focusing on digital literacy and access, we aim to empower the most marginalized and vulnerable citizens in our communities, providing them with the resources and support required to compete in the pursuit of education and work preparedness.

As we reflect on this past year’s accomplishments in the pages to follow, we would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to our supporters, partners, and the community at large. Your unwavering commitment has played a pivotal role in making these transformative initiatives possible.

In addition to the impact we’ve made through our Learning Spark Initiative this year, another notable achievement in 2023 has been the remarkable growth in donations for our Capital Campaign. These funds are instrumental in our ongoing efforts to transform our facility, thereby expanding our capacity to impact the lives of even more individuals.

We look forward to continuing our mission in the coming years, fueled by the belief that education and technology can be powerful tools for positive change. Together, we can create a more equitable and inclusive future.

Thank you for your ongoing support and belief in the InspiredU vision.

**Richard Hicks**  
CEO & President

**Will Alexander**  
Board Chair

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## CURRENT FOOTPRINT FOR PROGRAMMING

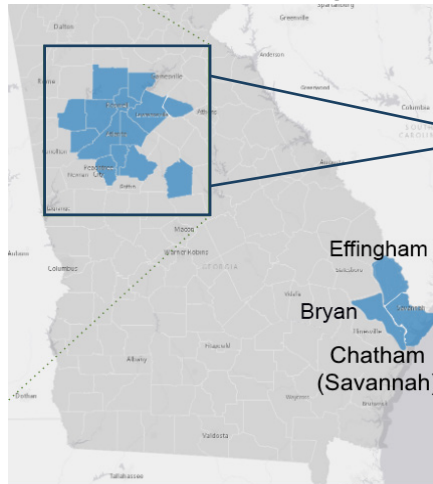
### THE PROBLEM

There is a lack of equitable access to technology resources and educational training within the underserved community.

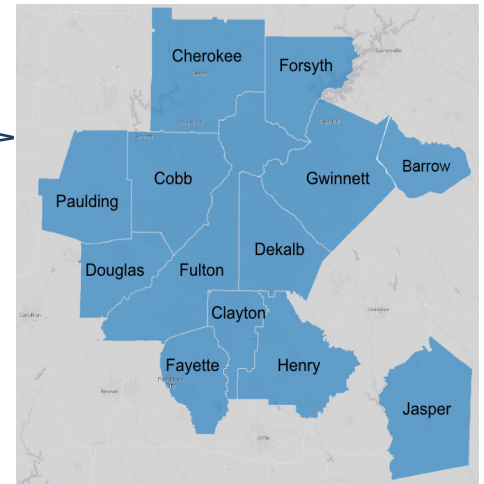
### OUR SOLUTION

InspiredU provides technology resources and implements customized training to strive for digital equity within the underserved community.

The State of Georgia



Greater Metro Atlanta Area



### OUR MISSION

To help underserved youth develop the skills needed for education and career success through technology-based learning tools and engagement activities with their families, communities, and schools.

### OUR VISION

InspiredU will be a key connector that drives digital inclusion and literacy for Georgia's families, communities, and schools so they can enable the future readiness of underserved youth.

### COMMITMENT TO EQUITY

We make a direct impact on young scholars and their families through our "boots-on-the-ground" efforts in underserved communities. There is much work to be done, and we will continue to champion our cause and support meaningful and sustainable change for equality.

## FOLLOW OUR STORY



@InspiredUAtlanta



@inspireduatl



www.iuatl.org



## Family of the Year

We are proud to recognize the Owens Family as our 2023 Family of the Year! Christine Owens is a proud grandmother raising two grandchildren—Angel, age 6, and Kayden, age 7—in a single-family home. After learning about Inspiredu through one of our partners, Project Grand, and attending a Family Learning Workshop with her grandchildren, she shared with us that the workshop was a great family-bonding experience, and they were given the first laptop in their home. During a follow-up discussion with the family, we learned that the laptop is helping her grandson Kayden access Zoom for his occupational therapy and speech therapy, and it is helping her granddaughter Angel keep up with her homework assignments. Christine has also had time to learn on the laptop as she is now enrolled in school and recently received a child development associate certificate. She says, “I’d like to continue to be a positive reinforcement in my grandchildren’s lives.” Inspired by her grandson, she plans to become a registered behavioral technician to learn more about autism behaviors.

“Empowering lives through our MUST Inspire computer training program, we have transcended boundaries to bridge the digital divide. From its humble inception with 276 individuals, our impact has multiplied, reaching 552, and is now on a trajectory to serve approximately 750. This transformative initiative is not just about technology; it’s about providing hope and opportunities.

The MUST Inspire program is a collaboration between MUST Ministries Workforce Development and the incredible and amazing team at Inspiredu, which provides the hardware, software, and virtual trainers essential to the program’s success. Together, we extend our commitment to homeless individuals, families, and the stably housed, focusing on the impoverished and disadvantaged. As participants acquire essential digital skills, they embark on a journey of continuous growth—enrolling in educational and vocational training, additional digital skills development, attending financial wellness workshops, and actively pursuing employment. The MUST Inspire program is a beacon of empowerment, breaking barriers and fostering a community where everyone has the chance to thrive in the digital age.”

**- Nate Marsh**

***Director, Workforce Development, MUST Ministries***

“The Family Learning Workshop was tremendous for our parents and school community!

Being able to see the collaboration and commitment from Inspiredu and the community partners has been a highlight of our school year. The sessions provided our parents and students with the skills necessary to navigate the changing digital landscape.”

**- Dr. Alfred McGuire**

***Principal, Woodville-Tompkins High School***



# In 2023.

## **INSPIREDU**

was chosen as one of two Atlanta nonprofits to receive a grant from Comcast to support the launch of Connect 404, a Digital Navigator program.

## **INSPIREDU**

partnered with ICNA Relief to serve Atlanta's Refugee Community with emphasis on learners with home countries of Afghanistan and Ukraine.

## **INSPIREDU**

shared our Volunteer and Training Center with Amazon Security and the University of North Georgia as they hosted the 2023-2024 CyberStart Game.

## **INSPIREDU**

collaborated with CGI to offer a coding workshop for 8<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders that focused on storytelling through the use of Scratch.

## **INSPIREDU**

piloted a series of Family Learning Workshops in partnership with YMCA Coastal Georgia and Savannah-Chatham County Public School System.

## **INSPIREDU**

successfully raised over \$1 million in support of our Capital Campaign thanks to our generous donors and funders.

## **INSPIREDU**

implemented a bi-monthly series of basic digital skills workshops for the community and held in the Comcast Lift Zone of our Volunteer and Training Center.

## **INSPIREDU**

partnered with Bridge Academy to offer learning workshops with a financial wellness focus led by volunteers from Synovus Bank.

# 2023 BY THE NUMBERS



# 139

**LEARNING  
WORKSHOPS  
CONDUCTED**

37 were held in person and 102 were held virtually. Each focused on basic digital skills and informed learners of affordable Internet connectivity options.

# 2,825

**FAMILIES  
SERVED**

**ACROSS OUR SERVICES**

# 2,463

**LEARNERS  
ENGAGED**

**THROUGH OUR  
LEARNING SPARK INITIATIVE**

# 2,297

**DEVICES  
DISTRIBUTED**

**AND NOW OWNED  
BY GEORGIA FAMILIES**

# 5,602

**LEARNING  
HOURS**

**ACROSS OUR WORKSHOPS**



# 8,108

**DEVICES  
DONATED**

to our EcoSpark program for repurposing or recycling.

# 42

**PARTNERSHIPS WITH SCHOOLS,  
COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATIONS,  
BUSINESSES, AND GOVERNMENT  
AGENCIES**



# 16

different Georgia counties are home to the learners who participated in our workshops.



# 2,585

volunteer hours were contributed by 686 volunteers in support of our EcoSpark and Learning Spark initiatives for a total of \$82,720 economic impact.



# 100%

resolution rate for the

# 148

cases submitted to our tech help service desk.

# a solid commitment to SUSTAINABILITY



## OUR PROCESS



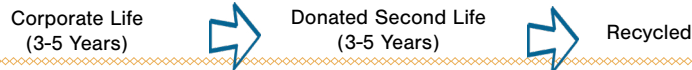
## DIVERTED FROM GREATER ATLANTA LANDFILLS

**247,800**  
pounds of e-waste

**5,824**  
laptops

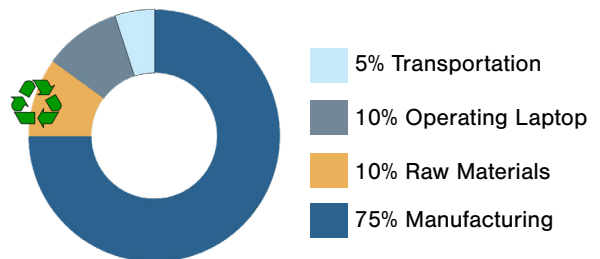
The world produces 53.6 million metric tons of waste from discarded electronics every year. In our landfills, that e-waste leaks mercury, cadmium, lead, beryllium, arsenic, and other contaminants into our soil and water. Inspiredu collected and properly recycled this e-waste to keep it out of Greater Atlanta area landfills. In 2023, 72% of the tech donations we received were laptops. Of these laptops, 40% received a second life through refurbishment and distribution to Georgia families. The remaining devices were added to inventory for future distribution or properly recycled if no longer usable.

## IDEAL LIFE OF A LAPTOP



**2,186,744** pounds of CO<sub>2</sub> avoided

Making a laptop puts 952 lbs of carbon dioxide into our atmosphere; once a laptop is manufactured, it is in society's best interest to extract as much value from the device as possible and avoid putting even more carbon dioxide into the atmosphere. In 2023, Inspiredu was able to successfully refurbish 2,297 donated laptops, tablets, and desktops for distribution to Georgia families.



# DONATE OLD TECH

We encourage you to donate your old tech and help inspire a more diverse and inclusive workforce. Inspiredu is committed to diverting tens of thousands of pounds of e-waste from our landfills, extending the life of technology that is difficult to manufacture, and avoiding more carbon dioxide from entering the atmosphere to help us fight climate change.

# RENOVATE. INNOVATE. EDUCATE.

# CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

Creating a center of excellence for our students, families, and volunteers

## CHAMPIONING EQUITABLE ACCESS TO TECHNOLOGY & TRAINING



### BRIDGING THE DIGITAL DIVIDE

Supporting the success of Georgia youth and families by bridging the growing shortage of technology-based learning tools and connectivity.



### EMPOWERING FAMILIES TO SUCCEED

Providing technology and learning workshops for families to develop their understanding of digital skills.



### SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITY

Advancing the digital literacy of underserved communities by facilitating technology focused events and gatherings.



### PROMOTING DIGITAL SKILLS

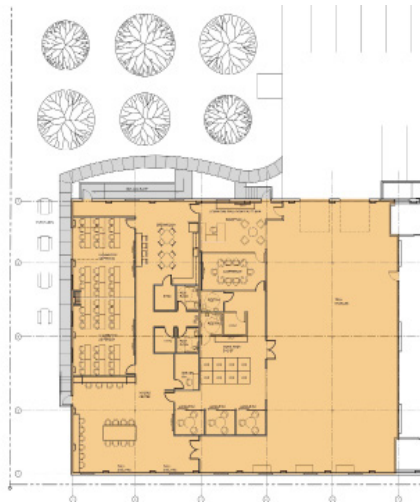
Enabling our partner schools and community-based organizations to engage families with learning tools and activities.

## OUR GROWTH INITIATIVE

- Inspiredu's Volunteer and Training Center (VTC) will be the launchpad site for digital inclusion programming in Georgia.
- Upgrading our facility will expand our programming and provide an optimal learning environment for our families.
- Our refurbished area will allow us to promote enhanced collaboration among staff and volunteers.
- Expanding our space will lead to an increased capacity of device refurbishment, imaging, and distribution by up to 300%.
- The larger, more well-lit, and inviting areas will promote the wellness of our staff, supporters, and families.



1550 Southland Circle NW – Suite 200  
Atlanta, GA 30318



## VTC PLAN

- 1 reception area
- 1 12-seat breakroom
- 1 16-seat imaging center
- 8 workspaces
- 2 23-seat classrooms
- 1 conference room
- 3 huddle rooms
- 1 tech storage
- 4 restrooms
- 1 storage closet

[TO LEARN MORE AND CONTRIBUTE TO THE CAPITAL CAMPAIGN,  
GO TO IUATL.COM/CAPITAL.](http://IUATL.COM/CAPITAL)



# Thank You To Our Donors!

**\$0.70**

supports Inspiredu programs that help our communities

**FOR EVERY DOLLAR RAISED**



**\$0.30**

supports Inspiredu overhead that keeps us moving forward

## **\$100,000+**

Community Foundation for Greater Atlanta  
Goizueta Foundation  
KIA  
NCR Foundation  
The Sara Giles Moore Foundation

## **\$50,000 - \$94,999**

Comcast  
MUST Ministries  
United Way of Greater Atlanta

## **\$25,000 - \$49,999**

Annie Casey Foundation	The John and Mary Neff Foundation
Digitunity	Microsoft Corporation
Ernst & Young	Pyramid Consulting
General Electric Company	Sartain Lanier Family Foundation
Google Fiber	

## **\$15,000 - \$24,999**

Atlanta Technology Professionals  
Beazer Homes  
CRH Americas Materials  
Ruth Davis  
Georgia-Pacific Foundation  
Craig Hyde  
LuluMa Foundation  
QTS  
Vibha  
vLink  
Verizon

# Thank You to our Donors!

## \$10,000 - \$14,999

Akers Foundation  
CGI  
Cox Enterprises  
EnPro Industries  
Hylaine  
Inspire Brands

Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton  
Mansfield Energy  
Rollins  
SiteOne Landscape Supply  
3i People

## \$7,500 - \$9,999

ACCESS  
Grant Shih  
Kelly Solomon  
Synergis  
Synovus

## \$5,000 - \$7,499

Capgemini  
ETS Solutions  
Fogle Family Foundation  
Graphic Packaging International  
Hiller Family Foundation  
Hiscox Foundation USA

InfoCenter Corporation  
MoveWorks  
NCR  
Hania Poole  
Allison Watkins  
Westside Future Fund

## \$2,500 - \$4,999

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Robert Half Technology  
Rubrik  
Sage Foundation  
Salesforce  
TRC Staffing  
Zerto  
Wiz

# Thank You to our Donors!

## \$1,000 - \$2,500

A Forward Path	Sam Galbraith
Greg Allarding	Infinite Rags Exports
Ryan Applegate	Jabian Cares
Arrowcore	Sean Kramer
Don Bailer	Justin Laliberte
Dana Barrett	Leap to Shine
Pierre Beuret	Benjamin Leggett
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Nathalie Charlot	Mike Russell
Cloudflare	Robert Sheesley
Code42 Foundation	Stephen Spitulski
Becky Cole	Rachel Stuve
David Cole	T-Mobile for Business
Danielle Fryar	Time2Give

Thank you to ALL of you who  
donated your time, energy, resources,  
and funds to help support Inspiredu.  
We appreciate you!

# A Year to Remember 2023



 **inspiredU**  
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Atlanta, GA 30318

   
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