

THE MISSION



Bridging the Digital Divide

Computer CORE prepares underserved adults to realize career aspirations with foundational computer and professional skills.

WHO



70%
WOMEN

95%
STUDENTS OF COLOR

45
AVERAGE AGE



97 COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN



WHAT

CORE's dedicated team of volunteers taught an expanded curriculum of **30** virtual classes in **five** different categories:



Computer Literacy/IT



Writing and Communication



Life-long Learning



Exam Preparation



Professional Development

30

ONLINE CLASSES

300

STUDENTS ENROLLED

300%↑

ENROLLMENT

WHERE

- CORE classes went virtual in **April 2020**
- New space in **Ballston** allowed for distanced meetings and volunteer appreciation event
- Partnership with **VCU, VALRC** and **Code Beats** expanded CORE's reach and skill base



Regions Served:

- **City of Alexandria**
- **Arlington County**
- **Fairfax County**
- **...and beyond!**

HOW

- **Free laptop donations** to students in need began within a month of Virginia's COVID-19 shutdown so all students could join virtual classes with the fee waived
- Class **registration moved online** as staff reached out to current students
- CORE renewed Microsoft licensing as a certified **Third Party Refurbisher**
- A new lead tech volunteer established an onsite computer lab and refurbished **over 300 computers** for distribution to students between July and December



OUTCOMES

Average annual increase **\$12,000** by students who got raises.

Average income for students who were unemployed and got hired: **\$39,000**.

3,500 graduates since founding in 1999.



MAKE A DIFFERENCE



VOLUNTEER | DONATE | GIVE LAPTOPS | SHARE @SOCIAL MEDIA

CFC #60280

THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS!

Volunteer appreciation event in Ballston: 72 packages were prepared by **15 volunteers** from Volunteer Fairfax as part of their annual VolunteerFest to be distributed to CORE's dedicated online class instructors, coaches, and tutors. CORE students also benefitted greatly from a generous service day with volunteers from **Accenture**.



At Ballston: Volunteer Fairfax lends a hand; CORE staff Nagia Kurabi and Rhonda Smith-Green with Donna Walker James.

TECH FOR TEACHERS

In partnership with ACT for Alexandria, CORE and Alexandria's Emergency Child Care Collaborative (ECCC) joined forces to offer **digital literacy classes** to preschool caregivers and educators for no fee.

IN THE NEWS

April 21 | As Lockdown Deepens Digital Divide, CORE Gives PCs to Students in Need | **WJLA/ABC 7** Tobias Rodriguez features CORE on air, interviewing students and Director Donna Walker James.

Sept. 8 | **Comcast Newsmakers** host Elena Russo interviews Donna Walker James about how COVID-19 impacted students this year.

Sept. 28 | Virginia Adult Learning Resource Center at **VCU** began partnering with CORE to provide a course called **Code Beats**—using hip-hop music to teach basic coding with the idea of drawing more people in by making it fun. Computer CORE can then offer follow-up curriculum to teach the skills needed to get into programming jobs.



WJLA interviews a socially-distanced student as he picks up a laptop from CORE's Director.

Sept./Oct. | ARLNow "Around Town" column by Ashley Hopko and Falls Church News-Press "Our Man in Arlington" column by Charlie Clark both featured Computer CORE's expansion into **Ballston Exchange**.

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

DONNA WALKER JAMES

Meeting the Challenges of Online Learning Disparities in the Year of COVID

Comments excerpted from Donna's article published in the VCU Virginia Adult Learning Resource Center Newsletter: PROGRESS: Vol.30, No.4. | **Full article:** computercore.org/news

The shutdown of our regular services on March 13, caused by COVID-19 has allowed Computer CORE time for deep introspection as an organization as we work to build up the resilience of our adult students to enter or re-enter the workforce, and to improve their career potential.

We have done things we have never done before, taught classes we have never taught before, brought in new volunteers in different ways, and questioned long-standing practices. We have gotten to know our students better than ever before through introductions, and constant reintroductions, on Zoom.

We've had a chance for students to learn the functions of Zoom chat and to Zoom-raise their hands to fully participate in classroom conversations. All of our staff, volunteer teachers, as well as students, have continued and adapted during these trying times. Now our 2020 students will remember—along with all the tech-savvy people in the world—the days and months when they first used Zoom!

Donna Walker James



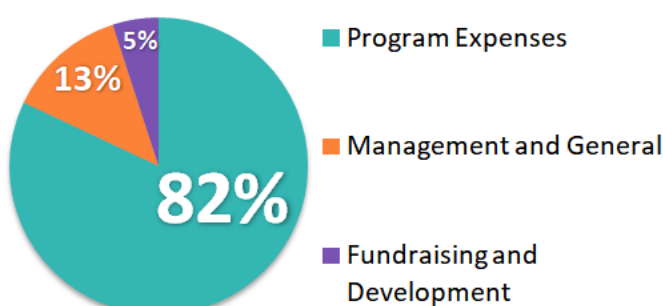
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2019-2020 FINANCIALS

2019 Expenses



2019 Total Revenue

