



Apparo

Impact Magazine

Spring 2021



APPARO'S STORY

We believe that technology and passion can change the world.

Every year, Apparo engages with nonprofits in the greater Charlotte area, delivering technology education, training, and projects that allow them to do good in our community. While we normally serve more than 100 nonprofits a year, ***we have served nearly 70 in the past three months alone*** as we have increased our service to support the nonprofit community during the pandemic.

Experiencing an exponential amount of growth, Hope House Foundation needed a system to help them better manage their donors and day-to-day insights. Apparo matched Hope House Foundation to a volunteer from Hylaine to help the organization find a donor management application that fit their needs best.



Hope House Foundation



Hope House Foundation is a nonprofit that provides transitional housing and supportive services to women and children experiencing situational homelessness in order for them to procure long-term housing and self-sufficiency. [READ MORE](#)

Community Impact Project Highlights



Click on project descriptions at bottom for more information.
[View nonprofits in need of volunteer teams here.](#)

Apparo's Community Impact Projects partner a nonprofit in need of a technology solution with a corporate volunteer to address that need. [Learn more.](#)



[1. RunningWorks + Volunteers from Polypore as part of the G.A.I.N. program](#)

[2. Charlotte Pride + Volunteers from Duke Energy](#)

[3. The Independence Fund + Volunteers from Corning, Inc.](#)

[4. Carolina Raptor Center + Volunteers from MorganFranklin Consulting as part of the G.A.I.N. program](#)

[5. JazzArts + Volunteers from CapTech Consulting as part of the G.A.I.N. program](#)

8

Projects Currently in Progress

68

Volunteers Currently Engaged

18

Corporate Partners Currently Engaged

Nonprofit Education Highlights



Apparo's technology-focused educational offerings for nonprofits include Nonprofit Bytes+Insights (signature forums), TechShops (hands-on trainings) and IT Coaching (one-on-one tutoring). With the current crisis at hand, we've pivoted our educational offerings to be remote. This includes a new monthly webinar series, "Navigating the Current", as well as opportunities to provide virtual IT Coaching through Microsoft Teams and Zoom meetings. We've also added highly relevant content to our [Resources Page](#).

Over the past 3 months

55

Nonprofits Served

40.5

Volunteer Hours

\$26,525

Value Delivered

Geoff Ables, Consultant at C5 Insight, held a half day workshop for Habitat for Humanity. The workshop covered planning processes for the digital workplace, how to engage leaders, and more. Following the webinar, Habitat took away a framework for planning to launch and improve upon any projects they may have.



We've transitioned from our in-person Bytes + Insights forum to our virtual forum series, *Navigating the Current*. [Check out our recent forums here.](#)



Our February forum explored the rollout of vaccines and how to properly implement, or not implement policies into your organization.

[VIEW RECORDING HERE.](#)



Our March forum discussed how to cultivate relationships with teammates while offices remain virtual or switch to a hybrid setting.

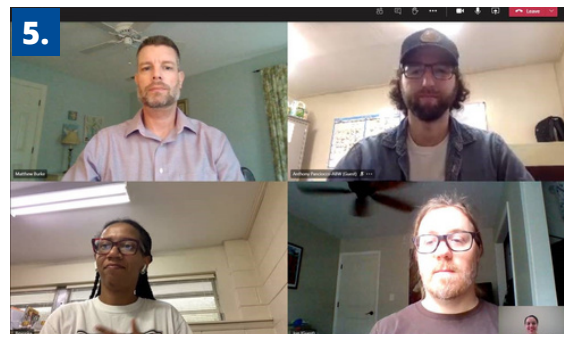
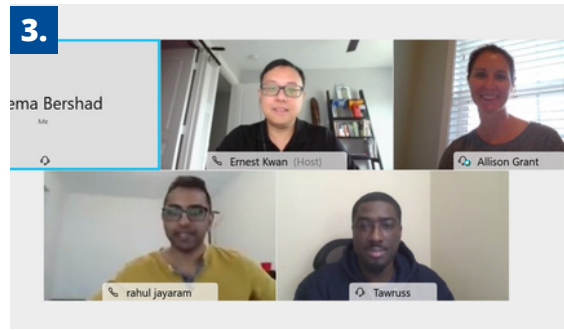
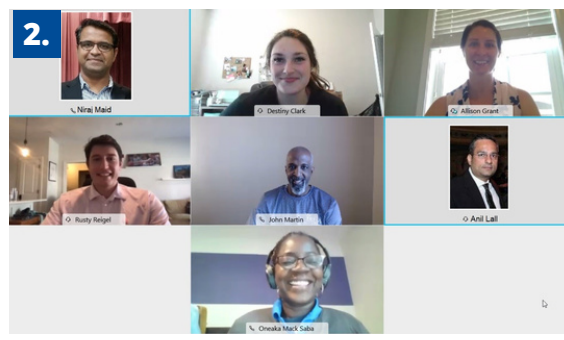
[VIEW RECORDING HERE.](#)

G.A.I.N. - Powered by Lowe's Highlights



Click on project descriptions at bottom for more information.

Our two-year nonprofit accelerator drives **G**rowth, **A**gility, and **I**nnovation for **N**onprofits. G.A.I.N. equips nonprofits with modern technology to overcome challenges that limit them from reaching their full potential. We're helping ensure infinitely more Charlotte success stories by bolstering the capabilities of area nonprofits with \$200,000+ of value in each hardware, software, implementation, training and support. [Learn more about our program and inaugural G.A.I.N. cohort.](#)



- [1. Youth Development Initiatives](#)
- [2. Young Black Leadership Alliance](#)
- [3. S.T.A.R.S. Math & English Academy](#)
- [4. Shepherd's Center of Charlotte](#)
- [5. A Better World](#)

Over the past 3 months

10
Nonprofits Served

27
Volunteer Hours

\$299,450
Value Delivered

Our G.A.I.N. cohort just wrapped up their first phase of the program, which involved working with volunteer teams to receive tech assessments and plans to help their organizations propel forward.

Tech Therapy Highlights

Both the Humane Society & Loaves and Fishes are working with AAA Carolinas to receive pro bono assessments of their organizational security. Along with their assessment, both nonprofits have received guidance and knowledge to help secure the organizations' IT infrastructure and recommendations for implementing security best practices.

humane
society
of charlotte



LOAVES
& FISHES

Our Tech Therapists provide our nonprofit clients with expertise to identify resources and solutions for their technology needs.

Hope Haven

After consulting with Hope Haven, our Tech Therapy team identified the best solution for them would be utilizing a Community Impact Project to help Hope Haven with their Network Infrastructure needs. Hope Haven also received 5 refurbished laptops donated by The Compass Group and setup by E2D.

Over the past 3 months

47

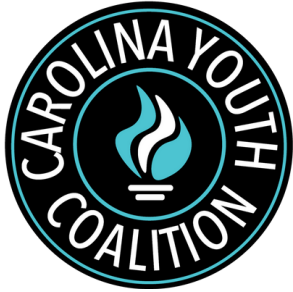
Nonprofits
Served

70

Engagements



We love seeing how our nonprofit partners transform after we collaborate! Here are a few success stories.



Carolina Youth Coalition (CYC) came to Apparo in Summer 2020 needing help with technology so they could better meet their goals. We matched them to a volunteer team from Duke Energy who delivered a three phased project that included a tech assessment and roadmap, software selection, and set-up of firewalls, web tools & hardware. We checked in with CYC nine months after the project wrapped and learned that "the technology implemented as a result of this project has already been extremely helpful in this virtual environment," Aaron Randolph, Executive Director of CYC, shared with us. "The onboarding time for students has been cut in half, allowing us to serve more students," he also explained. In addition to this, the staff is already saving 75%+ in administrative time. [READ MORE](#)



The Learning Collaborative

The Learning Collaborative (TLC) came to Apparo in Spring 2020 after needing to standardize their hardware and software throughout the organization. We matched them to a volunteer team from Bank of America who assessed TLC's needs, and helped make the right hardware and software purchases at the best prices. In April 2020, Pam Gray, TLC's Director of Development shared that the technology support "has been a lifesaver" as TLC had to transition to delivering virtual support to the children and families they serve. We checked back in with TLC in Winter 2021, and Pam shared with us, "I don't know what we would have done over the past year if it had not been for the fortunate timing of our work with Apparo. Today, we can serve the students who are remote because we are properly equipped. While it's not as ideal as having them in person, it's a step in the right direction in terms of their reading and readiness." [READ MORE](#)



Veterans Bridge Home (VBH) reached out to Apparo needing help migrating to Office 365. Their goals were to minimize duplicative work and needless transitions while simplifying their communications so they could function more effectively. Through Apparo's Tech Therapy, Ben Knudson build out their SharePoint site and provided guidance on Microsoft products and best practices for Office suite tools. Following their Tech Therapy, they were matched with a volunteer from CapTech to provide training on Microsoft as a whole. We checked in with Pete Vacho, Director of Community Engagement at VBH, and he shared the impact they're able to make now, "With our old system we could serve 20-30 veterans a week. Now it's 40-50. We are helping more veterans because of the new system we have in place. We are on pace to serve more than 1,800 veterans and their families, with 2.4 services per family on average. Now, instead of waiting 3-4 days for services, we can help them in 1-2. [READ MORE](#)

Volunteer Spotlights



Kavya Pasumarthy joined our volunteer team in 2020, providing services to both Apparo and one of our nonprofit partners, Crisis Assistance Ministry. She supported Apparo using her skills to make critical updates to our Salesforce database, while simultaneously serving as an IT Coach by leveraging her expertise with Microsoft Excel to help improve a spreadsheet-based process for resolving problems with payments to landlords.

"Volunteering with Apparo was recommended to me as a match for my data entry and analytics skills. I have also always loved teaching and wanted to continue down that path, but not make a career out of it. Volunteering with Apparo allowed me to merge my passions together. That's a very unique opportunity." [READ MORE](#)



Allen Kim has been an Apparo advocate for over a decade supporting our organization as a valued donor, volunteer, board member, and CXO Tech Host. This past Winter, Allen volunteered on an Apparo Community Impact Project with Memory & Movement Charlotte, helping deliver a much-needed technology plan.

"I'm motivated by the Apparo mission and their ability to provide technology services and resources to other Charlotte nonprofits who might not be able to obtain them on their own. I've really enjoyed immersing myself in the volunteer experience and directly helping a nonprofit by sharing my technology experience and knowledge. It's wonderful to hear their words of appreciation and know that instead of dealing with technology frustrations they will be able to focus on serving the community." [READ MORE](#)

Nonprofits Served February - April 2021



Our nonprofit clients represent a broad service range and work tirelessly to break the cycle of poverty in the greater Charlotte area.

Ada Jenkins Center
Alexander Youth Network
App Youniversity
Assistance League of Charlotte
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Charlotte
Brave Step
Cain Center for the Arts
Camino Community Center
Carolina Breast Friends
Carolina Raptor Center
Celebrate Nashville
Center for Community Transitions
Charlotte Ballet
Charlotte Catholic High School
Charlotte Master Corale
Charlotte Pride
Charlotte Rescue Mission
Children's Theatre of Charlotte
City Startup Labs

Communities in Schools
Corey Anthony Inc.
Crisis Assistance Ministry
Crisis Assistance Ministry Gastonia
CyberHype
Davidson-Cornelius Child Development Center
Fashion and Compassion
Foundation for the Carolinas
Georgia Center for Child Advocacy
Go Jen Go Foundation
Habitat for Humanity Charlotte
Heart Math Tutoring
Hinds' Feet Farm
HOPEMatch
Hospitality House of Charlotte
Humane Society of Charlotte
JazzArts Charlotte
Junior Achievement

Latin American Chamber of Commerce (LACC)
LIFESPAN, Inc.
Make-A-Wish Central and Western North Carolina
Matthew HELP Center
Memory and Movement Charlotte
Mental Health America of Central Carolinas
Moms Against Racism
Netsurion
Para Guide
Pat's Place Child Advocacy Center
QCRA - Queen City Robotics Alliance
Renaissance West Community Initiative
Ronald McDonald House of Charlotte

S.T.A.R.S. Math & English Academy
Safe Alliance
Samaritan's Feet
She Built This City
Shepherd's Center of Charlotte
Socialserve
TechSoup
The Echo Foundation
The Independence Fund
The Isabella Santos Foundation
The Ivey
The Paula Takacs Foundation for Sarcoma Research
Thompson Child & Family Focus
Three Bone Theater
Union County Education Foundation
Veteran's Pride
Wayfinders formerly Bruce Irons Camp Fund

1553

Volunteer Hours

\$721,025

Total Value Delivered

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Did you know?

When actor Jim Cummings isn't at work voicing Winnie the Pooh, he volunteers with the Make-A-Wish Foundation, calling children in hospitals while staying in character to brighten their spirits.

If this fun fact makes you feel warm and fuzzy inside, now you know how YOU make US feel.

Thank you for supporting the sustainability and growth of the greater Charlotte area's nonprofits.

You are making quite the impact!

