



Apparo

Impact Magazine

Fall 2020



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 100 in the past three months alone*** as we have increased our service to support the nonprofit community during the pandemic.

Apparo matched 100 Gardens with a volunteer team who helped the organization find a CRM that met their needs. Through this initiative, 100 Gardens is delivering better, expanded service, improving staff & volunteer satisfaction, and **tripled fundraising revenue** at the annual Tomato Festival.



100 Gardens



100 Gardens is a nonprofit that delivers engaging learning opportunities by implementing aquaponics programs in schools, institutions, and communities in need. [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. A Better World + Volunteers and a Sponsorship from Accenture](#)
- [2. Alexander Youth Network + Volunteers from Slalom Consulting](#)
- [3. Camino Community Center + Volunteers from Duke Energy](#)
- [4. The Echo Foundation + Volunteers and a Sponsorship from Deloitte](#)
- [5. Young Black Leadership Alliance + Volunteers from Duke Energy and Google](#)

Over the past 3 months

24

Nonprofits Served

31

Volunteers Engaged

9

Corporate Partners 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

32

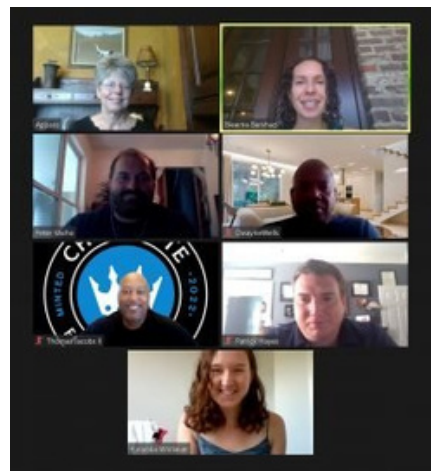
Nonprofits Served

63

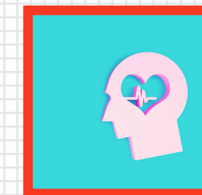
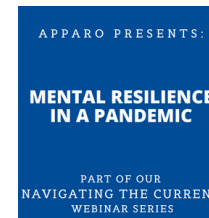
Volunteer Hours

\$56,825

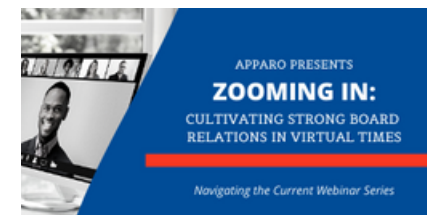
Value Delivered



(Photo Left) CapTech volunteer, Amanda Whitaker, leads Excel training session for Veterans Bridge Home. VBH reached out to Apparo for help with migrating to Office 365. Their goals were to minimize duplicative work and to simplify their communications so they could function more effectively. Through Tech Therapy, they received guidance on Microsoft products and best practices. Following the migration, their training began. Pete Vacho, of VBH, shares that his training experience with Amanda was great. "The training is making our work more efficient and in turn, helping us make Veteran's lives better, faster." [READ MORE](#)



Apparo's new Navigating the Current monthly webinar series has featured important, pressing topics such as: Rapidly Going Remote, Re-Opening the Workplace, Mental Resilience in a Pandemic, and Cultivating Strong Board Relationships



Tech Therapy Highlights

(Photo right) AAA Carolinas is volunteering through Apparo's Tech Therapy program to support **The Humane Society of Charlotte** with a security assessment and recommendations. During this current pandemic, nonprofits are especially vulnerable. Kevin Harris and Brian Hinkle of AAA Carolinas are helping to ensure that Aiko Okamoto is able to keep Humane Society of Charlotte safe.



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

Additional Nonprofits receiving Tech Therapy

- **Hope Haven** - Following their Community Impact Project, Hope Haven had additional needs that could be fulfilled by our Tech Therapy services. Tech Therapy will help this organization solidify the needs identified in the tech plan.
- **Hinds Feet Farm** - Through Tech Therapy, the organization migrated to M365. They now have a reliable email platform and will soon be utilizing SharePoint for cloud storage.

Over the past 3 months

32

Nonprofits Served

61

Engagements

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



Crisis Assistance Ministry has a long time partnership with Apparo. Our first project in 2015 was a security assessment. The recommendations made during this assessment are still followed today. In 2018, Apparo helped the organization transition to Microsoft 365, and the same year, Crisis Assistance Ministry embarked on a business process assessment while also winning the Website for Good Award. Since the onset of these projects, they have seen a five-fold increase in social media traffic and doubling of online fundraising.

[READ MORE](#)



Ronald McDonald House of Charlotte turned to Apparo because they wanted to improve their use of technology so that they could work more effectively and efficiently. RMHC was paired with a volunteer team who conducted an assessment and delivered a report and prioritized roadmap to address needed hardware, software, security, policy changes, and budget. We reconnected with RMHC after one year and learned they are now experiencing operational efficiencies, able to improve guest experience & safety, and is anticipating increased fundraising. [READ MORE](#)



RunningWorks leadership reached out to Apparo for help improving technology to better suit their very mobile organization. Above all else, they needed to work in the cloud more efficiently. Since implementation, the organization has been able to triple their fundraising up to \$300,000 and because of this fundraising, were able to launch their new housing program back in 2018. The effects, however, are still felt in the midst of the pandemic. In virtual times, RunningWorks is still able to engage virtually and manage client data without any issues. [READ MORE](#)



Carolina Breast Friends reached out to Apparo for support updating their antiquated telephone system, so that they could provide better service to Survivors. The paired volunteer team helped CBF assess and reconfigure their phone technology infrastructure. This including vetting telephone providers and gathering quotes. We recently checked in with CBF a year after their project concluded, and learned the benefits of this new phone system which include: increased staff satisfaction, improved responsiveness to Survivors, and a \$1,000 decrease in annual expenses. [READ MORE](#)

Volunteer Spotlights



Amanda Whitaker has supported the nonprofit community by working with our nonprofit partner, Veterans Bridge Home (VBH) since 2018. As a Senior Consultant at CapTech, Amanda had heard great things about volunteering from her colleagues who had all enjoyed their experiences working with nonprofits through Apparo. She was matched to VBH in 2018 and has supported them through four TechShop team trainings, helping to ensure their smooth transition to Microsoft 365.

Amanda says that skilled volunteering with Apparo has been the perfect match for her, "I have experience leading trainings at CapTech and I'm very energized by facilitating learning. I have a passion for empowering people, building their skills and knowledge. I love helping others and am always looking for ways to give back to my community. This volunteer opportunity allows me to pass along knowledge that I've built over time and I know that I am making a tangible, positive impact" ... [READ MORE](#)

[\[Related\] Impact Update: Checking in with Veterans Bridge Home](#)

Daidre Fanis put her salesforce expertise to work as a skilled volunteer to help Lily Pad Haven improve the way they support survivors of human trafficking. As the Executive Director & Practice Leader of M&S Consulting, and the President of the Charlotte Chapter of SIM, Daidre's work freed valuable time for the organization that they now use for providing more psychiatric care, raising increased awareness of human trafficking, and fundraising.

"Volunteering with Apparo is a perfect fit with the culture at M&S Consulting. Giving back to the communities in which we work for is very important to us. We have the capabilities and skills to make a difference to a nonprofit. **It's a win for us because it makes our team feel good about doing good, stay actively involved in our community and gain valuable experience.** By supporting Lily Pad Haven, we were able to help a group of people who have been through an incredibly difficult situation. That was really meaningful to me and very rewarding and fulfilling to my team. One M&S consultant was so inspired that he went on to get a certificate in nonprofit management." ... [READ MORE](#)

[\[Related\] TechShop: Lily Pad Haven](#)



Nonprofits Served July - September 2020



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

- | | | | |
|---|--------------------------------|--|--|
| A Better World | Children's Attention Home | Humane Society of Charlotte | Project Life Movement |
| A2S - Access To Success Foundation | Clean Air Carolina | Joe Martin ALS Foundation | Promising Pages |
| Alexander Youth Network | Community Building Initiative | Leadership Charlotte | Restore Global |
| Assistance League Charlotte | Dottie Rose Foundation | Lily Pad Haven | Right Moves for Youth |
| Augustine Literacy Project Charlotte | Dress for Success Charlotte | Loaves & Fishes | Samaritan's Feet |
| Brave Step | Fashion and Compassion | Lupus Foundation of America, NC Chapter | Smart Start of Mecklenburg County |
| Camino Community Center | Feeding Charlotte | Mcleod Addictive Disease Center | Steve Smith Family Foundation |
| Carolina Breast Friends | First Gen Success | Memory Center Charlotte | The Echo Foundation |
| Caterpillar Ministries | Foundation for The Carolinas | Mental Health America of Central Carolinas | The House of Mercy |
| Charlotte is Creative | Habitat for Humanity Charlotte | MPN Cancer Connection | The Learning Collaborative |
| Charlotte Pride | Healing Hands of Joy | Parkinson Association of the Carolinas | The Paula Takacs Foundation for Sarcoma Research |
| Charlotte Rescue Mission | Heart Math Tutoring | Playing for Others | UMAR |
| Charlotte-Mecklenburg Housing Partnership | Hinds' Feet Farm | | Veterans Bridge Home |
| Child Care Resources Inc. | Hope Haven | | Women Initiating and Nurturing Growth through Scholarships (WINGS) |
| | Hope House Foundation | | Young Black Leadership Alliance |

554

Volunteer Hours

\$192,000

Total Value Delivered

Thank You To Our 2020 Community Impact Breakfast Sponsors



Apparo's Community Impact Breakfast typically convenes 300+ local leaders, CIOs, volunteers, and change-makers like you who are committed to improving the future of Charlotte's nonprofit sector. This annual tradition heightens awareness of the technology needs of Charlotte's nonprofits, and the power of their success thanks to volunteers from Apparo's corporate partners. It has always been open to anyone with a passion for service and our community.

Presenting Sponsor


accenture

Supporting Sponsors



This year, we're broadening our reach and **AMPing** up our support base through **Apparo Multiplier Parties**. From small in-person outdoor gatherings to large virtual social events, our biggest advocates will host inspiring, entertaining and interactive educational events to fulfill our original Community Impact Breakfast goals of raising awareness of Apparo's impact and support for our mission.

Interested in hosting? Want to snag an invite?
Email development@apparo.org

Continue the Impact



[Volunteer](#)

[Donate](#)

[Sponsor](#)

[Shop](#)

[Subscribe](#)

Connect with Us!

 @ApparoCLT

 @ApparoCLT

 @ApparoCLT

 @ApparoCLT

 Apparo - Technology Solutions
for Nonprofits

 Apparo [BLOG](#)





Did you know?

Cows have best friends and are happier when they're with them.

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!

