The CTA Foundation drives forward the discourse on technology benefiting older adults and people with disabilities through our work with industry, nonprofits, and other key stakeholders. The COVID-19 pandemic has reinforced the importance of our work, including our focus on social isolation, independent living, and employment as areas where technology can create accessibility for us all to live, work and play successfully.

In 2022, we are celebrating the tenth anniversary of the public launch of the CTA Foundation. It is an excellent opportunity to reflect on the difference we made through our grants, programs and other activities. Thousands of people across the United States used innovative technology to improve their lives thanks to our grantmaking. Together, with industry partners, we have elevated the conversation within the industry about aging and accessibility. This has led to an increase in philanthropy and advocacy for the inclusion of technology as a vital tool in delivering services provided to older adults and people with disabilities.

We have changed lives. But there are still many more out there to serve. That is why, for our tenth anniversary the CTA Foundation is excited to launch new programs and build more partnerships to keep pushing to the forefront the ability technology has to change lives for our most vulnerable community members. The Board of Trustees adopted a new strategic plan which focuses our efforts on convening more partners to move forward the conversation, continuing to drive innovation, and investing in funding through our grantmaking to direct service nonprofits.

Thank you for your interest in the CTA Foundation. We look forward to highlighting the good stories that come from the technology world. Together, we can enable even more people to use tech to thrive independently in our second decade.

Sincerely,

Gary Yacoubian
Chair

Stephen Ewell
Executive Director
INDIVIDUAL SUPPORTERS

Your support allows us to bring technology solutions to those in need, and give them freedom, independence, purpose and most importantly, vital connection.

Kailey Adametz, CTA
Michelle Brickwedde, CTA
Lori Bruss, CTA
Scott Burnett, IBM
Gabrielle Chavez, CTA
Lee Cheng, Symmetry IP
Henry Chiarelli, Chiarelli & Associates
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Tyler Suiters, CTA
Angela Titone, CTA
Nicole Vidovich-Parker, CTA
David Wilson, CTA
Gary and Silvia Yacoubian, Specialty Technologies/SVS
Natalie and Andrew Zundel

As well as our anonymous contributors.
Thank you to the following sponsors for their support of the CTA Foundation and for the philanthropic work they do in their communities. These companies are making a difference and creating positive change in the world.
KEEPING THE MISSION ALIVE

The pandemic put a lot of things on pause, but the CTA Foundation’s Board of Trustees were still hard at work conducting Zoom meetings, working with grant recipients, collaborating on new technological solutions, and pushing the Foundation’s mission forward. Many of the CTA Foundation Trustees, past and present, attended in November the Consumer Technology Hall of Fame Ceremony in New York, where the CTA Foundation announced the inaugural winner of the John and Jane Shalam Award to Combat Social Isolation.
STATE OF THE FOUNDATION 2021

This Fall, the CTA Foundation hosted our first State of Foundation virtual meeting where CTA Foundation Executive Director, Stephen Ewell, alongside our volunteer leaders and select grantees, highlighted how our donors philanthropic support over the last year has brought independence and accessibility to older adults and people with disabilities.
Accessible technology is featured across CES but the LVCC will highlight Accessibility Tech in the Accessibility Marketplace. Accessibility tech features assistive technologies that enable users to live, work and play independently. Some traditional assistive technologies include screen readers, eye gaze controllers and hearing aids, but those are just a few of the technologies we look forward to seeing at CES 2022.

CTA Foundation is bringing the CES Pitch Competition sponsored by AARP Innovation Labs back live at CES 2022 in Eureka Park. 8 startups have been selected to pitch their technology solutions responding to the challenge “As people want to age in place, how can new, disruptive solutions help homes become smarter, safer, accessible, and fun, at any age?”

5 Startups companies have been selected to showcase their innovative technologies that enhance the lives of older adults and people with disabilities. The Eureka Park Accessibility Winners will exhibit their technologies in Eureka Park. at CES.

Leaders from the tech industry and disability advocacy organizations are coming together CES 2022 for the Accessibility Roundtable. This roundtable provides an opportunity to share opportunities and challenges and build stronger relationships between the organizations participating.
CTA FOUNDATION GRANT RECIPIENTS 2021

CTA Foundation currently supports 18 organizations through grant contributions towards programs that improve the lives of seniors and people with disabilities. Learn more about our grant recipients and the programs your donations help support.
Gaining digital literacy is one effective way to combat social isolation. Using technology to communicate with individuals, provide entertainment and perform daily tasks can help to bring people closer. Many of our grantee organizations provide free or discounted services where older adults and people with disabilities can gain knowledge and training with tech that is useful in their everyday lives.
The John and Jane Shalam Award (“Shalam Award”) honors John and Jane Shalam for their contributions to the consumer technology industry, CTA and the CTA Foundation. Mr. Shalam is the founding chair of the CTA Foundation and assisted the Board in setting our mission and building it to help many people facing social isolation challenges. We want this award to not only acknowledge all of the work that he has done but recognize organizations that are striving to help combat this very issue.

Selfhelp Community Services was announced as the inaugural winner of the John and Jane Shalam Award to Combat Social Isolation on November 11th, 2021 at the Consumer Technology Hall of Fame Dinner in New York. Stuart Kaplan, CEO of Selfhelp Community Services accepted the award on the company’s behalf.
According to a recent CTA publication, "Accenture estimated that the gaming industry gained half a billion players during the last three years. Based on recent research, player growth and more at-home time during the pandemic ignited the demand for games."

AbleGamers, CTA Foundation grantee, uses gaming to connect to others and combat any isolation. Read more on their amazing mission and what they are doing to achieve it.
TECHNOLOGY RESOURCE SAVES LIVES: GRANTEE

Code of Support, CTA Foundation grantee uses their digital platform to provide one-on-one support for veterans, their families and their caregivers. Read more on how this platform has become a reliable resource and saved lives.

According to Code of Support, “more than a third of our 20 million veterans are struggling. More than 50,000 are homeless. 20 die by suicide every day.” Our grant recipient, Code of Support, supports military personal, veterans and their caregivers by providing digital resources that helps those in need navigate and access critical services with one-on-one support.
This year's Giving Tuesday we challenged our supporters and the consumer technology community to help us turn the global day of generosity, #GivingTuesday, into a day that showcases technology's ability to impact lives - making the day #GivingTechday.

THE TECH WAY OF GIVING: #TECHGIVES

Thank you to the individuals that shared #TechGives stories, and the 24 individuals who generated $8,560 in funding to turn #GivingTuesday into #GivingTechday!
KAREN RILEY-MAIDEN, TRAINEE TO TEACHER

Community Tech Network, CTA Foundation grantee, has developed several programs that provide older adults with a tablet or laptop, assistance with getting internet and one-on-one remote training. Read more on how this platform has become a reliable resource and saved lives.

Karen Riley-Maiden, was a Senior Connect learner in Central Texas. The program was able to help her stay up to date with the digital world. The tablet she was gifted gives her the ability to access her favorite tools and applications, connect virtually with family, order her prescriptions online and conduct her doctor’s appointments via telemedicine. Karen was able to master the curriculum and has become a Senior Connect Instructor teaching other senior learners how to navigate the internet.
SMART HOME SOLUTIONS FOR DEAF-BLIND: GRANTEE

Helen Keller, CTA Foundation grantee, has developed a course that provide older adults with combined hearing and vision loss, assistance with better understanding adaptive technologies for the home. Read more on how this platform has become a reliable resource and saved lives.

Stacey Sullivan, Coordinator of Professional Learning at HKNC, stated that “Typically, if someone is losing their hearing, they will compensate for the loss by relying on their vision and vice versa, if someone is losing their vision, they will typically compensate by relying on their vision. However, if a person is experiencing loss of both hearing and vision the strategies, techniques and tools need to be unique.
LiveFreely, a CTA Member company, provides an innovative digital health solution called BUDDY. During the Pandemic, LiveFreely decided to give back and become a vaccine provider in their community. We would like to shine a spotlight on all the work they are doing to link seniors with technology and help their community.
The CTA Foundation mission is to power lives by bringing technology to those most in need — older adults and people with disabilities. Please join us in making a difference and promoting a positive change. With your support, we are touching thousands of Americans with technology, making the world a more accessible place.

SUPPORT THE CTA FOUNDATION

Become a philanthropic leader and help the CTA Foundation help older adults and people with disabilities

- Visit SupportCTAF.org to give online or get information on send stocks or checks
- Shop at smile.Amazon.com and select the CTA Foundation to give 0.5% of your shopping at no cost to you.
- Contact us for information on how to set up donations through your payroll
- Follow CTA Foundation on our social media platforms where we share highlights news items and topics related to our mission (see below)

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