



## Microsoft in Washington State

As one of Washington State's largest employers, providing more than 50,000 jobs, Microsoft has for decades worked to enhance economic growth for all, create new opportunities for more individuals to participate in that growth, and protect and improve the quality of life enjoyed by Washington residents.

### COVID-19 RESPONSE

#### Maintaining Employee Pay

In March 2020, Microsoft announced that it would continue to pay hourly service providers on its campuses their regular pay even while their full services were not needed. The commitment created a financial safety net for over 4,500 hourly employees at Microsoft, many of whom work in Washington state. Since that time, Microsoft has spent more than \$110 million in Washington state to pay these wages, and in December 2020, Microsoft announced that it would continue to support hourly workers impacted by COVID-19 in 2021.

#### PPE

On March 22, 2020, Microsoft made its first donation to support hospitals in Washington that were strained by an influx of COVID-19 patients: 5 pallets of medical supplies, including 15,000 goggles, 850 medical caps, 850 protective suits, and 120 infrared thermometers. A shipment of 240,000 medical masks soon followed. Microsoft has continued to leverage its supply chains around the world to procure more masks, goggles, and other desperately needed equipment to support medical professionals around Washington state.

In addition, Microsoft has committed to donating PPE and cleaning supplies to help any school district in Washington state that needs additional supplies to re-open safely.

#### Donations to Community Partners

Since March, Microsoft has provided more than \$98 million of assistance to nonprofits in Washington state, including roughly \$67 million in cash and \$31 million in technology, in-kind support special discounts and its COVID-19 response school lunch program. In December 2020, Microsoft announced that it will sustain this level of support for nonprofits into 2021, include ongoing cash grants and in-kind support. This will provide roughly \$60 million of additional support for local nonprofits between Dec. 1, 2020 and Jul. 15, 2021.

#### Meals

When COVID-19 began to shut down schools, community centers, and other sources of community support, Microsoft launched a volunteer-driven campaign to repurpose Microsoft's food for community distribution, primarily in Washington state. The team produced over 6,000 meals per day with the help of a Microsoft dietician, which were donated to organizations like the Boys and Girls Club, YMCA, Hopelink and Northwest Harvest.

#### Schools

In December 2020, Microsoft committed to several new steps that will help Washington State schools reopen safely in

2021:

- Provide free technology solutions to all Washington state school districts that enable schools to better track and report COVID-19 testing data within their district boundaries.
- Donate PPE and cleaning supplies to schools that need additional resources to reopen safely.
- Support for the Washington Department of Health's updated COVID-19 guidelines for in-person learning, announced by Governor Inslee on December 16, 2020.
- Support prioritizing vaccines for teachers, following the vaccination of critical healthcare workers and others who are especially vulnerable.

### **Additional Responses**

In addition to the programs and initiatives detailed above, Microsoft has taken action to address other areas of need for Washington state, including leveraging its Azure capabilities to launch a virtual HealthCare Bot, which quickly assesses the symptoms and risk factors for people worried about infection, provides medically accurate information, and suggests next steps.

### **SOCIAL AND RACIAL JUSTICE**

In June 2020, Microsoft CEO Satya Nadella announced Microsoft's commitment to racial justice, including three pillars that are designed to support the Black and African American community in the United States:

- Increasing Microsoft's representation and culture of inclusion.
- Engaging Microsoft's ecosystem, supply chain, and partnerships to extend the vision of social change.
- Strengthening Microsoft's communities using the power of data, technology, and innovative partnerships.

In Washington state, Microsoft has supported legislative action to fund Washington state's Criminal Justice Training Center, which works to improve situational de-escalation capabilities and build stronger trust between law enforcement and communities. Microsoft also supported this mission in 2018 and 2019 through a \$400,000 investment to pilot the Center's 21<sup>st</sup> Century Police Leadership program.

### **NEXT GENERATION WASHINGTON**

Each year, Microsoft supports a balanced legislative agenda that takes a comprehensive approach to enhance economic growth, create new opportunities for more individuals to participate in that growth, and protect and improve the quality of life enjoyed by Washington residents.

Our priorities for the 2021 legislative session can be found [here](#), outlining the progress Washington made and what key areas will need to be addressed next session.

### **EDUCATION**

#### **Washington State Opportunity Scholarship**

The Washington State Opportunity Scholarship is a first-of-its-kind, public-private scholarship that supports Washington students from low- and middle-income households to attain bachelor's degrees in high-demand fields including science, technology, engineering, math (STEM) and health care through scholarships.

- Microsoft worked with others to help create WSOS and to date has donated \$35 million to the organization.
- More than 6,700 students have received support from WSOS. 61% are women, 64% are students of color and 65% are first-generation college students.
- 81% of WSOS graduates remain in Washington state.
- In 2018, at the urging of Microsoft and other WSOS supporters, the legislature authorized expansion of scholarship eligibility to include students intending to pursue degrees and certificate programs at the state's 34 community and technical colleges.

#### **Washington STEM**

Microsoft helped co-found and continues to support Washington STEM, an extremely effective statewide network of business and education professionals.

- In 2018, The Washington state legislature allocated \$12.5 million in the capital budget, via Washington STEM, to deliver the tools teachers and students need to develop leading-edge STEM skills.
- Since 2010, Microsoft has donated over \$16.25M to the organization.

### **Global Innovation Exchange**

The Global Innovation Exchange (GIX) is an academic institute established by the University of Washington and Tsinghua University in Bellevue. In 2015, Microsoft donated \$40 million toward the Global Innovation Exchange; a tech- focused graduate school and first physical presence of a Chinese university in the U.S.

- Last September, GIX opened its new state of the art building, named after former Microsoft CEO Steve Ballmer.
- In 2017, University of British Columbia announced its academic partnership with GIX – one of 8 Academic Network Members.
- The first cohort of students graduated in December 2018.
- By 2025, GIX has the potential to educate 3,000 students.

### **Workforce Education Investment Act**

Funded by an increase in business taxes for Microsoft and other employers who are heavy users of the higher education system, the 2019 Workforce Education Investment Act marks a major step toward offering free and reduced college tuition for Washington students.

- This represents a \$1.5 billion commitment to educating and training Washington workers for Washington jobs over the next six years. It is projected to provide, on average, \$190 million in its first two years.
- Historically, higher education has sustained significantly larger cuts than K-12 schools, criminal justice, and other general fund spending categories during economic downturns. By establishing a dedicated fund, the bill reduces the potential impact of general fund budget cuts.

### **University of Washington Computer Science and Engineering School**

- In 2017, Microsoft donated \$10 million to the Paul G. Allen Center for Computer Science and Engineering.
- In 2015, Microsoft donated \$10M to what is now the Bill & Melinda Gates Center for Computer Science & Engineering (CSE). The new CSE building opened in 2019, expanding the space of the University of Washington's CSE program, allowing increased enrollment to educate more students for Washington's high-impact jobs.



### **Seattle University Center for Science and Innovation**

In January 2019, Microsoft made a \$3 million gift to Seattle University's Center for Science and Innovation and related academic programming dedicated to examining the ethical implications of artificial intelligence.

### **Technology Education and Literacy in Schools (TEALS)**

Microsoft TEALS puts technology professionals from across the technology industry into classrooms to team-teach computer science with classroom teachers. Through TEALS, technology professionals share their knowledge with teachers while students benefit from learning how computer science and its applications in the workplace. Students need to develop leading-edge STEM skills.

- TEALS is now in 66 schools (80 classrooms) in Washington state.
- The program started in Washington state and continues to rapidly expand across the U.S., impacting thousands of schoolteachers and students.

- Now in its 11<sup>th</sup> year, TEALS operates in 27 states, Washington, D.C., and British Columbia. It is comprised of 500 volunteers from over 650 companies, serving 12,000 students. Since its founding in 2009, TEALS has served over 85,000 students.

## ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

### Microsoft Affordable Housing Initiative

In January 2019, [Microsoft committed](#) \$500 million to advance affordable housing solutions in the Puget Sound region, divided between philanthropic grants, loans for middle-income housing, and loans for low-income housing. These funds are being distributed to key housing organizations that maximize community involvement and accelerate impact.

In January 2020, Microsoft invested an additional \$250 million into affordable housing as a line of credit to the Washington State Housing Finance Commission (WSHFC). In November 2020, the company continued its work with the WSHFC, providing \$25 million to expand a land acquisition program that accelerates the development of new affordable housing, and \$65 million to lower rents on over 1,000 housing units in the Puget Sound region. With this additional investment, Microsoft has successfully committed \$450 million of its total \$750 million commitment, which will support the preservation or creation of over 8,000 affordable housing units.

- Projects and grants announced include:
  - **Urban Housing Ventures:** \$40 million to reduce rents in existing market-rate housing in Bellevue and Kirkland, Washington (will create approximately 1,000 units).
  - **Evergreen Housing Impact Fund:** \$50 million investment for low-income housing on the Eastside (will create approximately 1,250 units).
  - **HomeSight:** \$2.5 million philanthropic grant to support a new community-based, affordable housing project at Othello Square (will create approximately 192 units).
  - **Rise Together:** \$2.5 million philanthropic grant to support low-income units in Central District, Capitol Hill, and White Center (will create approximately 400 units).
  - **King County Housing Authority:** \$60 million loan at below-market rates to finance acquisition of five middle-income residential apartment complexes in Kirkland, Bellevue, and Federal Way (approximately 1,029 units).
  - **Plymouth Housing:** \$5 million philanthropic grant to build permanent supportive housing for the chronically homeless (approximately 800 units).
  - **United Way of King County's HomeBase Program:** \$5 million philanthropic grant focused on eviction prevention.
  - **King County regional homelessness authority:** \$5 million in philanthropic support for programmatic focus areas.

### Microsoft TechSpark

Through our TechSpark initiative, Microsoft partners with nonprofit and for-profit organizations in communities across the U.S. to foster innovation and job growth in local communities. The initiative focuses on five areas: digital transformation for businesses, support for nonprofits, broadband access, computer science education for youth, and career pathways for adults of all ages.

- The North Central Basin of Washington—including Okanogan, Chelan, Douglas and Grant counties—is home to TechSpark Washington.
- The initiative works with nonprofit partners like GWATA to bring free online training resources to the area, and through the Apple STEM Network, we've developed computer science pathways to higher education for local students. We've also brought DigiGirlz programming to the region and leverage our partnerships with nonprofits like Code.org, Girls Who Code, 4-H, and FFA to empower students in the North Central Basin to learn computer science and digital skills so they can pursue good paying jobs, grow the economy, and strengthen their communities.

- As TechSpark progresses, Microsoft looks forward to announcing more partnerships and investments that will help advance economic opportunity in the North Central Basin.

### Microsoft Airband Initiative

Microsoft's [Airband Initiative](#) aims to close the broadband gap and bring access to affordable high-speed internet connectivity to unconnected communities around the world.

- In the United States, the goal of the Airband Initiative is to extend broadband access to at least 3 million people in underserved or unserved areas by July 2022. Internationally, it aims to extend internet connectivity to at least 40 million underserved or unserved people by the same deadline.
- Microsoft is deeply committed to expanding access to permanent broadband solutions to the people of Washington state. To do this, Microsoft partners with internet service providers Declaration Network Group and Native Network to deliver broadband to rural parts of the state.
- To help address the connectivity crisis exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic, Microsoft has helped set up hundreds of Wi-Fi hotspots and other wireless connectivity equipment throughout Washington state in collaboration with organizations such as the Washington State Department of Commerce, Washington State University, the Avista Foundation and the Public Libraries Association.

### CASCADIA



Launched in September 2016, the Cascadia Innovation Corridor is built upon a shared spirit of creativity, innovation and entrepreneurship.

- Governments, universities, research institutions and companies, including Microsoft, have joined together to tap the potential of the Cascadia region to create new and exciting economic opportunities while celebrating cultural diversity and inclusion.
- By focusing on research, economic development and transportation, the Cascadia Innovation Corridor is enhancing greater connectivity, productivity and innovation for people living in British Columbia, Washington state and Oregon.

### High Speed Rail

High-speed rail linking Portland, Seattle and Vancouver is a critical piece of infrastructure for the Cascadia Innovation Corridor that will open the door for stronger working relationships and collaboration throughout the region.

- In December 2020, Washington Department of Transportation (WSDOT) published the 2020 Framework of the Future report outlining the next steps government entities need to take to make high speed rail in the Cascadia corridor a reality.
- In 2019, the Province of British Columbia, State of Oregon and Washington State, committed funds to advance the report.
- Microsoft was an early supporter of the project and committed \$223,000 to the study at the 2019 Cascadia Innovation Corridor Conference, providing the last portion of funding to get the study underway.

### Commitment to Vancouver BC and Canada

In June of 2016, we announced together with all levels of government the opening of Microsoft Vancouver, which will generate more than 750 well-paying jobs.

- In February 2017, Microsoft donated \$1 million toward a Cascadia Urban Analytics



Cooperative between University of British Columbia and University of Washington.

- Microsoft supported the launch of a Seaplane Service in April 2018, reducing travel time between Seattle and Vancouver to one hour.
- Microsoft is a founding member of the BC-led Canadian Digital Supercluster consortium with a focus on AR/VR. In February of 2018, the consortium was named a funding recipient in the Canadian federal government's Supercluster Initiative.
- In November 2017, Microsoft announced it will add 50 new jobs that specialize in AR/MR/VR. According to a recent Deloitte study, the global AR/VR market is expected to be \$150B by 2025.

## AT HOME

### Employee Giving

In 2019, U.S. employees donated \$181 million, inclusive of company match, to a diverse group of more than 23,500 nonprofits and schools including several in Washington state like United Way of King County, University of Washington, Seattle Children's Hospital, Hopelink, Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, Humane Society for Seattle-King County and Northwest Harvest.

Microsoft's employee giving program recently achieved a new milestone of \$2 billion raised by its employees since the program began in 1983.

In 2019, 77% of US employees donated their time and money to nonprofits.

### Redmond Campus

- As part of our ongoing commitment to our employees and the community, we recently announced a significant initiative to modernize our Redmond campus encompassing 17 new buildings and 2.5 million square feet of new workspace. Combined with prior modernization projects, we will renovate a total of 6.7 million square feet of workspace and invest in significant transportation infrastructure improvements.
- Microsoft provides more than 50,000 jobs in Washington state. Microsoft is one of the largest employers in Washington state and our Washington-based employees account for more than one-third of Microsoft's workforce.
- Microsoft's corporate headquarters are located in Redmond, Washington, where we have 500 acres of land for our campus and over 100 buildings in the Puget Sound region.
- The Redmond campus has approximately 15 million square feet of office space and labs located in King County, Washington that is used for engineering, sales, marketing, and operations, among other general and administrative purposes.

