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Valley Telephone Cooperative Foundation Awards \$138,000 in Scholarships and over \$94,000 in Covid Relief to Support Education

Willcox, AZ, May 2021 – Valley Telephone Cooperative Foundation is proud to announce that 46 scholarships of \$3,000 each have been awarded to students across Valley's serving territory in Arizona and New Mexico totaling \$138,000. The scholarship monies will be distributed for the upcoming 2021-2022 school year to provide support to students pursuing their higher education goals.

Valley Telephone Cooperative's Board President, David Thompson said "We believe that supporting these students in furthering their education is what gives back to our community and we are so pleased to be able to invest in their future through higher education." Since 2003, the foundation has awarded over \$1.5 million in scholarships to worthy students and this year's recipients were recognized during Valley Telephone Cooperative's Virtual Annual Meeting on May 1, 2021.

The Valley Telephone Cooperative Foundation donated a total of \$94,000 which was distributed between 10 school districts within their serving area. These donated funds were used to purchase laptops and tablets to support at-home student learning during the height of COVID-19. In addition, to further assist families during the pandemic, Valley created the DASH (Discounted Access for Student Homework) program, which provided discounted Internet service to families in need.

About Valley Telephone Cooperative

Valley Telephone Cooperative has been serving communities in southern Arizona and New Mexico, since 1962, providing high speed Internet, local phone, long distance and business solutions. The company has stayed true to their core principles of service, community, and innovation for over 50 years. Learn more at <http://www.vtc.net> to see how local businesses and residents utilize Valley services.

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