

**To our community:**

COVID-19 is a serious challenge that is having a physical, emotional, and economic impact on just about everyone; it does not discriminate. However, we do know that these impacts will be felt harder by some in society more than others.

How the impact is felt in our community

As you know, we serve predominantly low-income Latinx youth and their families in Watsonville and Salinas, some of the most under-resourced communities. Consequently, our members are some of the most vulnerable to the immediate impacts of the virus, as well as the ripple effects to come.

How we can help

We believe our mission is too important to be put on hold. We must continue our work to empower, inspire, and educate our youth and support them in acquiring highly-adaptive technical and essential skills necessary to compete in the ever-changing workforce. To do so, we've moved our technical and soft skill instruction online, while simultaneously doing outreach to our members and their families to ensure that they have the technology and other resources they need to continue building a better life for themselves in this critical time.

Digital NEST is not only here to continue our technical training — we're here to continue to be the welcoming place where so many hundreds of youth in our communities turn to daily for stability, hope, and a familiar place to turn for inspiration, learning, and community.

How we can work together for greater impact

As we've all seen, things are changing rapidly as we learn more about the virus and its unimaginable effects. What's not changing is our commitment to serving the youth of our community. Period. We will change our approach and adapt as necessary, but we will always remain committed to our mission. We ask for your commitment to join us, as you've done before, to support our community together; to minimize the damage this pandemic and the subsequent fall-out will have on our most vulnerable youth.

We look forward to gathering together, once again, at the NEST. But for now, we can still work hand-in-virtual-hand to build a better future for the people we love and the communities we serve. Please join us. Donate now. No gift is too small.

Thank you,

**From all of us.**