United Hmong American Association Supports Hmong Youth Affected by the Digital Divide with a \$10,000 Grant from AT&T Foundation

Grant will support academic programs, digital literacy and computer access for Hmong youth in Appleton through the Academic Support Achievement Program

APPLETON, Oct. 27, 2022 – As part of AT&T's <u>nationwide commitment</u> to help bridge the digital divide, the AT&T Foundation is granting \$10,000 to United Hmong American Association (UHAA) to support academic programs, digital literacy and computer access for Hmong youth in the Appleton community.

The AT&T Foundation grant will support UHAA's Academic Support Achievement Program, which provides computer and digital literacy resources and academic programs for Hmong youth in Appleton. Hmong students who may not have a device or internet connection at home receive academic support, digital literacy training, tutoring and more to help prepare them for success in school and life.

UHAA is working to help bridge digital divide gaps by providing computer access, tutoring, digital technology skills and training for both students and parents, and STEM programming for Hmong youth in need in the community.

"Our mission is to empower Hmong youth to become successful, contributing members of their community," said Dr. Thai Xiong, Vice President of the UHAA Board. "In our technological age, that includes providing access to the digital skills and resources Hmong youth need for academic success, as many Hmong families do not have a computer at home. We are grateful to receive support from the AT&T Foundation to further our mission."

"We believe all Americans, especially our youth, should be connected to the future, regardless of income or zip code," said Paul Weirtz, State President of AT&T Wisconsin. "The AT&T Foundation is proud to support the efforts of the United Hmong American Association to help close the digital divide for Hmong youth in the Appleton community who need extra help to navigate and succeed in our digital world."

<u>United Hmong American Association</u> is a nonprofit comprised of local dedicated volunteers with a passion for serving Hmong youth. UHAA works to present career opportunities to Hmong youth, promote the path of higher education, and process access to resources for Hmong youth to succeed academically and pursue higher education.

These efforts are part of AT&T's <u>\$2 billion commitment</u> from 2021-2023 to help bridge the digital divide through investments in digital literacy tools, education resources, broadband technology, low-cost internet service, and computers. AT&T is committed to connecting more

Americans to reliable, high-quality internet in several ways, including expanding and upgrading our network and <u>participating in the federal Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP)</u>.

About Philanthropy & Social Innovation at AT&T

We're committed to advancing education, creating opportunities, strengthening communities and improving lives. As part of our company-wide \$2 billion commitment from 2021-2023 to address the digital divide, we launched AT&T Connected Learning to invest in connectivity, technology, digital literacy and education solutions to help today's learners succeed inside and outside of the classroom. Since 2008, we've committed more than \$600 million to programs that help millions of students across all 50 states and around the world, part