



# **DALLAS MAVERICKS**

## PRESS RELEASE

### **DALLAS MAVERICKS GIFT RENOVATED COMPUTER LAB TO NORTH TEXAS HOMELESS SHELTER**

*Mavs Foundation virtually unveils state-of-the-art computer lab at Arlington Life Shelter*

**JULY 22, 2020 (DALLAS, TX)** - The **Mavs Foundation** has completed renovation on what is now known as the **Mavs Computer Lab** at Arlington Life Shelter, the 45<sup>th</sup> learn and play space donated by the Foundation since 1996. A technological boost was given to the homeless shelter that over 25,000 homeless men, women and children have sought refuge at over the past 33 years. The Mavericks hope to assist in leading a path to self-sufficiency by partnering with Arlington Life Shelter in this way. The renovation is part of a larger \$5 million Arlington Life Shelter project unveiled in June. The new 12,000 square foot, two-story facility features expanded space and additional services to families challenged by homelessness, as well as a contemporary design to promote an atmosphere of dignity, inspiration, safety and hope.

The revamped Computer Lab will provide residents with technology to work and improve on career and life skills during their stay. In the computer lab, residents will find brand-new desktop computers, headphones, desks, chairs and other digital gadgets. With these resources, residents are given the opportunity to work on their resumes and other tools that can help with potential career and overall life goals. There is also a 14 ft. mural featured on one of the lab's walls that represents the mission and vision of Arlington Life Shelter, to promote self-sufficiency for North Texans impacted by homelessness.

"The mural in the new lab says 'Learn from yesterday. Live for today. Hope in tomorrow'," **SVP of External Affairs and President of Mavs Foundation Katie Edwards** said. "We hope this space provides much needed technology to take steps towards 'A New Day. A New Home. A New Life.' But that it also provides hope and encouragement as we walk beside them in that journey."

Along with the updated technology and furniture, the pristine computer lab will include sanitation stations, supplies and other personal protective equipment (PPE). The Mavericks recognize and appreciate the endless hours of dedication the case managers, resident assistants and other front-line workers continue to put into the homeless shelter and its residents. This PPE has been put in place to further serve the community and slow the spread of COVID-19.

Media is invited to attend a virtual press conference with Mavs Foundation and Arlington Life Shelter VIPs on **Thursday, July 23 at 10 a.m. CST**. VIPs attending include **Katie Edwards, Senior Vice President of External Affairs and President of Mavs Foundation, Megan Waguespack, COO of Operations and Client Services at Arlington Life Shelter** and **Jim Reeder, Executive Director at Arlington Life Shelter**.

**WHAT:** Mavs Computer Lab Virtual Press Conference

**WHEN:** Thursday, July 23 at 10 a.m. CST

**WHERE:** ZOOM

**MEDIA:** To attend the zoom session, please RSVP to Paige Vasquez at [paige.vasquez@dallasmavs.com](mailto:paige.vasquez@dallasmavs.com) for the link.

*\*High resolution images and b-roll of the new Mavs Foundation Computer Lab can be found [here](#) for editorial use.*

**ABOUT ARLINGTON LIFE SHELTER:** Established in 1987, Arlington Life Shelter provides short-term shelter and support services for homeless men, women, and children in North Texas. As the only homeless shelter between Fort Worth and Dallas, Arlington Life Shelter works to help its homeless neighbors integrate back into society and become contributors to the economy. Arlington Life Shelter envisions a community where all individuals, families, and children affected by homelessness have access to the services and support necessary to restore ability and achieve personalized success.

**ABOUT THE MAVS FOUNDATION:** Over the past 24 years, the Mavs Foundation has provided grant funding totaling more than \$5 million dollars to nonprofit organizations serving women, children and families in need. In addition to grants, the Mavs Foundation has built 45 safe Learn & Play spaces throughout the North Texas community, including 26 basketball courts and 19 Reading & Learning Centers. These spaces are designed to encourage healthy living and provide a safe place for children and residents, as well as expand learning opportunities and access to technology to support youth education programs, teen and adults job-skill training and other critical programs. Learn more at [MavsFoundation.com](http://MavsFoundation.com).

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