



NEWSLETTER

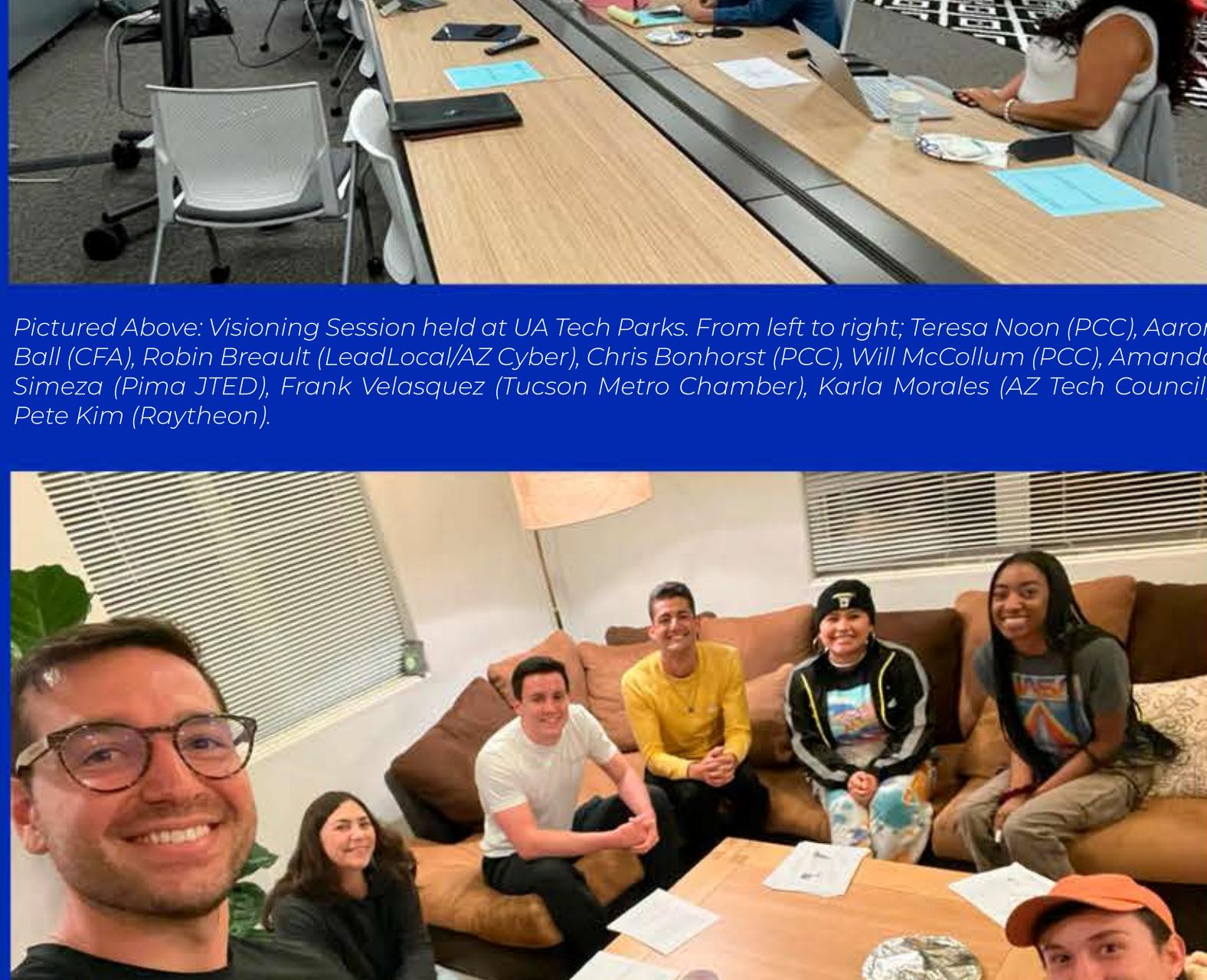
GRANT OVERVIEW

JFF & Google.org funded AZ Cyber as part of an initiative to test innovative regional approaches that diversify and grow digital jobs pathways. AZ Cyber is looking specifically at how this can happen along the I-19 corridor. Other efforts of this nature are also happening in Southern AZ, and we see this planning grant as a complement to that work.

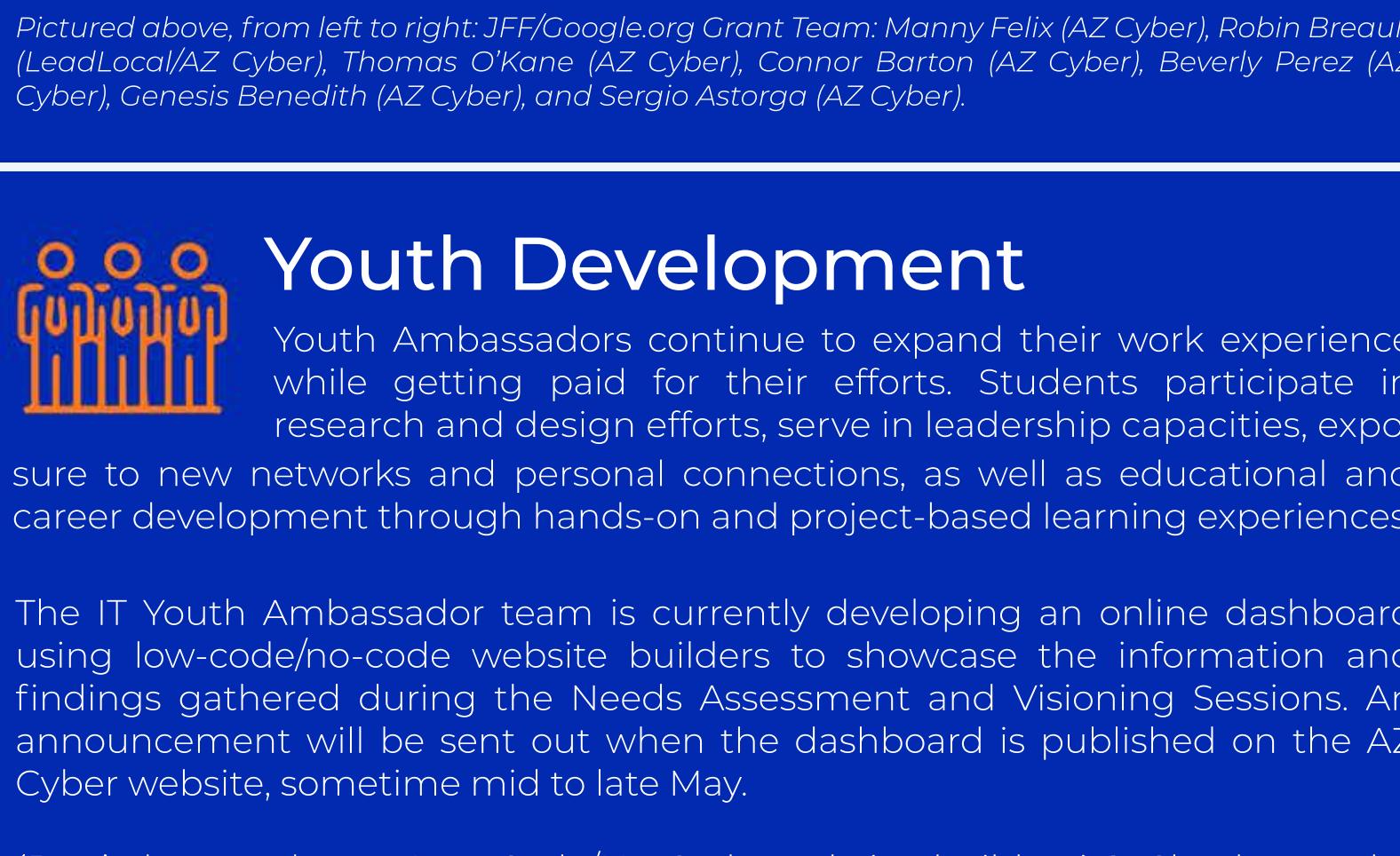


Visioning Sessions

We hosted virtual and in-person Visioning Sessions where we share some of the information about digital jobs opportunities and challenges that we have learned about through our market research and from over 50 informational interviews that our team conducted with different stakeholders. We want to thank all our partners who attended the Visioning Sessions. Your feedback helps us better understand and learn about the digital market in Southern, AZ and set a vision for the digital jobs pathways we ultimately submit to JFF and Google.org as the final deliverable for this grant.



Pictured Above: Visioning Session held at UA Tech Parks. From left to right; Teresa Noon (PCC), Aaron Ball (CFA), Robin Breault (LeadLocal/AZ Cyber), Chris Bonhorst (PCC), Will McCollum (PCC), Amanda Simeza (Pima JTED), Frank Velasquez (Tucson Metro Chamber), Karla Morales (AZ Tech Council), Pete Kim (Raytheon).



Pictured above, from left to right: JFF/Google.org Grant Team: Manny Felix (AZ Cyber), Robin Breault (LeadLocal/AZ Cyber), Thomas O'Kane (AZ Cyber), Connor Barton (AZ Cyber), Beverly Perez (AZ Cyber), Genesis Benedith (AZ Cyber), and Sergio Astorga (AZ Cyber).



Youth Development

Youth Ambassadors continue to expand their work experience while getting paid for their efforts. Students participate in research and design efforts, serve in leadership capacities, exposure to new networks and personal connections, as well as educational and career development through hands-on and project-based learning experiences.

The IT Youth Ambassador team is currently developing an online dashboard using low-code/no-code website builders to showcase the information and findings gathered during the Needs Assessment and Visioning Sessions. An announcement will be sent out when the dashboard is published on the AZ Cyber website, sometime mid to late May.

(Don't know what a Low-Code/No-Code website builder is? Check out the following websites to learn more about what the IT Youth Ambassadors are creating: webflow.com and bubble.io).

NEXT STEPS



Prototyping Sessions

We will be hosting virtual sessions for Youth Ambassadors to prototype their ideas of the information collected throughout the planning grant. These workshops will provide Youth Ambassadors with the opportunity to create their own prototypes while thinking critically about what experiences would encourage them to explore and pursue digital jobs.

WANT TO PARTICIPATE? We welcome any partner or stakeholder that may be interested in attending any of the virtual Prototyping Sessions listed below. If interested, please email Manny Felix at mfelix@azcyber.org or Robin Breault at rbreault@azcyber.org to request meeting details:

Prototyping Session #1 on Tuesday, May 3rd from 6:00-7:30pm

Prototyping Session #2 on Thursday, May 5th from 4:30-6:00pm

Regards,

Manny

Founder & CEO, AZ Cyber Initiative



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