

2026 ANNUAL REPORT



EDUCATE | INNOVATE | EMPOWER



**KRAUSE CENTER
for INNOVATION**

FOOTHILL-DE ANZA COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear KCI Community and Supporters,

As we reflect on the 2025–2026 academic year, one truth stands out brighter than ever: **when you empower an educator, you transform the future for generations of students.**

At the Krause Center for Innovation (KCI) at Foothill-De Anza Community College District, this year has been defined by rapid innovation, deep human connection, and bold expansion. In a world where artificial intelligence, modern EdTech, and interdisciplinary STEAM methodologies are redefining education, KCI has been the steady compass for TK–12 educators across California.

Thanks to your generous investment, we haven't just helped teachers keep pace with change; we have equipped them to lead it.

2025–2026 Impact at a Glance

Together, we reached a monumental milestone this year: KCI has now supported more than 34,000+ educators across California since our inception.

This year marked a massive leap forward in our district partnerships. We took a deliberate, deep dive into AI integration alongside our core programming, reaching **7,414 educators across 83 unique school districts!** Delivered through flexible, hands-on cohort models, credit courses, and district-wide workshops, KCI met teachers where they were to deliver the most relevant, high-impact training in our history.



Key Breakthroughs & Strategic Initiatives

1. Pioneer Status in AI Literacy & Student Agency

Year 1 of our **Silicon Valley Artificial Intelligence Project (SVAIP)** targeted two AI Working Sessions and AI Capstone cohorts along with district-wide professional development; KCI spearheaded practical, ethical AI readiness for TK–12 classrooms.

- **Real-World AI Application:** We rolled out groundbreaking toolkits, including our 6-unit AI Capstone Program and step-by-step guides helping teachers build custom AI teaching assistants and student-led learning materials.
- **Expanding Regional Reach:** In partnership with the national organization AIEDU, we secured crucial grant funding to expand AI literacy directly into Central California school districts and two sovereign Native American Tribal Nations.
- **Research-Backed Pedagogy:** Collaborating with our research partner, WestEd, we recently published a research report on the impact of our work in AI, establishing evidence-based practices for AI in Pre-K–12 settings.
- **Ecosystem Collaborations:** We deepened our regional impact by joining forces with premier partners including *The Tech Interactive*, *the Synopsys Foundation*, *the Santa Clara County Office of Education (SCCOE)*, *RAFT*, *local school districts*, and the *Foothill College Apprenticeship Department*.

2. Modernizing Core Leadership & STEAM Programs

- **Flagship MERIT Leadership Redesign:** We redesigned and expanded our signature *Making Education Relevant and Interactive Through Technology (MERIT)* program. MERIT now directly equips active classroom teachers with the specialized technology-leadership capabilities that traditional district structures often lack the time or resources to provide.
- **STEAM Certificate & Leadership Programs:** We relaunched our immersive STEAM certificate programs, combining high-energy summer institutes with year-long hybrid coursework to foster a project-based, culturally responsive learning environment.
- **The KCI Makerspace:** Our physical campus hub continued to hum with energy, serving as a hands-on incubator where Foothill College students and regional educators developed critical competencies, from creative problem-solving and technical fluency to adaptive resilience.

Looking Ahead: Fueled by Your Support

None of these achievements happen in isolation. Grants, corporate sponsorships, and individual donor contributions power every educator trained, every student inspired, and every community transformed.

As we look toward the future, our mission is clear: to ensure that every educator, from the heart of Silicon Valley to the Central Valley, the 101 corridor, and beyond, has access to the tools and community they need to thrive.

Thank you for your partnership, your vision, and your belief in the power of education.

With gratitude,

L. Gay Krause
Gay Krause

Krause Center for Innovation, Foothill De-Anza Community College District



KCI's VISION & MISSION

VISION

Empowering TK-12 educators, elevating students, inspiring tomorrow. The Krause Center for Innovation connects Bay Area and California educators with the vision, technology, and community needed to spark meaningful, future-ready learning.

MISSION

We empower TK-12 educators to prepare students for an ever-evolving world through innovative teaching, emerging tech, and creative environments.

KCI NUMBERS TO DATE

34,000+

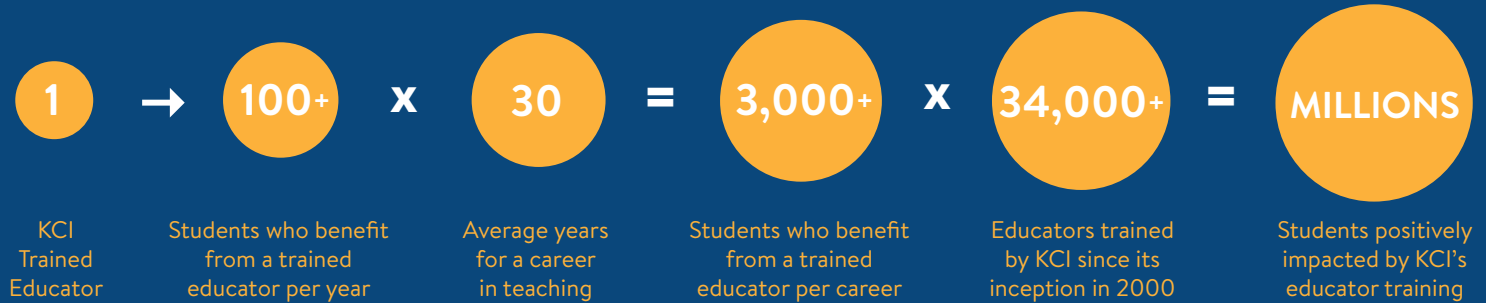
Educators Served
Since 2000

83

California State Certificates
Awarded in 2025-2026

7,414

Educators Served
in 2025-2026



To learn more about education statistics, visit the Zippia Career Report: <https://www.zippia.com/advice/teacher-statistics/>

At the KCI, we believe that investing in an educator creates a ripple effect across generations. Rooted in the Bay Area's culture of innovation and anchored by our partnership with the Foothill-De Anza Community College District, we equip California educators with future-ready tools, emerging technologies, and transformative training. As education rapidly evolves, we are expanding our statewide reach to ensure every classroom becomes an inspiring launcher for student success. Our goal is to improve student outcomes!

HERE'S WHAT SOME OF OUR ALUMNI HAVE TO SAY:

“KCI is the gold standard for teacher PD! Love that you get practitioners, not researchers, to lead these PDs.

“Looking back, the MERIT program has been transformative for both my professional growth and my students' learning. Integrating technology into my teaching has led to significant intellectual development for me. Critically, my students are flourishing; their most recent assessments show remarkable progress in their critical thinking abilities.

“AI Capstone was the most useful professional development I've done in years because it cut through the noise. I didn't just learn about tools; I was given the time to create a concrete plan to use them.

“This is the best course I have ever taken. As a teacher, I am intensely critical of course design, and this course blew me away in every way.



CA CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS @ KCI

The KCI is dedicated to empowering educators with innovative strategies to inspire, motivate, and challenge diverse learners, shaping the leaders of tomorrow. In partnership with the Foothill-De Anza Community College District, we offer the following state-recognized certificate programs for educators:

NEW PROGRAMS 2025-2026



MERIT Leadership Program

Making Education Relevant through Innovative Teaching, the leadership version. Personalized, job-embedded coaching to build tech expertise and support educators to drive meaningful change within their school community.



AI Empowered Educator Program

An asynchronous program designed to support educators in mastering the integration of adaptive learning, ethical application, and strategic leadership of TK-12 education (transitional kindergarten through grade 12).

EXISTING PROGRAMS



MERIT Program

Making Education Relevant through Innovative Teaching. Designed for current K-14 educators seeking to sharpen their skills in the pedagogy and field practice of technology integration or leadership as Technology Integration Specialists.



SPACE Program

Supporting Prototyping & Creativity in Education. Designed for current K-14 educators who are interested in pursuing a coordinating role in a makerspace and/or integrating a maker-mindset into their current instructional plan.



STEAM Leadership Program

Designed for current K-14 educators who seek to infuse classroom instruction with STEAM principles and content while also empowering learners to identify their diverse skills across science, technology, engineering, art, and math.



IDI Program (formerly the Online & Blended Impact Program)

Innovative Digital Instruction. Designed for current K-14 educators who teach online and blended classes or manage online and blended instructional programs.



AI Capstone Program

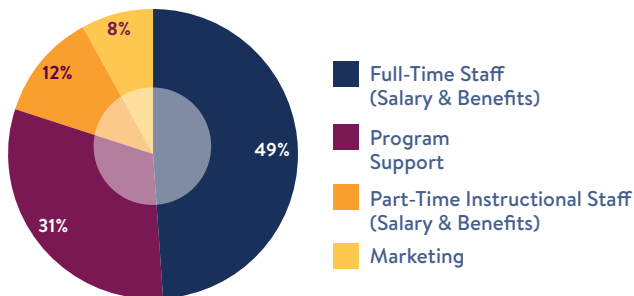
Harnessing the power of artificial intelligence to enhance teaching and learning. Blends foundational knowledge with practical, hands-on experience, equipping educators with the skills to implement AI tools effectively and responsibly in the classroom.

2025-2026 FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

The annual report identifies revenue to expenses in the fiscal year (FY) starting July 1, 2025 and ending June 30, 2026. In the Spring of 2025, the Krause Center for Innovation received a generous grant to support AI Literacy professional learning for 530 educators in the Bay Area during the 2025-2026 school year, and those grant funds were reported in the 2024-2025 annual report. The KCI exceeded that impact by providing direct professional learning to 800+ educators and multiplying those efforts to 6,000+ educators across California with AI Literacy professional learning. In total, the KCI impacted 7,000+ educators across all programs and workshops in 2025-2026, almost six times what is normally reported because of generous grant funders and the countless private donors and foundations that support the high-quality and impactful professional learning provided by the KCI. The KCI has secured additional funding for 2026-2027 to scale its AI work and is looking forward to communicating that in the near future.

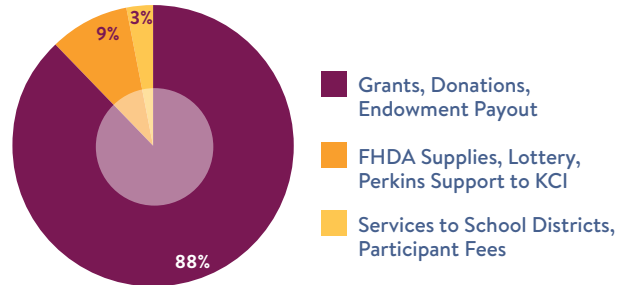
EXPENSES

\$1,603,670

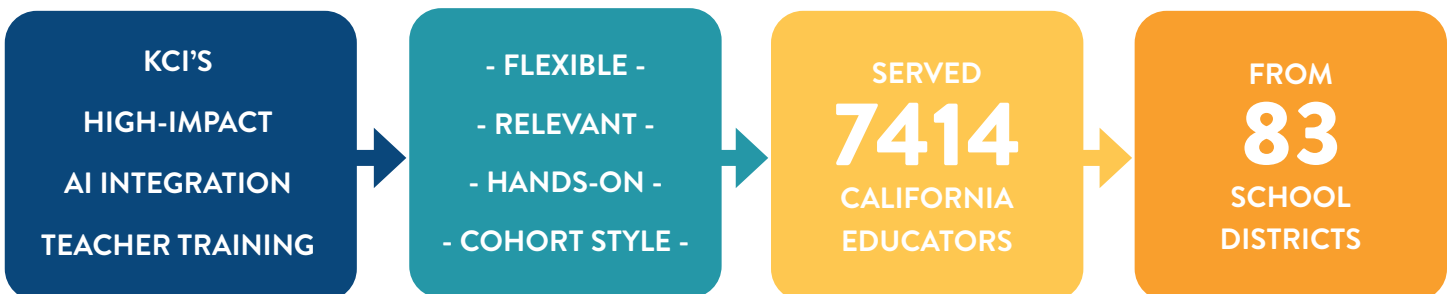


REVENUE

\$1,070,724



2025-2026 AI LITERACY PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT



“ In my opinion, KCI is the premier source in California (maybe in the country) for professional development in the application of technology and up-to-date pedagogy for the classroom.

~ Christopher Payne, M.D. | Dedicated Supporter of the KCI

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS & VITAL SUPPORT



Silicon Valley Artificial Intelligence Project

Now in its second year, the Silicon Valley Artificial Intelligence Project (SVAIP), the Krause Center for Innovation's five-year initiative, is rapidly expanding its impact. As we build the nation's most tech-empowered education workforce, SVAIP is extending its reach down the 101 corridor toward Ventura and into the Central Valley, equipping TK-12 educators with the critical AI tools, guidance, and pedagogy needed to prepare students for tomorrow. Scan QR to check out our partners, reports, and resources:



SCAN QR CODE

Current Sponsorships/Grants

The Synopsys Outreach Foundation provided KCI with \$25K to fund the STEAM Leadership Program. Their generous support provided 12 units and instructional materials for 23 educators from the Bay Area.

Google.org sponsored major activities in the Silicon Valley Artificial Intelligence program, including two working sessions, up to 12 educators from each partner district to complete the AI Capstone program, up to 18 hours of district-wide PD, and an impact study for eight partner districts.

KCI, along with San Jose State University, WestEd, and Santa Clara County Office of Education (Silicon Valley Research Practice Partnership/SVRPP), has been funded by the **National Network for Research Practice Partnerships** through the Gates Foundation to support the integration of computational thinking in 4th and 5th grade curriculum. This is an extension of the work previously done through the National Science Foundation grant, won by SVRPP in 2021.

KCI'S MAKERSPACE: A LAB FOR INNOVATION

The KCI Makerspace is a vibrant launching pad for high-tech creativity and hands-on discovery. Here, Foothill College students and California TK-12 educators gather to push the frontiers of STEAM, turning bold ideas into practical classroom innovation. Far beyond a traditional workshop, we provide a foundation for future-ready leadership, pairing technical mastery with essential human skills: AI fluency, adaptive problem-solving, resilience, and collaborative agility.

We invite you to step inside the KCI and feel the momentum firsthand, where your investment directly powers the educators, innovators, and leaders shaping tomorrow.



THANK YOU FOR MAKING A DIFFERENCE!

Your donations support educators who embrace innovation at the core of their instructional program and also empower them to bring energy, passion, and creativity into their learning spaces — ultimately impacting their students and the future of education. Visit KrauseInnovationCenter.org/donate.



\$25,000

Provides funding to support in-person or virtual professional learning for a 20-person educators cohort



\$10,000

Provides supplies for 20 educators in one of our state-certified programs



\$5,000

Provides college continuing education units for a 20-person educators cohort for one program



\$800

Provides supplies and materials for one educator in one of our state-certified programs



\$250

Provides two professional learning workshops for one educator



\$125

Provides one professional learning workshop for one educator

KRAUSE CENTER FOR INNOVATION STAFF

Gay Krause, Executive Director | **Justin Sewell**, Director of Partnerships & Programs

Jen Gibson, Director of Strategy & Marketing | **Kas Pereira**, LINC Faculty (Instructional Design & Technology)

Jesse Lovejoy, Business Development | **Lisa Tannert**, Administrative Assistant

Rachel Okazaki, Makerspace Coordinator

Board of Trustees | Foothill-De Anza Community College District

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