A Pew Research Center study says health topics are the third most popular Internet search; yet 36% of people with a chronic disease don’t have Internet access.

Some wish lists are really need lists. And in our public labs, computers are really life-changing opportunities. Darryl found a job after 3 weeks of computer classes. Magda’s first day of class ever was with us. Thousands have improved English and literacy skills online. This holiday season, Gladys will shrink thousands of miles to see her nephew in Iraq through video chat software. And your helping hand threads their stories together.

The year 2012 will be even better, but not without you. Your 2011 year-end donation benefits a new year of digital inclusion. It also benefits your brain’s pleasure centers and your tax deductions. Everyone wins with a donation to TFA!

**Texas Connects Coalition Project**

**Progress Report**

- Workstations available: 1,091
- People trained: 9,586
- Training hours: 620,115
- Total Number of Users: 252,097
- Public Computer Centers total: 64

**Evacuees in the Lab**

TFA and TXC2 provide connection during Labor Day wildfires

During the Labor Day Wildfires--one of Texas' worst natural disasters--TFA's...
from stroke-related short-term memory loss. She’s starting all over for her young daughter and for herself. Amazingly, every class brings a little more of her memory back!

Learn more about Phenita and her classmates in our new series!

Houston and Rural Texas and San Antonio branches aided the Smithville Recreation Center’s TXC2 computer lab when it became a major resource for information and communication. Evacuees from the Bastrop Complex Fires used the center’s lab to track the fires online and contact friends, family and insurance.

“The phones, landlines were out, cell service dropping calls left and right,” says Smithville Mayor Mark Bunte. “If it were not for the [...] additional computers made available by the Texas Connects Coalition, we would have been in a quagmire in the ability to communicate.” Go inside the center with our press release.

A Perfect Match
Two public resources join forces for ESL

Mango Languages is a self-paced online language learning resource serving 1 in 5 U.S. libraries, including Houston Public Library. On September 15, Donna and Amy from the Houston Public Library's Community Outreach brought it to Mission Milby’s ESL class in a TFA computer lab. “Anything I think is a big need in the community, I push for,” Amy says.

ESL students use the lab’s computers and headphones to fully experience English letters, words and phrases. The technology helps them learn interactively and intuitively—the trick to Mango Languages’ success. Students also learn and practice online at their own pace, on their own time. Best of all, it’s free with public resources like libraries and labs.

See what else we’re doing on our website!
Help a family connect for Christmas!