

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Si Se Puede Foundation Receives \$12,500 Grant from the Neely Foundation to Support STEM Center Operations

Chandler, AZ – January 7, 2025 – The Si Se Puede Foundation (SSPF) is thrilled to announce that it has been awarded a \$12,500 grant from the Neely Foundation. This generous funding will support the day-to-day operations of the SSPF STEM Center, ensuring it remains a vital resource for both its own teams and robotics teams across Arizona.

The Neely Foundation, a philanthropic organization dedicated to fostering education, community development, and opportunities for youth, has long been a supporter of initiatives that create lasting impact. Their grant to the Si Se Puede Foundation underscores a shared commitment to bridging the STEM divide and equipping young minds with the tools they need to succeed in the 21st-century workforce.

The Si Se Puede Foundation STEM Center, located in Chandler, serves as a hub for innovation, education, and collaboration. The grant will be instrumental in maintaining the center's day-to-day operations, including providing access to state-of-the-art manufacturing equipment, 3D printers, CAD computers, and other resources. In addition to supporting SSPF's own robotics teams, the center will continue to be open to other robotics teams throughout the state, fostering a collaborative environment that promotes STEM education and teamwork.

"We are deeply grateful to the Neely Foundation for their generous support," said Fredi Lajvardi, CEO of the Si Se Puede Foundation. "This grant will enable us to keep the STEM Center operational and accessible, ensuring that students from across Arizona can benefit from the opportunities and resources it provides. Together, we are working to close the STEM divide and inspire the next generation of innovators."

The Si Se Puede Foundation STEM Center is home to four robotics teams, including Desert WAVE and Degrees of Freedom, as well as two FIRST Tech Challenge teams, Binary Bots and Da Geese of Freedom. By making the center available to teams statewide, SSPF continues to extend its mission of providing equitable access to STEM opportunities and fostering a community of learning and innovation.

About the Neely Foundation: The Neely Foundation is a private family foundation committed to creating meaningful impact through philanthropy. By supporting initiatives in education, youth development, and community building, the foundation empowers organizations to create sustainable change and opportunities for future generations.

About Si Se Puede Foundation: The Si Se Puede Foundation is a nonprofit organization dedicated to bridging the STEM divide in underserved communities. Through its STEM Center, robotics programs, and hands-on training, SSPF equips students with the skills and confidence needed to thrive in STEM fields and beyond.

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