Finding creative ways to engage with the community is essential to the success of corporate social responsibility at Lumen, named a Civic 50 Colorado 2020 Honoree. The foundation for all they do is Lumen’s purpose: to further human progress through technology. By calling upon employee skills and interests, the company has developed a commitment to promoting positive change in our community.

What corporate social responsibility has your company conducted that is especially innovative?

We have been innovative in advancing progress through technology with P-Tech, which is short for pathways in technology early college high school. The program helps us build our own pipeline of talent through early intervention of diverse, under-sourced youth, with employee subject-matter experts designing the Lumen Learning Lab content (cybersecurity, AI, big data, etc.) to deliver to the students. The students gain relevant industry experience as they work through the provided learning modules. At the end of each school year, Lumen hosts the students at our very own Camp SQL and P-Tech Academy events to continue their Lumen journey. Ultimately, once the students graduate with their AAS degree, they are recruited into our Ops Academy technical training program.

Why does your company engage in CSR?

Giving back to help strengthen and improve our communities is a significant part of who we are. With our emphasis on technology, Lumen’s programs support early learning in STEM, as well as promoting the other passions and interests of our employees to empower them to be a positive influence in the world. Through our actions, our goal is to make our employees, business partners and communities proud of our innovative quality services, the unwavering integrity of our business ethics, our deep commitment to being a good employer, our respect for the environment and our ongoing support of the communities where we live and work.

What’s one thing that your company considers CSR best practice?

Lumen’s social responsibility programs are more than opportunities to attract the best talent, to enhance our brand and reputation and to provide philanthropic funding to support community needs. We’re also driven by the passions of our employees. Where our people devote their time and their treasure, we devote ours.

Through our employee giving campaign, employee donations are directly matched to their charity of choice. Through our Dollars for Doers program, we provide grants to charities with whom our employees volunteer. We encourage our employees to volunteer, individually and with their teams, during working hours.

Underlying it all is Lumen’s desire to help communities help themselves through technology. Programs like P-Tech provide access to technology that arms the underserved with knowledge, skills and confidence, and ultimately, the chance for jobs in the profession. Lumen employees are truly committed to creating the innovators of tomorrow.