VERIZON UP TO SPEED LIVE April 25, 2024 12:00 PM ET

>> ADI WINELAND: Hey, everyone.

First of all, I got to shoutout all the kids in the audience.

It's a jam-packed day here for Take Your Child to Work Day let's give it up for everybody.

[APPLAUSE].

- >> ADI WINELAND: So I want to hear from the kids in the audience are you guys having fun so far?
 - >> AUDIENCE: Yeah.
 - >> ADI WINELAND: All right.

Do you want to work for Verizon one day.

- >> AUDIENCE: Yeah.
- >> ADI WINELAND: All right.

Good answer; good answer.

So at hubs around the country, including here in Basking Ridge, the kids have gotten an opportunity or kids or should I say junior V Teamers have gotten the opportunity to do Verizon Innovative Learning sessions mindset activities I've heard they are building robots which is also very cool before I get into that I want to shout out our Lake Mary office celebrating its 10th Anniversary so let's give it up for them.

[APPLAUSE].

>> ADI WINELAND: And thank you to all of our V Teamers in our hub there for all you do to build our culture and community here at Verizon.

So we do get to hear from a few special guests.

So I would love to welcome to the stage Hans.

Sampath and Sampath's son, Keshav.

Let's give it up for them.

[APPLAUSE].

>> ADI WINELAND: So how are you liking it so far how has Take Your Child to Work Day been so far.

- >> KESHAV SOWMYANARAYAN: Really good.
- >> ADI WINELAND: Do you have a favorite.
- >> KESHAV SOWMYANARAYAN: My dad's co-workers seeing how they run Verizon.
- >> ADI WINELAND: Have you gotten to bounce any ideas off your dad and his colleagues.
 - >> KESHAV SOWMYANARAYAN: Um, not really.

[CHUCKLES].

- >> ADI WINELAND: So what's your favorite part of the building, just curious, have you had a favorite spot.
 - >> KESHAV SOWMYANARAYAN: The 4th floor of my dad's office.
 - >> HANS VESTBERG: For sure.
- >> KESHAV SOWMYANARAYAN: The offices are really cool they have cool memorabilia like today I saw a Tom Brady signed football and I saw a picture of him with LeBron.
- >> HANS VESTBERG: Yes, yeah, he went into my office immediately when he had a chance.

[CHUCKLES].

- >> ADI WINELAND: Not too bad what's it been like having all the kids in the office today.
- >> SAMPATH SOWMYANARAYAN: This is the next generation of leaders.

Someone here who is going to be running a lot of what we run today.

And also they are consumers, as well, they use a lot of our network the parents use a lot of our network so we get a lot of feedback what's working, what's not working, if our network didn't work, it's so difficult, my mom cuts our Wi-Fi. I can't solve that problem.

But the rest we can.

[CHUCKLES].

>> ADI WINELAND: Yeah I think it's really inspiring to be able to show the next generation what we're doing here in the office and also get them excited about what the future holds for sure.

Hans.

>> HANS VESTBERG: No, I think that what I said this morning and now we have more viewers as well in the different locations, I want to tell all the kids here, the juniors, what we call them, I want to thank all -- tell them that all their parents are doing a fantastic job at this company.

Your parents are just fantastic people.

Coming here every day.

Doing a great job for a great company doing great work.

And sometimes if you're really proud, you should be proud of your parents for what they are doing and who they are working for.

Sometimes we tend to forget that when we're children.

Yeah, remember that, your father is good.

He's good.

So that's what I want to say.

But also it's been an exciting day.

Getting all the feedback and excitement.

And thanking the parents for bringing the children here or the juniors to the office and showing what they are doing.

I know when my children, when I brought them to my office, we didn't have these type of days but they were always excited to learn what I was doing in the office.

And I think it's a day where you will remember it.

So I think it's an important day for us.

For our V Teamers, for our leaders and the juniors to come together in a day like this.

>> ADI WINELAND: Yeah.

And so for our junior V Teamers here, Hans always loves to give us three things to tell our families at the dinner table.

- >> HANS VESTBERG: Yeah.
- >> ADI WINELAND: So I was wondering if you have three pieces of advice and Sampath I would love to hear from you, as well, three pieces of advice that you would give to our future V Teamers here in the audience.
- >> HANS VESTBERG: It's hard because the age groups are a little bit different here.

But I think the three things you should take away from today.

I think the first one I already mentioned.

You should be proud of your parents they are both doing a great job of raising

you but not only that, they are doing a great job here at Verizon.

That you should always have with you. Secondly, I think when you think about your future, some will take a couple of years before you do that.

But some it's closer.

What has given me the fortune I have, I have always done what I really like.

And that has led me to what I'm doing today.

It could be something else, as well.

But doing things that you're interested in, that's also going to make you better on that topic you're going to do whatever you like, you will study that.

That has led me to where I am today and that leads the majority of people doing things you really like.

Because then you can do it.

And ultimately we want you to be ambassadors of our brand.

We want to talk about us.

You want to give feedback to your parents if the phone is working, not working, whatever that might be, the broadband is not good, other services.

But ultimately you're going to be our next generation customers and we want to understand that those are the three things I want you to take from this day.

>> SAMPATH SOWMYANARAYAN: First technology is changing.

You talk about the phone.

I'm sure five, seven years the phone will look very different.

So be ready for change.

I know you guys are always at the cutting edge, especially the kids, that's one. Second is go out and play.

I know you like your devices, we like our devices.

But go out, it's spring right now.

Go out, burn some calories whether it's basketball, baseball, any game, go out and play.

- >> HANS VESTBERG: Even cricket is possible.
- >> SAMPATH SOWMYANARAYAN: Hans, cricket is coming this summer, so it's going to be a big thing.

[CHUCKLES].

>> SAMPATH SOWMYANARAYAN: The third one, be kind, be kind to everyone.

People are kind to you, we'll be kind to them, we'll make the world a better place.

Three things from me.

>> ADI WINELAND: Thank you for coming, great having you.

Some get some things downstairs.

Thank you so much.

All right.

Sampath did go say go play some cricket how many of you guys like playing football or like watching football?

Okay; okay.

A good amount of you.

Well we actually have some team members who are on the ground at the NFL draft in Detroit right now.

We've got a very dear friend of our show here of Up to Speed.

His name is Andy Choi for those of you who know him.

[APPLAUSE].

>> ADI WINELAND: And he has some clips that he put together from the NFL draft so take a look at this.

>> Hi Mr. Vestberg, I'm Janice -- [MUSIC PLAYS].

>> With the first pick in the 2024 Verizon draft.

The Great Lakes market selects, Andy Choi, out of Rolling Meadows.

[APPLAUSE].

(PHONE RINGING).

- >> ANDY CHOI: Hello.
- >> Hey, Choi, Brady, hey look you're on the clock my friend.
- >> ANDY CHOI: On the clock I just got drafted.
- >> Exactly, look, listen.

We've got some big things happening here in Detroit.

We've got to show everyone how Great Lakes is all in on the draft.

Can you do that.

- >> ANDY CHOI: Absolutely, put me in, Coach.
- >> Can you do it without singing?

[MUSIC PLAYS].

>> Look, we do have one shot.

One opportunity.

To seize everything we ever wanted.

>> ANDY CHOI: Hello.

[MUSIC PLAYS].

- >> ANDY CHOI: With more than 300,000 football fans set to gather right here in Detroit Verizon is prime to help make some game-changing connections.
 - >> Experience is paramount to us.

It's the most important part.

I think it's ultimately the true tell of how the Verizon Network performs.

- >> ANDY CHOI: In preparation for this week's NFL draft the Network
 Team has nearly quadrupled capacity in Detroit and beyond Verizon engineers
 guided members of the media on a tour of our temporary assets and permanent
 network upgrades.
- >> This is not just a let's show up a couple of days before the draft and start.

This is a two-year labor of will you ever.

And frankly, it's a multi-year labor of love.

We're just additive now certainly on the main stage we added a bunch of small activations and small cells.

And that will change as the stage comes down.

But all the other infrastructure, that helps this city continue to prosper the way it has, continue to grow, that's here to stay.

>> ANDY CHOI: Our Frontline Team was on hand to demonstrate how we show up for our public safety partners.

In the news this week, Verizon is now the official 5G network of the Detroit Lions.

For the next three years Verizon 5G will improve venue operation and enhance the experience at Ford Field to celebrate we wanted to show a little love to some of the city's most passionate Lions fans.

- >> I'm a huge Lions fan I've been a fan my whole life I was surprised with a new Hutchinson jersey.
 - >> ANDY CHOI: Leaders took time to realize our top performers.
 - >> Month after month after month.

100% VHI, 84% Set Up And Go and 80% VZ protect thank you to the team.

>> ANDY CHOI: People lined up to meet.

Jahmyr Gibbs and Donovan Peoples-Jones.

The Verizon Green Team took time to plant more than 5,000 trees all to beatify Detroit long after the draft.

If there's a question as to just how integral is Verizon to the city's festivities ask the Mayor Mike Duggan.

- >> How important was it bringing the NFL draft to the City of Detroit.
- >> We'll find out in the next few days but we sure have put in the preparation and this is our chance to reintroduce ourselves to America and I'm excited for it.
 - >> For the City of Detroit we're glad to be here.
 - >> We want to see more and more of Verizon in Detroit.
- >> ANDY CHOI: From network to retail to business to Government, the V Team has a lot to be proud of here in Detroit.

That's why in the Motor City with the NFL draft Verizon is your No. 1 pick.

[APPLAUSE].

- >> ADI WINELAND: Love it Andy and the team on the ground you are our No. 1 pick thank you so much and funny enough we have you live how is it going, Andy.
- >> ANDY CHOI: Adi good to see you, good to see Hans and Sampath and all of the wonderful kids who are joining us in Basking Ridge.

I want to introduce you as Mayor Mike Duggan said to Detroit here.

And Verizon of course is front and center.

So we are standing here at Campus Martius Park this is the heart of downtown and we're just, you know, maybe a football field or two away from the shell, the outdoor stage where in about eight hours the lives of so many of our favorite college football players will change, their families' lives will change so Verizon of course has a front row seat.

You saw how incredibly hard the Network Team is working here in Detroit to make sure that when the 300,000 people descend upon downtown Detroit for 3

days watching, sharing pics, uploading, using their devices, that Verizon is No. 1.

So we're so proud about that.

This place is going to be -- you can see people are already here we have eight hours to go.

We will wait and see my Chicago Bears are on the clock with the No. 1 pick but of course we want to show a little love to our Lions fans in Detroit, as well, they have been so wonderful so a special shoutout to our V Teamers here in Detroit, thank you for the hospitality.

And of course Adi and team in Basking Ridge, thank you for the love. And we'll send it back to you.

(APPLAUSE).

>> ADI WINELAND: Thank you, Andy always great to see you and thanks again to everyone for the great work happening in Detroit.

All right.

Well, moving on to small and medium businesses.

SMB Days are back and bigger than ever and we've got exclusive offers and promotions nationwide.

So over 27 Verizon locations around the country, small business owners can stop by for a tech check, get some snacks, we know everyone loves that. Get your new photos taken with local headshot photographers who are doing complimentary pictures.

So up your digital footprint and come stop by to do that.

If you want to learn more about small business Days go to Verizon -- Small Business Days go to Verizon.com/smallbusiness and one of the many examples of Verizon's flourishing small business customers is a business called Pita's Planters in Dallas which is actually their first plant shop on wheels so take a look at this photo of owner Lupita talking to one of my colleagues about her business.

>> So I actually started my small business back at the end of 2019. It was really just a hobby that turned into a whole business.

In 2019 I had to finish college and I decided that I wanted to do just more arts and games before going to grad school.

I started working on growing my own plants and propagating them.

And I also really loved being creative.

So I started making my own ceramic pots and I've always really loved being

eco conscious so one of my goals when making my ceramics was to incorporate recycled materials into them.

My partner and I actually decided why don't we make this vision that I had come true of building a mobile trailer.

Once the quarantine was over we started taking it to the Farmers Market and people really, really loved the idea of it.

Eventually it grew a lot more, the business kept on agreeing.

So we -- it kept growing so we decided finally it was time to go with a brick and mortar and that's where we are now.

[APPLAUSE].

>> ADI WINELAND: Let's give a shoutout to small and medium businesses and Lupita has OneTalk Business Internet she's getting a lot of bang for her buck and we're so pleased to help her grow her business along with all of our other small and medium businesses.

Before I go, we actually have a new report from Techsponential on super bundling.

So super bundling is this trend where you can actually save hundreds on your Home Internet, your cell phone bills, streaming, entertainment, so this report actually said that people who bundled their services with one provider are far more likely to save a lot of money compared to buying their services individually.

So this report took a look at Verizon.

It took a look at T-Mobile, Comcast and of course no surprise Verizon has the best overall value.

And it noted that Verizon put the super in super bundle with the most content options to choose from and the ultimate flexibility more than any other provider. All right, well, thank you all for tuning in today I think it's only fitting we bring back our special guests, Hans, Sampath, Keshav, do you want to come back here and help me close out?

All right.

So I'm going to whisper what we do, and then we're going to do it.

So we go until next up time you're Up to Speed.

>> HANS VESTBERG: You are doing what we're doing.

>> ADI WINELAND: You're good.

You're good.

>> HANS VESTBERG: I know, yeah.

>> ADI WINELAND: Okay.

Until next time.

>> You're Up to Speed.

[APPLAUSE].

>> Hi, I'm V Teamer Roslyn Peoples and I brought my child to work today, too, wide receiver Donovan Peoples-Jones for the Detroit Lions until next time.

>> You're Up to Speed. Go Lions.

>> Go Lions.

[MUSIC PLAYS].