

STEM – Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics

A Western Area Signature Program

Situation: Throughout the nation, there is a critical need for minority youth exposure to science, technology, engineering and mathematics education. To address this critical need in our communities, the Links of the Western Area are embarking on a comprehensive program targeting the education of our underrepresented minority student populations in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) areas.

Through a grant process, the Western Area of The Links, Inc. received funding for exceptional programs proving to be successful in increasing the number of minority youth pursuing careers in STEM areas.

Awards will be based on sound sustainable programming identified through the program reporting process.

Goals:

1. Help to sustain a globally competitive minority workforce in the STEM areas.
2. Enhance career opportunities for minority youth who have historically been underrepresented in these areas.
3. Create long term educational programming to assure increased numbers in and the success of students in specific STEM areas.
4. Promote ongoing mentoring opportunities for minorities in the program.

Criteria:

1. Programming must be at level P3.
2. Establish an ongoing, sustainable program targeting minority youth.
3. Target youth via a needs assessment instrument.
 - Use results to design activities
4. Develop long term partnerships.
 - Include a mentoring component to target professionals in STEM career areas
5. Have full chapter involvement.
 - This is an opportunity to umbrella
6. Develop activities relevant to program outcomes.
 - Activities should not be one day only events.
7. Evaluate all activities.
 - Instruments for evaluation should be diverse and extend beyond observation, survey or informal dialog.
 - Demonstrate success in achieving STEM goals.
8. Assure long term success
 - Direct participants to grant opportunities to support educational progress
 - Incorporate follow-up activities

STEM – Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics
A Western Area Initiative - Service Delivery Model

Situation: Throughout the nation, there is a critical need for minority youth exposure to science, technology, engineering and mathematics education in order to both sustain a globally competitive workforce in these areas and enhance career opportunities for minority youth who have historically been underrepresented. To address this critical need in our communities, the Links of the Western Area are embarking on a comprehensive program targeting our underrepresented minority student populations in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) areas.

Vision: To promote and strengthen science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education, especially for underrepresented minority youth populations. These efforts will help increase America’s competitiveness by reducing barriers that deter minorities from pursuing academic and career goals in STEM fields.

Mission: Through various partnerships, members of The Links Incorporated (Western Area) will create *sustainable* programs to educate African American youth about career opportunities in the areas of science, technology, engineering & mathematics. The impact of this exposure will increase the number of minorities seeking & being successful with careers in STEM areas. The Links will mentor participants throughout their journey.

Input/Resources	*Activities	Participants	1 - 2 Year Outcomes (Goal)
Develop a program to educate African Americans youth about careers in STEMs areas	Saturday Tutoring (STEM academic support) SAT/ACT test prep	Members of: The Links, Incorporated Faith based orgs. Neighborhood groups/schools Greek organizations Professional orgs.	Calculate & monitor college enrollment in STEM areas. Chart score increases in math & science; continue tutoring/mentoring students Assess career attitude changes
Recruit African American professionals with expertise in specific STEM areas	Mentoring Career Fairs with HBCU’s	Members of: The Links, Inc. Neighborhood groups/schools Greek organizations Professional orgs. HBCUs	Increase in the number of participants in each STEM area Increase in the number of minority youth participating in a STEM related activity.
Identify funding to support STEMs	Research grants. Research corporate donors with a STEM area focus.	Members of the participating chapters of The Links, Incorporated Community partners	Increased funding and ongoing community outreach activities. Increase Youth visibility for outreach

***Evaluation:** Each activity must have a detailed evaluation instrument to measure success of the goal.

Resources:

[http://www.pathwaystocollege.net/pcnlibrary/UserSearch.aspx?v=Keywords&s=%22STEM%20\(Science.%20Technology.%20Engineering.%20Mathematics\)%22](http://www.pathwaystocollege.net/pcnlibrary/UserSearch.aspx?v=Keywords&s=%22STEM%20(Science.%20Technology.%20Engineering.%20Mathematics)%22)

U.S. Department of Labor Women’s Bureau “How To” Manual and Archives for Science and Technology Mentoring

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