mcwt
michigan council of women
in technology foundation

MCWT Programs

Inspiring and Growing Girls and Women in Technology

To make Michigan the No. 1 state for women in technology, we continue our life cycle through programming across all phases of a woman's life. MCWT and its community of partners offer support for these women helping them navigate through various challenges, as well as providing them opportunities to accelerate their overall contribution to our tech community.

HERE'S HOW WE DO IT:

- ➔ Results-oriented programs that impact girls and women in technology, ultimately driving diversity and innovation in Michigan's economy.

- ➔ Targeted, hands-on events and programs tailored to get K-12 girls and young women interested in pursuing a technology career.

- ➔ Convening a network of businesses, parents, professionals, retirees, stakeholders, students and teachers who are committed to seeing Michigan's technology community thrive.

LIFE CYCLE

MIDDLE CAREER · LATE CAREER · EARLY CAREER · RETIREMENT · COLLEGE · HIGH SCHOOL · K - 8

"Being a MCWT scholar means having a lifeline for support whenever I need it. MCWT's support helped me stay focused on the learning opportunities instead of the financial struggles that most college students face."

– Chelsea Carter, 2014-2015 Friends of MCWT Scholarship Recipient
B.S. Computer Engineering - Kettering University

K-12 PROGRAM INITIATIVES

⊙ Camp Infinity/Virtual Learning

Week-long summer technology camps held either virtually or in person at college campuses across Michigan are available for girls in grades 5 through 12. Topics include: website design, app creation, robotics and more.

⊙ GET-IT Cyber Challenge

This challenge is a free, 11-week, self-paced virtual program that provides high school students the opportunity to grow in their understanding of Cyber Security using the Immersive Labs platform of interactive cyber skill experiences. The Challenge concludes with an in-person finals competition.

⊙ GET-IT Connection Summit

In conjunction with the University of Michigan, the GET-IT Connection Summit provides female high school students with insights into technology innovations, technology careers and technology education options. Also focuses on building skills necessary for college admissions and college success.

⊙ Girls GET-IT Day

Over 300 girls in grades 4 through 8 explore facets of computer science through hands-on workshops. They interact with sponsors, participate in Tech Expo, and learn how IT is used in companies.

⊙ Girls GET-IT CLUBS

Weekly after-school technology programs and hands-on learning activities provide a friendly community of like-minded girls interested in exploring computer science.

⊙ Girls Hack IT

Girls Hack IT – where girls develop their tech future, is a new program for middle school girls who have a desire to learn how to code, develop and deploy real-world solutions while having fun in an upbeat environment. During the course of this hybrid program, students will get hands-on experience, and online mentorship required to help them to succeed at the in-person hackathon.

⊙ Girls Solve IT, Powered by Ford

This state-wide competition, for Michigan girls in grades four through eight, was created for girls to work together in teams that are given technology quests to complete. Completing the quests will qualify them for the final round and potential cash prizes.

⊙ Robotics Grants

MCWT supports girls in grades 5-12 by offering a series of $750 grants to all-girl teams participating in qualified Robotics competitions. These competition events encourage students to have fun while learning the principles of tech and computer science.

⊙ Girls Rock IT

MCWT's partnership with the Girl Scouts provides a one-day opportunity with hands-on activities to earn technology badges and patches. MCWT volunteers help lead the activities and serve as speakers for the parents' program.

⊙ Web Design Competition

Middle and high school students learn graphic development, HTML, and other principles beyond sound website design. A panel of IT executives judge websites on Finals Day.

SCAN ME

UNIVERSITY PROGRAM INITIATIVES

The goal of our University programming is to provide onboarding paths for women to enter, grow and sustain tech and leadership careers with successful outcomes.

⊕ Scholarships

MCWT offers collegiate scholarships to help students ease the financial burden of college. We award them to women with the interest, aptitude and potential for a successful career in technology.

Retention of women in tech majors in college is below 10%, in general. Among our scholarship recipients, that rate is over 90%. Awardees are also assigned professional mentors and have internship opportunities presented to them.

⊕ Internships

MCWT's six-year-old internship program works to introduce female technology-focused students with Michigan-based companies and has landed over 100 internships during the last three years.

> MCWT is an organization built to change lives through empowerment for professional success. My life changed when I was awarded a full scholarship to complete a Java program at Grand Circus in Detroit. From college to career, MCWT has supported my personal and professional growth. I want to thank this impactful organization for its support.
>
> Vonnita Jones
> MCWT Scholarship Recipient, Ignite!
> Participant, ConnectNet Forum Attender

📱 SCAN ME

CAREER & LEADERSHIP PROGRAM INITIATIVES

The goal of our Career & Leadership programming is to provide onboarding paths for women to enter, grow and sustain tech and leadership careers with successful outcomes.

ConnectNet

In 2020 and 2021, our ConnectNet sessions were virtual with thought leadership segments from our technology executives.

As we've embarked back into our in-person ConnectNet events, we have resumed covering relevant tech topics, best practices and leadership insights from the exec speakers and our partner sponsors. Networking is also key component of these sessions.

Ignite! Mentoring

Women in tech are paired with senior leaders in the 6-month Ignite! Mentoring program, which develops strong mentor-mentee relationships and tackles career challenges.

Speed Mentoring

An event held multiple times a year that consists of a panel of execs sharing their insights for professional development, followed by a series of 15 min speed mentoring sessions.

Reignite!

MCWT's Reignite! program supports women returning to the workforce in the tech industry; offering flexible courses and personalized guidance to build skills and confidence. Career coaching sessions are also available.

SCAN ME

Exploring and Growing
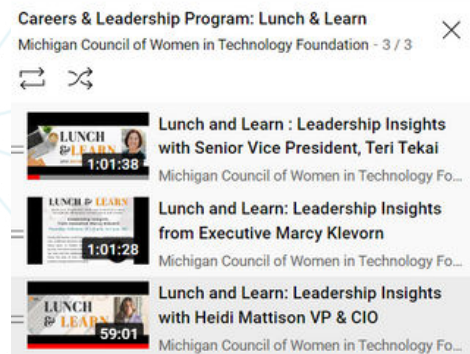## College & Professional Career Women in Tech

Leadership Clinic

Our initial launch of the clinics focused on increasing the number of women occupying executive leadership roles in the C-suite.

This interactive workshop focuses on developing executive leadership skills, exploring topics such as situational leadership, people development and business, strategic and financial acumen with executive tech coaches throughout the one-day workshop. The 2022 clinic focused on increasing the number of mid-manager career women in the tech force.

Lunch & Learn

These 60-minute, virtual sessions focus on leadership skills and technical acumen through seasoned tech leaders. Session is held every quarter during the lunch hour. The goal of this program is to provide a space for learning and development throughout the career.

Careers & Leadership Program: Lunch & Learn
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Lunch and Learn : Leadership Insights with Senior Vice President, Teri Takai
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Lunch and Learn: Leadership Insights from Executive Marcy Klevorn
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Lunch and Learn: Leadership Insights with Heidi Mattison VP & CIO
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ELEVATE

MCWT's exclusive cohort for first-line to middle managerial women to enhance leadership skills, network & advance careers. Learn leadership, team building, networking & communication skills while building a supportive peer network.

Women in Cyber

A new virtual program for professional women to advance cybersecurity skills. Learn through Immersive Labs' interactive content and CyberSkill exercises in a gamified approach, creating memorable experiences that stick. Empower each other in a safe environment!

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