CS-Getting the Word Out!

NCWIT K-12 Alliance
Member Huddle
12:00pm PST/3:00pm EST
Welcome

Jannie Fernandez
Director, K-12 Alliance & TECHNOLOOchicas

Erika Karsh
Aspirations in Computing Recognitions Program Manager

JeffriAnne Wilder, Ph.D.
Research Scientist
Goals

• Get Connected
• Quarterly Huddles around themes to stay informed
• Learn from each other
• Highlight the work that you are doing
• Share useful tools/opportunities to all members
Expectations

• Take the lead!
• Ask questions
• Promote your work!
• Make Connections with each other
• Missed our last Huddle? Catch up here
Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion
“Buzzwords” Around Difference

social equity transformation justice
change inclusivity empowerment human rights
peace intersectionality welfare vulnerable
pluralist health universal diverse
strength healing vulnerability international
sustainable oppression challenge liberal
community health challenge vulnerable
love empowerment vulnerable international
ethics justice vulnerable international
DEI at NCWIT

- NCWIT is a non-profit community that **convenes, equips, and unites** change leader organizations to increase the **influence and meaningful participation** of all girls and women — at the intersections of race, ethnicity, class, age, sexual orientation, and disability status — in the influential field of computing, particularly in terms of innovation and development.

- The new messaging platform emphasizes the creative potential for organizations that invest in fostering a culture where girls, women, and underrepresented groups participate with strong voices.

- The headline, **“The idea you don’t have is the voice you haven’t heard,”** and the tagline, **“Inclusion changes what’s possible,”** are confident expressions of what we know is true: Diversity and inclusion enhance outcomes in technological innovation for educational institutions and businesses of all sizes.
Diversity Benefits Creativity

Groups with **greater diversity** solve complex problems **better and faster** than homogenous groups.

*Scott Page, The difference: How the power of diversity creates better groups, firms, schools, and societies, Princeton University Press, 2009.*
• Spread the word far and wide!
• NCWIT **Messaging toolkit** includes:
  ○ Virtual badge, email signage, awareness posters, social tiles
• Use the toolkit for networking, professional development, outreach, etc.
OUR K–12 MESSAGE

When students are eager to speak and free to be heard, they find the confidence to go where their interests take them. We focus on the inclusion and engagement skills that create change and reveal potential.

Target audience
Principals, superintendents, and public and private funding decision makers

Talking about why it’s important
• Technology is the fastest growing jobs sector, with 3.5 million U.S. computing-related job openings expected by 2026—yet only 26 percent of 2017 computing jobs were held by women.
• Technology is often a culture of underrepresentation, invisibility, self-doubt, and closed doors. In 2018, out of 135,992 AP computer science tests taken, only 28 percent were taken by women. Removing classroom barriers helps conquer isolation and open opportunities.

Talking about solutions
• Interest starts early: K–12 is a time when instincts and interests take hold. When you create a safe space for students’ computing curiosity, you build a culture where every voice is heard.
• Diversity-minded educators are addressing traditional classroom cultures, old habits, social and gender dynamics—even the way tests are presented—to correct the issues that reduce young women’s enthusiasm, learning, and graduation rates.

Talking about resources for change
Through our alliances and programs, we bring proven approaches; important connections; and more than 160 free, easy-to-use research-based tools and materials to help you change lives and futures.

K–12 programs—Evidence-based programs help you bring more voices to the table, put students on proven paths, and move communities toward measurable success.

Aspirations in Computing Counselors for Computing TECHNOLOChicago NCWIT awards

K–12 alliances—Collaborative group connections help dedicated advocates sustain and grow the momentum of inclusion.

Affinity Alliance
K–12 Alliance

For more information about available K–12 resources, visit NCWIT.org.
Getting the Word Out: Using the Toolkit to convey YOUR message

1. Consider the work you’re currently doing in this space:
   a. You can employ this toolkit to make this work more visible!
   b. You can employ this toolkit to celebrate your success!

2. Consider the various people in your network who would benefit from this toolkit:
   a. Parents, teachers, clubs/organizations, administrators, local/regional groups, policy makers

3. Consider ways to disseminate the toolkit to your network:
   a. Currently scheduled events, conferences, or meetings for you to “plug and play”
New NCWIT Resources

- Guide to Inclusive CS Education
- You Can Actively Recruit a Diverse Range of Girls...Workbook
- Bridging the Encouragement Gap in Computing
- Colorism Bias in the Tech Industry
- Intersectionality in Tech 101 Coming Soon!
Aspirations in Computing (AiC)

What is AiC?

- Award + Community + Exclusive Opportunities
- AiC honors women for their aspirations and achievements in tech and computing
- Recipients join a community of over 15,000 technical women from high school into the workforce

Award recognizes:

- High School Women*
  (grades 9-12)
- Educators (formal and informal)
- Collegiate Women*
  (undergraduate and graduate)

*All self-identifying women, genderqueer, and non-binary individuals are welcome to apply
AiC Award

Who?
● All women in grades 9-12 with an interest in tech and computing
● In all 50 states, Washington, D.C., Puerto Rico, U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, overseas military bases

When?
● Applications open September 1st
● Applications are due November 5th
● Educator endorsements due November 12th
● Parental/guardian approval due November 12th
AiC Educator Award

Who?
- Educators who encourage high school women’s participation in computing*
- Teachers, Counselors, Coaches, Mentors

When?
- Applications open Sept. 1, but you must endorse a student by November 12th
- Applications are due December 2nd

*In order to be eligible for the Educator Award, you must endorse a student’s application for this year’s AiC Award.
What YOU can do!

- **Encourage** a student or educator to apply
- **Share** with your network
- **Apply** for the Educator Award (if eligible)
- **Volunteer** to be an application reviewer

Find out more: aspirations.org

Contact: AiCHelp@ncwit.org
Your Turn!
THANK YOU