

# MWM-IL

Million Women Mentors® – Illinois  
Advancing Women and Girls in STEM Careers Through Mentoring



## PLEDGE GOAL: 20,000 COMPLETED: 16,439

ILLINOIS

### MENTORING PLEDGE HIGHLIGHTS

- *The Illinois Science and Technology Institute's* Mentor Matching Engine is an online collaboration tool that links Illinois high school students and mentors via student-led independent research projects – providing direct communication and structure for tracking of mentoring relationships at scale. MME reduces the transaction costs and geographic barriers associated with traditional mentoring, enhances the mentoring experience and facilitates deeper engagement through a discussion-based forum that can accommodate document sharing, video conferencing and multiple mentors/students/teachers. **Mentor relationships: 1,440**
- *The Illinois Agri-Women*, an organization dedicated to promoting a better understanding of agriculture and the family farm system, presented MWM-IL information at the “Women Changing the Face of Agriculture” conference at the University of Illinois on March 10, 2017. A networking career fair provided students with information on career opportunities, ag courses and peer advice. **Mentor relationships: 550**
- *Illinois Science Olympiad* had 389 active school teams across the state working on STEM events with subject matter expert mentors from higher education and industry, including 35 teams in the Chicago Public Schools Urban Schools Initiative Region, serving a diverse population of minorities and girls. **Mentor relationships: 5,835**
- *The Illinois Mentoring Partnership* oversees 50,000 ongoing mentoring relationships across the state covering a variety of youth services. STEM-specific activities include training and support for programs providing exposure to STEM careers through mentoring, internships and skill development. **Mentor relationships: 4,000**
- *PepsiCo* is a MWM national partner committed to serving youth and girls with effective and engaging STEM mentoring, internships and early-career connections. Chicago-based employees volunteered time and talent to STEM programs across the city. **Mentor relationships: 97 with more in the pipeline!**
- *YWCA* is a MWM national non-profit partner committed to eliminating racism and empowering women. Their TechGYRLS program meets 40+ weeks a year in Chicago to raise girls’ interest, confidence and self-efficacy in STEM. **Mentor relationships: 20**
- *Sprint* is a MWM national partner leading the way in the telecommunications industry, and seeks to build an employee STEM mentoring program piloting in the Chicago area. In its first year, Sprint will identify STEM organizations and work to incentivize employee outreach. **Mentor relationships: 75**

### MWM-IL: MEETING, GREETING & MAKING CONNECTIONS!

#### MWM-IL ACTIVITIES

State Chair STEM organization Science Olympiad wins the MWM Partner Innovation Award at the 2016 Summit; Featured speaker on State Mentoring Panel; Best Practice presenter on STEMConnector Partner Town Hall; Featured speaker at Manufacturing Diversity Institute’s Innovation Café on National Manufacturing Day: “Underserved On-Ramp to the Manufacturing and Maker Economy”; Leading discussion on digital manufacturing workforce development and programs with Senator Tammy Duckworth’s office and the Digital Manufacturing and Design Innovation Institute (DMDII); shared ISTI’s Mentor Matching Engine with multiple MWM state committees; distributed info at Mentor Illinois’ annual Impact Awards for non-profit and corporate leaders; devised plans for new Employee STEM Mentoring programs for Fortune 500 companies Sprint and Underwriters Laboratories. PepsiCo sits on the MWM National Council.



### STEERING COMMITTEE



**MWM-IL Honorary State Chair:**  
**U.S. Senator Tammy Duckworth**

**MWM-IL State Co-Chair: Jenny Kopach** – Executive Director, SVP Marketing Communications - Science Olympiad

**MWM-IL State Co-Chair: Margie Morris** – Executive Director, Mentor Illinois

**Krisztina Eleki, Ph.D.** – Executive Director, Chicago Council on Science & Technology (C2ST)

**Maria Velissariou** – VP Research & Development and Quality, PepsiCo

**Dan McManus** – Grants Specialist and Senior Outreach Coordinator, Office of U.S. Senator Tammy Duckworth (Illinois)

**Allie Barwise** – Managing Director, Illinois Science & Technology Institute (ISTI)

**Sheila Hunt** – Board Member, Illinois Agri-Women

**Kristen One** – Chemistry/Physics Teacher, Adlai E. Stevenson High School

**Laticia Holbert** – Training and Employee Development Manager, Intren, YWCA Metropolitan Chicago Board Member; TechGYRLS innovator

**Nelly Pitocco** – Regional President, Enterprise, Sprint

### CONTACT INFO - JOIN US!

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