

Our Goals

Goal 1: Increase the number of girls who have confidence, knowledge, and interest in engineering, technology, and science careers

Goal 2: Build STEM capacity and sustainability while promoting fidelity to Techbridge model and adapting for local customization

Goal 3: Enhance STEM programming for specialized groups - English Language Learners, African-American, and Hispanic girls—and their families

Goal 4: Expand career exploration so that girls are co-creators in using technology to design activities with role models and virtual field trips

Goal 5: Contribute to research and practices on the model's scale up and sustainability for broadening the participation of underrepresented girls

Challenges

1. Sustaining the programs in new cities
2. Finding a balance between customization and innovation while maintaining Techbridge essentials and outcomes
3. Maintaining Techbridge culture and values in different sites

Solutions

1. We are looking for partners from the start with capacity to fund programs.
2. We codified the Techbridge essentials and are clear where we allow room for local nuances.
3. We are building a community through in-person onboarding, annual meetings, check-ins, and shared values.

Project Overview

Techbridge is broadly implementing its multi-faceted after-school program model. Over 5 years, this project will bring Techbridge's innovative model to three cities, 24 school sites and teachers, 2,000 girls in grades 5-12 and their families, and over 600 role models. Techbridge's programs launch in Greater Seattle in fall 2014 and in Washington, DC in fall 2015. Stay tuned for our third city launch in 2016.

Techbridge: A Multifaceted Program Model

- After-school programs for girls
- Career exploration with role models and field trips
- Hands-on activities that promote leadership and perseverance
- Resources and training for teachers and role models
- Family engagement



"From 6th grade to 12th grade she has transformed from shy and uncertain to confident, poised, and truly interested in pursuing some form of technology design" –Parent of Techbridge girl

"After learning about robotics, circuits, and (my favorite) soldering as well as meeting with real engineers, I could see myself having a job just like theirs... Techbridge inspired me."—Techbridge alumna

Techbridge Team for Broad Implementation
Linda Kekelis, Principal Investigator ~ Kelly Greenwood, Project Manager ~ Jennifer Wei, COO
Matt Hurley, Bay Area Director of Programs ~ Elizabeth Hodges, Greater Seattle Executive Director

Techbridge
7700 Edgewater Drive Suite, Suite 519, Oakland, CA 94621 510-777-9170 techbridgirls.org

Research Questions

1. To what extent do new program sites demonstrate adherence to the Techbridge program model?
2. Given the experimentation with role model activities and the standardized curriculum, do new sites maintain programmatic quality of delivery experienced at the original site?
3. Do new sites experience similar or increased participant responsiveness to Techbridge programming with regard to scientific learning outcomes, career awareness, attitudes, and interest in STEM?
4. To what extent and how do new sites balance instilling the critical components Techbridge identifies as essential for success with the need for local adaptation and ownership of the program?
5. In what ways do programmatic and curricular innovations from the new sites influence work at the original Techbridge sites?

Researchers: Sarah Hug, Suzanne Eyerman, & Heather Thiry @ Colorado Evaluation & Research Consulting

Evaluation Plan

- Pre- and post-surveys with participating girls and "like girl" comparison groups, girl focus groups, embedded assessments, school records of girls' science grades and curricular choices
- Teacher surveys, document review, parent surveys, role model surveys

Evaluators: Ginger Fitzhugh, Vicky Ragan Coulon, and Carrie Liston @ Evaluation & Research Associates



DRL - 1323776