



**FY22-23**  
**THE MEDTRONIC**  
**FOUNDATION**  
**STEM PARTNERSHIPS**  
**FOR UNDERSERVED &**  
**UNDERREPRESENTED**  
**STUDENTS**

Minnesota, Northern California,  
and Puerto Rico

# Minnesota Partners

**Spark-Y** empowers youth through hands-on education rooted in sustainability and entrepreneurship. Their model combines experiential agricultural systems, such as aquaponics, paired with learning concepts in sustainability, entrepreneurship, and STEM to invite learning in a real-world, experiential setting. The partnership with the Medtronic Foundation will help advance that mission by providing increased programming for underserved youth across the Twin Cities and expanding service offerings to reach more students in need through a mobile innovation lab and STEM kits. This mobile innovation lab will bring interactive tech-based learning to youths who may not have internet or computer access at home.



**Wallin Education Partners** is a proven college completion program that includes financial aid and comprehensive support for high-potential students with financial need. Wallin's model of financial aid and comprehensive individual advising accelerates economic mobility and fundamentally increases the odds of graduation and employment for underrepresented students. The Medtronic Foundation's partnership and Medtronic employee volunteer support will empower Wallin to deliver nationally-recognized, life-changing scholarships to additional STEM students in the coming years.



**STARBASE Minnesota**'s mission is to educate and inspire youth in STEM. Since 1993, STARBASE Minnesota has served over 80,000 Minnesota youth and dedicated to supporting STEM within schools and the community.

Partnership with the Medtronic Foundation will strengthen and expand programming in multiple ways, benefiting many thousands of students over the next two years and beyond. This includes in-depth curriculum that enables hundreds of educators to build off students' success at STARBASE; expanding STARBASE's bank of STEM career videos reflecting the diversity of the students STARBASE serves and the exciting, wide ranging careers that await their futures; STEM kits for all of Minneapolis and St. Paul Public Schools; after-school STEM programming for middle school students; professional development opportunities for instructors nationally and locally; and expansion of volunteer scientist and engineer engagement in all programs.



**Girls Who Code (GWC)** is an international non-profit organization working to close the gender gap in technology and change the image of what a programmer looks like and does by inspiring, educating, and equipping girls with computing skills. They are committed to not only creating pathways for students to access computer science (CS) education, but also deeply invested in changing the larger culture around what it means to be a woman in tech. GWC's long-term vision is to close the gender gap in technology and to encourage girls, especially historically underrepresented girls, to pursue creative, expanding, and higher-paying CS careers.

With the Medtronic Foundation, GWC will be significantly expanding presence in Minnesota and deepening ties with local community-based organizations and Title I Schools.

girls who  
code



# Puerto Rico Partners

**Ciencia Puerto Rico (CienciaPR)** is a non-profit organization with the mission of democratizing science, transforming science education, and fostering the leadership of scientists. One of the main strategies of the organization is to create culturally relevant resources and experiences that increase the interest and attitudes towards science of its participants, which are part of a global community comprised of over 15,000 scientists, students, educators, and allies.

The partnership with the Medtronic Foundation will directly impact Latina girls, an underserved STEM population, by providing continuity to the Seeds of Success: STEM Girls Ambassador Program. The Program consists of educational activities to allow girls to learn about opportunities and careers in STEM, get exposed to Latina role models in these disciplines and develop leadership skills by becoming STEM Ambassadors in their communities.



**Eureka Enrichment Services** was established in 2004 with the mission to inspire all students in Puerto Rico to discover and develop their academic talents. Over the past 17 years they have worked arduously to make quality educational programs accessible to all children on the island and have transformed the educational landscape in Puerto Rico in the process.

In partnership with the Medtronic Foundation, they will expand access to prestigious programs such as the Scripps National Spelling Bee, FIRST® Robotics, MIT/NASA's Zero Robotics, and Chicas STEM program to children regardless of their geographical, demographic, or social economic background. This partnership will also specifically help create comprehensive PreK-8th grade FIRST® Robotics programs in various public elementary and middle schools throughout the island.



**The Puerto Rico Science, Technology, and Research Trust (The Trust)** is the leading entity fostering the knowledge-economy in Puerto Rico. The Trust invests, facilitates, and builds capacity to continually advance Puerto Rico's innovation-driven enterprises, science and technology through a myriad of programs including its STEM Education Program.

The STEM Education Program, in partnership with support from the Medtronic Foundation, will offer long distance STEM learning experiences for registered public-school students in Puerto Rico. The project seeks to strengthen STEM literacy, enhance participants' scientific thinking skillset, and provide hands-on experience in prototype development, while encouraging STEM career exploration among underserved and underrepresented middle and high school students on the island.



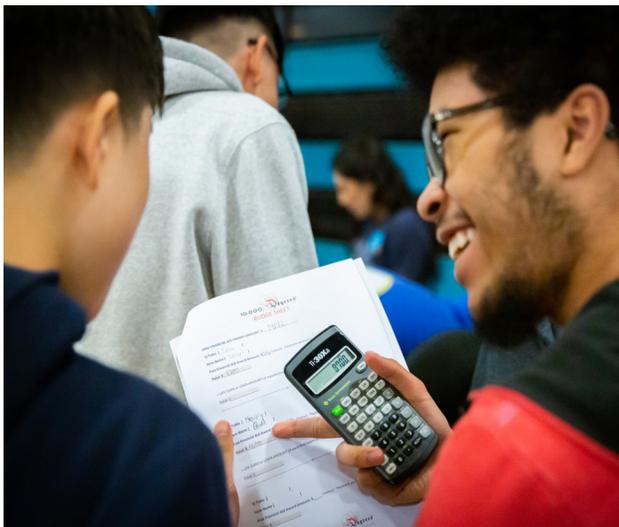
Puerto Rico  
Science, Technology  
& Research Trust



# Northern California Partners

**10,000 Degrees®** is the leading, equity-focused scholarship provider and college success nonprofit in California that supports students from low-income backgrounds to and through college. Powered by coaches who are recent college graduates and often alum of 10,000 Degrees, 10,000 Degrees is embedded in high school and college campuses to help students navigate life both on and off-campus and throughout their college success journey.

The partnership with the Medtronic Foundation will assist in supporting students from low-income backgrounds in Santa Rosa, and will help more students from underserved populations reach their educational goals in the STEM field.



**Career Technical Education (CTE) Foundation** leverages public and private funding to seed career technical education in alignment with Sonoma County's workforce needs. Its mission is to innovate the education-to-career experience to strengthen economic development and student success. By partnering with local industry leaders, CTE Foundation identifies high-demand, well-paying careers, then incentivizes relevant work readiness programs in alignment with regional needs. These programs combine core academics with essential technical skills and deliver authentic learning for students through career exploration and employer engagement.

The partnership with the Medtronic Foundation will build capacity for CTE's Girls Tinker Academy as well as conduct a community asset mapping process that will allow CTE to formulate strategies to develop a comprehensive system for stewarding girls and young women, especially those who identify as BIPOC and LGBTQ, in their pursuit of rewarding careers in STEM. This will be a tool that parents, teachers, students, businesses, and community organizations can utilize to identify both assets and gap, not only guiding CTE work investments but an asset for the entire community.



**LandPaths** is a leading Sonoma County conservation and environmental education nonprofit with a mission to foster a love of the land. LandPaths provides exceptional outdoor experiences that connect people of all backgrounds to nature, and fosters a mutually beneficial relationship between people and the land. LandPaths engages more than 5,000 participants county-wide annually, and ensures equity and inclusion through intentional outreach, recruitment, and program design as well as by employing staff who are reflective of the diversity of our county's residents. LandPaths focuses resources on engaging communities that have been historically excluded from nature and STEM, such as Title 1 schools, communities of color, and English language learners. Most programs are free or offer scholarships and transportation.

The partnership between LandPaths and the Medtronic Foundation will support LandPaths' In Our Own BackYard project, engaging elementary and middle school students in four field days of standards-based, hands-on science education that immerses the students in nature. The partnership will expand and improve high-quality, culturally relevant STEM education for Title 1 schools in Santa Rosa.



## Partners Across Key Locations

**Science from Scientists (SciSci)** is a nonprofit with a mission to teach and inspire the next generation in STEM by bringing real scientists into schools to teach hands-on STEM lessons. SciSci focuses on during-school programming in effort to reach every student, thereby helping to bridge opportunity and achievement gaps for underserved populations and helping to increase the number and diversity of young people who pursue higher-level STEM studies and STEM careers.

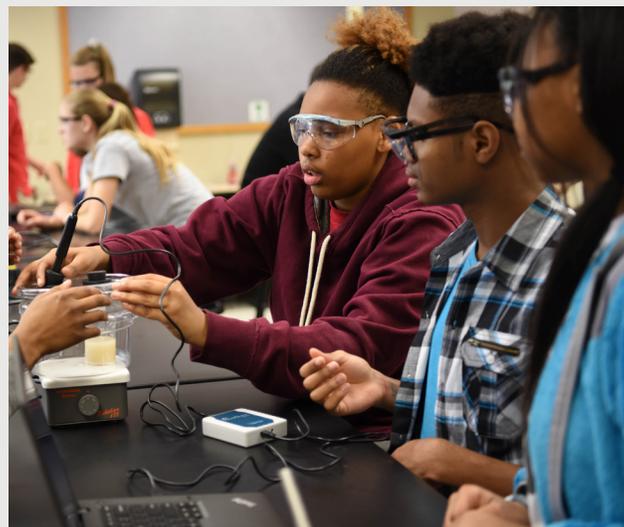
SciSci's partnership with the Medtronic Foundation will expand and improve programs in Minnesota and Puerto Rico with a goal of building STEM identity and improving educational outcomes for every student served.



**Project Lead The Way (PLTW)** is a nonprofit organization that provides a transformative learning experience for PreK-12 students and teachers across the U.S. The mission-driven nonprofit organization is transforming the learning experience for millions of PreK-12 students and thousands of teachers, empowering students to develop in-demand, transportable knowledge and skills. PLTW's pathways in computer science, engineering, and biomedical science engage students in hands-on activities, projects and problems; empower them to solve real-world challenges; and inspire them to reimagine how they see themselves. PLTW's teacher training and resources support educators as they engage students in real-world learning.

With support from the Medtronic Foundation, high-need schools in Sonoma County, California, and the Twin Cities Region of Minnesota may apply for PLTW Grants to implement or expand a PLTW program. Thousands of students will benefit from these programs in the first year alone, providing them with hands-on, interdisciplinary STEM-based curriculum that will uniquely prepare them for life and their future careers.

## PLTW



**SHPE**'s mission is to change lives by empowering the Hispanic community to realize its fullest potential and to impact the world through STEM awareness, access, support, and development. SHPE focuses on strengthening the Hispanic STEM pipeline through supporting high school students through early career professionals. SHPE serves more than 13,000 student and professional members through nearly 300 active chapters located across the United States.

The partnership with the Medtronic Foundation will primarily address three barriers—affordability, personal sense of STEM belongingness, and access to STEM role models— that prevent STEM degree

completion and success in STEM careers for Hispanics. This program will award sixteen \$25,000 scholarships annually that will cover the cost of tuition and other expenses. These scholarships will maximize the opportunity for recipients to focus on learning and therefore increase the likelihood of degree persistence and completion. This program will also include goal-oriented mentoring, monthly community building and networking events that connect the scholars with Medtronic employee volunteers. These connections will allow scholars to see successful Hispanics in STEM which encourages them to visualize themselves in these roles, which will allow them to better understand that they too can be a STEM professional.



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