

TENNESSEE ECONOMIC COUNCIL ON WOMEN

Mentoring Programs for girls

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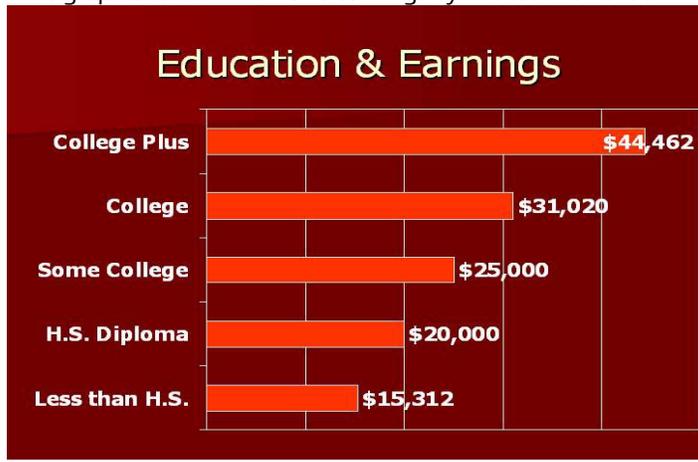
Mentoring: Economic Empowerment for Girls

The Tennessee Economic Council on Women began its statewide career mentoring campaign in Fall 2002 with a goal to invest in Tennessee's families, its workforce and its future. Since then, we have organized or helped plan mentoring programs that have reached over 1,000 girls statewide.

To date, the Council has partnered with HCA Corporation, First Tennessee Bank, West Tennessee Healthcare, H&M Company, Kirkland's Inc, the U.S. Dept. of Labor-Women's Bureau, the Community Foundation of Middle Tennessee, the TN Department of Education, Girl Scouts of Tennessee, dozens of primary, secondary schools and higher education institutions and many other groups.

The Council's mentoring campaign promotes a wide range of careers in health-care, engineering, computer technology, science, business ownership and more. Our number one priority is to encourage girls and women to get a four-year college degree. Just as importantly, we promote careers in fields that pay well and that are in high demand in Tennessee. The key to our mentoring campaign is collaboration.

This graph show TN women's earnings by educational levels.



Source: 2000 Census Bureau Summary File 3

TECW wins National Mentoring Award

The Tennessee Economic Council on Women (TECW) was awarded the 2003 Horizon Award on October 6, 2003, at the Society of Women Engineers National Conference in Birmingham, Alabama. The Horizon Award is given to an outstanding organization making

significant strides in advancing the presence of, and need for, women in the fields of science, engineering and technology (SET).

TECW was selected by the Partnership to Advance Science, Engineering and Technology. Executive Director,

Ron Jenkins, states that the Tennessee Economic Council on Women was selected because of its statewide career mentoring and awareness campaign as well as its e-mentoring program. TECW stood out from among thousands of corporations and organizations throughout the

country that submitted nominations. We are especially pleased with the increasing number of organizations that recognize the need to advance women in nontraditional careers."



EXPLORE A CAREER ON THE MOVE !



Recent studies suggest that hospitals and other health care providers in many areas of the country are experiencing difficulty in recruiting registered nurses. The Bureau of Labor Statistics estimates the demand for registered nurses will increase by 26% between now and 2010 and an additional 443,000 replacement positions available.

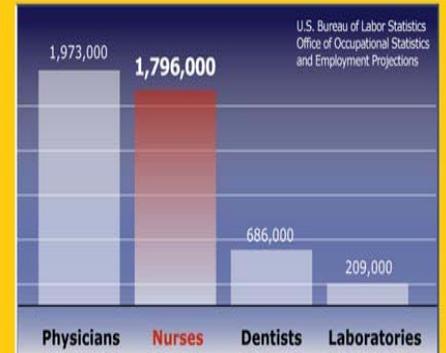
The Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor is addressing this crisis with GEM-Nursing, which will raise awareness in young people of education and career opportunities and the benefits of working in nursing fields and provide

tools and encouragement to students and communities to address the workforce shortage in these fields.

The Women's Bureau has asked the Tennessee Economic Council on Women to lead the GEM-Nursing project in Tennessee. Currently, fifty Nashville-area students are enrolled in the program; fifteen Tennessee mentors have signed up as well, representing Memphis, Nashville, Chattanooga and the Knoxville areas.

For more information on this innovative e-mentoring program, go to

Employment of Wage and Salary Workers in Health Services
Year 2000 - 2010



Also check out TN Center for Nursing Education & Career section at www.centerfornursing.org/education_careers/

Income of Her Own...A Focus on Healthcare Careers

HCA, Hospital Corporation of America, the nation's largest hospital corporation, has partnered with the Economic Council on Women for the second year in a row to promote healthcare careers in rural McMinnville, TN (Warren County). Partnering with River Park Hospital, the local Girl Scouts, and the high school's health educators, we have provided several mentoring programs to over 500 Warren County high school youth in the past two years.

The students' favorite program has been the one-day Income of Her Own event—A focus on Healthcare Careers. Twelve local women healthcare professionals volunteer one day to spend time with local high school girls interested in healthcare as a career. Girls conduct speed interviews, design a healthcare related product, create business and marketing plans, learn business terminology and enjoy a formal luncheon with local community leaders.

Peggy Hardcastle, Clinical Laboratory Director, River Park Hospital, said this of the program, "The girls were very curious. They asked... 'What do you do? What do you make? What education is needed for your jobs? What chance is there of promotions?"

This is a really good program, I'm impressed. I wish they would have done something like this when I was in high school."



Income of Her Own is an official Girl Scouts event. For more information on this program, contact your local Girl Scouts Council.

Or go to www.girlscouts.org/councilfinder/



65 Teen Women from Warren County High School attended the 1st Income of Her Own Conference

Science & Math Conferences for Girls...a look at Middle Tennessee

Expanding Your Horizons, EYH, is a one-day science and math conference for **middle school girls**. Girls spend the day with professional women who work in science and math occupations, participate in hands-on workshops, and meet other girls interested in math and science. Activities and resources are also available for parents, teachers, and Girl Scout Troop leaders.

EYH is an annual event hosted at Middle Tennessee State University (MTSU) and presented by the Murfreesboro branch of American Association of University Women, the Girl Scout Council

on Cumberland Valley and the Math/Science Network.

TWISTER, Tennessee Women in Science, Technology, Engineering and Research is a hands-on science & math conference for **high school girls**. This event was created to encourage young women to continue taking upper level science and math courses in high school, to consider career paths in the sciences and to provide role models for these young women.

TWISTER is an annual event presented by Adventure Science Center during the month of February.

For more information on the MTSU EYH please visit : www.mtsu.edu/~eyh

If you are interested in starting your own EYH conference, please visit:

www.eyhnet.org and click on "Starting an EYH"

For more information on TWISTER, contact Jeri Hasselbring at (615) 401-5069 or by email at jhasselbring@adventuresci.com.

To Learn how to Lead Fun Science Activities for Kids Ages 8-11 go to <http://pbskids.org/zoom/too/scitraining/index.html>

Engineering A Future: TN Tech's Response to Few Women Majors

When a group of women engineering professors at TN Tech University began looking at a decade-long trend of low enrollment rates for female engineering majors, they decided something needed to be done.

What they created, in partnership with the Girl Scouts, the local AAUW chapter, the TTU College of Education and the support of TTU, was a hands-on learning

workshop for girls in the 5th-8th grades. The inaugural event held during National Engineering Week in February 2003 included making balloon-powered paper planes, electric food, concrete art, edible villages and robotics.

A unique aspect of the event is the partnership with the College of Education to include education majors as team leaders along side engineering majors.

"Only 9 or 10 percent of professional engineers in the workforce are women...."

"...Being involved with this workshop is one way corporations can work toward creating a more diverse workforce."

Other Informative web sites on science, engineering & technology

Association for Women in Science www.awis.org

Discover Engineering Online www.discoverengineering.org

Institute for Women and Technology www.iwt.org

Junior Engineering Technical Society www.jets.org

Math Ideas for Science Fair Projects

<http://forum.swarthmore.edu/teachers/mathproject.html>

Webgrrls International www.webgrrls.com

Science Fair Project Resource www.ipl.org/youth/projectguide/

Science Fairs Research www.stemnet.nf.ca/sciencefairs

Science Learning Network www.sln.org

Science Service www.sciserv.org

Society of Women Engineers www.swe.org

Space Kids <http://spacekids.hq.nasa.gov>

Try Science www.tryscience.org

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The Economic Council on Women is a State agency created under *TCA § 4-50-100, et seq.* by the One Hundredth General Assembly in 1998 to address the economic needs of Tennessee women.

Mission Statement

The Tennessee Economic Council on Women assesses Tennessee women's economic status. It develops and advocates solutions to address women's needs to help women achieve economic autonomy. In setting its priorities, the Council selects issues that are timely and likely to result in positive changes for women.

Vision

The Tennessee Economic Council on Women will be regarded as the source of information about women's issues in Tennessee.

TECW begins Financial Literacy Programs for Women

The Tennessee Economic Council on Women (TECW) began its financial literacy campaign for Tennessee women on March 3, 2004 in Pulaski, TN (Giles County), thanks to a grant from the Women's Fund of the Community Foundation of Middle Tennessee.

TECW Chair Brenda Speer states, "The Council has made financial literacy for women a priority because understanding personal finances is essential for women's ability to become self-sufficient. This workshop presents financial information about budgets, credit, paycheck planning and smart shopping in easy-to-understand language".

TECW partnered with the South Central Career Center and M-Powered Training Group to host the event. Participants of the program came from the Tennessee Technology Center (BST Class), Dept. of Human Services (Families First), Adult Education, Dislocated Workers, and teen mothers from the local high school (Giles Co. High).

Financial illiteracy and personal bankruptcy have reached alarming rates in Tennessee and throughout the nation, posing a significant risk for single women. According to the American Bankruptcy Institute, Tennessee has the second highest bankruptcy rate in the nation, with one out of every thirty-five households filing for bankruptcy during the period June 2002-June 2003. Single-filing women account for 40% of new bankruptcy filings at the national level, according to the report, *Women in Bankruptcy*. The authors of the report, Dr. Teresa Sullivan

and Dr. Elizabeth Warren, site divorce as a financial catastrophe for many women.

The Council is launching similar workshops geared at girls in the middle and high school grades, as well. In Memphis, the Council is teaming up with First Tennessee Bank to promote financial literacy during the 2004-05 school year in high needs Memphis school systems. In Nashville, the Council has participated in the Girl Scouts Camp CEO—a week-long camp that teaches high school girls a variety of business skills, including the basics of finance.



Participants at the Basic Money workshop in Pulaski, TN review how to reconcile a personal checking account.