



## **Empowering the Next Generation of Female Leaders: Mastercard's Girls4Tech**

The Foundation is passionate about supporting initiatives to help empower the next generation of leaders. Your investments with the Foundation leverage support for these life-changing programs. We capitalize on our shareholder influence by driving meaningful changes in communities and industries worldwide. Mastercard's Girls4Tech program is a stellar example of this impact. Girls4Tech has become the world's largest STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) education program designed specifically for young girls.

Launched over a decade ago, Girls4Tech is a hands-on, interactive program that introduces girls to exciting STEM fields such as cryptology, fraud detection, data science, and design engineering. To date, the program has reached over seven million girls across sixty-four countries and territories. It provides them with the tools, knowledge, and inspiration to pursue STEM careers. The goal is to bridge the gender gap in STEM fields and inspire the next generation of leaders by engaging young women with mentors and role models.

Rev. Dr. David S. Bell, President & Executive Director of the United Methodist Foundation of Michigan, shared his thoughts on the importance of programs like Girls4Tech: "In a world where equal opportunities for women in STEM fields are still too rare, initiatives like Girls4Tech represent a powerful step forward. We are committed to encouraging businesses to adopt socially responsible practices that uplift communities and create pathways for all young people to succeed."

The impact of Girls4Tech is clear. Prior to the program's launch, one in five boys expressed interest in pursuing STEM careers, while only one in twenty girls had similar aspirations. Through Girls4Tech, young girls are advancing into a new generation of female innovators.

What makes Girls4Tech particularly special is its inclusiveness. The program is available in twenty-three languages and offers free digital resources and curriculum to educators, parents, and education partners. This widespread accessibility ensures that girls, regardless of where they live, have the opportunity to explore STEM and realize their potential.

Bell expanded on the Foundation's commitment, "We believe in the power of partnership and corporate responsibility. We work tirelessly to influence the governance and business practices of companies. We encourage them to adopt practices that reflect ethical values. Mastercard's Girls4Tech program is a shining example of how businesses can create lasting change, foster diversity, and open doors for the leaders of tomorrow."

As an investor with the Foundation, you should be proud to support such initiatives that create meaningful opportunities for all young people, particularly those who have been historically underrepresented in fields like STEM. We are grateful for your ongoing support as we work together to build a better, more equitable future.

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