



January 20, 2015

Dear AAUW Membership:

AAUW and AAUW of New Jersey-Atlantic County Branch and Cape County Branch support STEM education as a major focus. Tech Trek is just one initiative that is helping turn around STEM education. Girls who attend such programs are given the opportunity to prepare for college and the workforce, the encouragement to pursue their STEM interests in an environment free from stereotypes, and the chance to believe in themselves.

Tech Trek is based off of the research titled “*Why So Few?*” which shows that women enter the STEM fields at alarmingly lower rates compared to their male peers. Junior High School is the time period that interest in the STEM field declines. It focuses on science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) fields which provide hands-on experiences for rising 8<sup>th</sup> grade girls. This enriching experience provides campers with the encouragement to choose a career within the STEM. The campers are given a week-long opportunity and learn from core courses, workshops, field trips, and experiences with STEM field women role models and many more experiences.

Tech Trek Camp @ Stockton College of New Jersey and powered by AAUW is in the first year. We hope to serve 30 campers comprising of girls from Atlantic and Cape May County’s 8<sup>th</sup> grade schools this summer. The 2015 camp is scheduled for July 19<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> and the cost to run the camp is \$25,200. We need your financial support to help girls to continue their dreams with the STEM fields.

Please consider being a sponsor and be recognized for your support of girls in our fight for equity. Your support will directly impact the experience of these girls by providing funds for them to attend and experience quality STEM curriculum. I have attached our donation form and the advertising form. Checks are payable to **AAUW Funds-NJ Tech Trek**. Send donations to: *Michelle Douglass-424 Bethel Road, NJ 08244* or donate directly online at <http://www.aauw.org/program-gift/?treatment=TECHTREK>

Sincerely,

Michelle Douglass,  
*New Jersey-Atlantic County Branch Stem Tech Trek Director & AAUW of NJ/Atlantic County  
Public Policy Chair, 2014-2016*