

NANCY MWIROTSI

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WORK EXPERIENCE

Pursuit of Innovation 515, Des Moines, Iowa

Founded and Executive Director, 2014 – Present

- Founded and leads nonprofit that teaches a combination of STEM and soft skills to underserved youth from ages 10 to 18
- Leverages own experience, skills, and character to advocate for marginalized youth in Central Iowa
- Created annual curriculum that has taught 100+ underserved youth and refugee students technology and skills that prepare them for success in STEM-related fields
- Partners with Des Moines companies to implement a peer mentoring program that teaches tech skills through free, year-long classes where graduates earn a laptop to keep
- Introduce students to teachers and companies with employees who look like them, providing role models that inspire them
- Ensure Pi515 programs keep pace with changing technologies and align with the needs of corporate partners
- Dedicated to preparing young people to reach their potential and contribute to the common good
- Prepare budgets for approval, including those for funding or implementation of programs.
- Organize or approve promotional campaigns.
- Manage staff, preparing work schedules and assigning specific duties.
- Determine staffing requirements, and interview, hire and train new employees, or oversee those personnel processes.
- Identify, develop and manage fundraising efforts for the organization
- Remain active in local community activities. Establish networks and resources for the organization
- Find program partners
- Recruit volunteers
- Adapt teaching methods and instructional materials to meet students' varying needs, abilities, and interests.
- Conduct classes, workshops, and demonstrations to teach principles, techniques, or methods in subjects such as basic tech skills, life skills, and workforce entry skills.
- Prepare and implement remedial programs for students requiring extra help
- Participate in publicity planning, community awareness efforts, and student recruitment
- Write grants to obtain program funding.
- Select and schedule class times to ensure maximum attendance
- Observe and evaluate the performance of other instructors
- Advise students on internships, prospective employers, and job placement service

Room to Room, Urbandale, Iowa

Business Manager, 2010 – 2012

- Resolve customer complaints regarding sales and service.
- Plan and direct staffing, training, and performance evaluations to develop and control sales and service programs.
- Confer or consult with department heads to plan advertising services and to secure information on equipment and customer specifications.
- Advise dealers and distributors on policies and operating procedures to ensure functional effectiveness of business.

Slumberland, Des Moines, Iowa

Office Manager, 1998 – 2004

- Direct or coordinate the supportive services department of a business, agency, or organization.
- Set goals and deadlines for the department.
- Acquire, distribute and store supplies.
- Monitor the facility to ensure that it remains safe, secure, and well-maintained.
- Hire and terminate clerical and administrative personnel.
- Conduct classes to teach procedures to staff.

AWARDS & RECOGNITION

- Wells Fargo Hidden Figure Awards (2019)
- Des Moines Business Record Power Breakfast Entrepreneurs Panelist (2019)
- Greater Des Moines Partnership Excellence in Education EDGE award (2019)
- [Technology Association of Iowa Catalyst Recognition](#) (2019)
- Keynote Speaker at the Iowa Campus Compact's 2018 Civic Action Academy (2018)
- Girl Scouts' Inspiring Women of Iowa: *Courage* Award Finalist (2018)
- [Iowa International Center Passport to Prosperity Award](#) (2017)
- [Des Moines Register "15 People to Watch In Iowa"](#) (2016)
- Technology Association of Iowa's Women of Innovation finalist in the category of STEM and Diversity Champion (2015)
- Technology Association of Iowa's Women of Innovation nominee in the category of Entrepreneurship (2015)

VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

- Member of the Iowa Computer Science Standards Review Team (2017-2018)
- Participated in the White House Conference on Inclusive STEM Education for Youth of Color (2016)

EDUCATION

- High School Diploma - *Kenya, Africa*