



MISSION: To Engage employers of Information Technology professionals with best practices, resources and a community to GROW, DEVELOP, RECRUIT and RETAIN an inclusive world class IT workforce in West Michigan.

Council Strategies

Grow	Develop	Recruit/Retain
<p>Providing students, families, and educators with opportunities to engage with computing and technology careers.</p>	<p>Helps employers upskill the current workforce to meet our region's talent demands. By connecting employers to training and funding opportunities, we make developing West Michigan's workforce accessible and affordable.</p>	<p>Expanding the talent pool by recruiting outside talent and keeping new graduates in West Michigan. WMTT connects local employers with organizations that actively recruit top talent from outside areas to West Michigan.</p>

West Michigan Tech Talent

- MiCode Experience (Hour of Code)
- MI Career Conversations
- MACUL Conference
- Diversity in Tech Video Series
- STEM Greenhouse +
- Grow with Google
- Apprenticeship Development
- Expansion of training funds

INITIATIVES

IT'S HAPPENING NETWORKING EVENT

In partnership with Hello West Michigan, WMTT hosted the first-of-its-kind networking event for West Michigan IT employers and tech talent to connect virtually. **Through IT's Happening, WMTT connected:**

- ▶ 6 IT employers with
- ▶ 37 local tech professionals

AFA CYBERCAMP

In partnership with the West Michigan Center for Arts + Technology (WMCAT), WMTT made it possible for middle and high school students to build fundamental technical skills for a career in cybersecurity while exploring STEM careers. **Because of WMTT's support:**

- ▶ 30 students were able to attend virtual camp.

STEM GREENHOUSE

STEM Greenhouse provided STEM curriculum to students in grades six, seven and eight during the 2020-21 school year. The program was offered at two schools in the Grand Rapids Public Schools district, which do not have middle school science teachers. **Because of WMTT's support:**

- ▶ 35 students participated in a rigorous STEM curriculum to build knowledge and interest in the field.

HOUR OF CODE

WMTT organizes local participation in this global initiative to bring introductory coding to elementary students in our region. **Through Hour of Code, WMTT engaged:**

- ▶ 2400 West Michigan elementary students
- ▶ 81 West Michigan teachers
- ▶ 12 West Michigan IT employers

INDUSTRY LED COLLABORATIVE TRAINING

GOINGPRO TALENT FUND (GPTF)

The GPTF program provides employers with support to train new staff and upskill current employees in high-demand occupations to meet their talent needs. **Because of the GPTF:**

- ▶ 17 IT companies/departments received grants.
- ▶ \$500k + in training GPTF grant dollars were awarded.

EXPANSION OF TRAINING FUNDS

The expansion of grants, including GPTF, incumbent worker training, and on-the-job training funds, **resulted in:**

- ▶ \$847k in funding
- ▶ 498 total trainees



The Road Forward

- Creation of non-traditional training and apprenticeship development.
- Focus on new and innovative recruitment strategies
- Employer outreach for training funds
- Expanding council representation
- Conference and community support
- Championing diversity efforts