

100Kin10

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President Obama, 100Kin10 Announce 100,000 New STEM Teachers Will be Trained by 2021

With more than 280 partners, 30,000 new STEM teachers to-date, and \$90 million in funding commitments since 2011, 100Kin10 joined the President to feature the major milestone while looking to systemic challenges ahead

President highlights STEM educators who would not have been teaching were it not for training programs supported by the 100Kin10 network

New York, NY – 100Kin10 joined with President Obama today, on National Teacher Appreciation Day, to announce that it has secured the commitments to train 100,000 new, excellent science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) teachers by 2021, achieving a major milestone in the ambitious goal laid out by the President five years ago. As of today's announcement, the 100Kin10 network of 280 national partners has collectively pledged more than \$90 million to support the development and ongoing support of 100,000 new STEM teachers; and 30,000 new teachers have already been trained. The President highlighted today's achievement as a feature of his legacy on education.

"We are so proud to stand with the President today and announce that we are well on track to training 100,000 new excellent STEM teachers by 2021. Five years ago, this ambitious and unprecedented goal sounded impossible, but we have reached this milestone because hundreds of diverse and leading organizations across the country have stepped up, collaborated, and committed to innovative solutions to address our severe STEM teacher shortage," said **100Kin10 co-founder and Executive Director Talia Milgrom-Elcott**.

President Obama first proposed adding 100,000 science, technology, engineering, and mathematics teachers to the nation's schools in his 2011 State of the Union address. 100Kin10 formed in response to the President's call and has led the campaign to build a diverse network of partners across a range of education, business, government, non-profit, and community-based organizations. The [partners](#), across all 50 states, have committed to recruiting, training, placing, supporting, and advancing teachers, promoting policy change, providing funding, and telling the STEM story. They include the Clinton Global Initiative (CGI), where 100Kin10 was launched as a CGI Commitment to Action in 2011.

According to [data](#) gathered from 1.8 million students in the high school graduating class of 2014 who took ACT exams, barely 5,500 said they were interested in teaching science or math. But in an encouraging sign, many newly-trained STEM teachers are emerging from training programs supported by the 100Kin10 network.

"I had been researching my options for pursuing a teaching career when I came across Rider's Teach First Class program and found it was by far the best fit for me. Through this program, I did not just learn how to teach math, I learned how to teach thinking. STEM teaching is not only a very in-demand profession, with challenges and growth opportunities, it's also a way to help people and support an important cause. It's exciting to help foster the next generation of engineers, scientists, and innovators,

and Rider's program enabled me to get into the classroom quickly and start making a difference,” said **Linda Hoffman, a teacher in Ewing, New Jersey.**

100Kin10’s partner organizations include prominent influencers in K-12 education, like Teach for America and the American Federation of Teachers; community organizations like the Girl Scouts; governmental organizations like NASA, host of 100Kin10’s most recent annual gathering; and major academic institutions like California State University.

“Thanks in large part to 100Kin10, California State University has trained almost 10,000 new STEM teachers since this campaign began and will reach tens of thousands more by the end of this ten-year goal,” said **Dr. Loren Blanchard, Executive Vice Chancellor of California State University.** “We are so proud to support President Obama's ambitious goal as one of the leading producers of new STEM teachers in the country. Through connections to meaningful and productive new partners, access to experts and funding, and opportunities to collectively problem-solve with fellow leaders in STEM education, CSU has already trained thousands more and better-prepared STEM educators than we would have otherwise. We are proud that Damion Delton, one of many new STEM teachers who likely would not be teaching middle school science in Fresno, California, if it weren't for 100Kin10, is representing our collective accomplishments at the President's celebration today.”

In addition to working to address the teacher shortage, 100Kin10 has worked with its partners to identify the structural challenges hindering STEM education in the U.S., including training programs that lack adequate STEM content, uncompetitive teacher salaries, inadequate professional development, limits to classroom experimentation and hands-on learning experiences, complex state certification rules, and other factors, as outlined in their recently updated [Challenge Tree](#). 100Kin10 has also received input from its teacher training partners about what is hindering their ability to grow or fill all STEM teacher vacancies.

“While today we celebrate the commitments that will get us to 100K, our work is not yet done: beyond filling these positions, the systemic challenges that limit STEM education in our country must be addressed to make sure educators and their students can succeed long after this initiative meets its goals in 2021. Five years from now, even if we train 100,000 new teachers, we will have met the goal but failed the mission to remake STEM education in this country. Though we are buoyed by the network’s success to date, we still have a lot of work ahead,” said **Milgrom-Elcott.**

In the next five years, 100Kin10 and its vast network will not only work to deliver on the commitments to train 100,000 new STEM teachers, but will also pursue systemic change so that this progress will be sustained well past 2021. Through regular summits, training toolkits, and other network, learning, and collaboration opportunities, 100Kin10 is aligning network priorities and fueling research, innovation, and funding to further identify and address these big, system-level barriers.

Some examples of innovative projects that have come out of 100Kin10 convenings and funding partnerships include:

- A Scientist-in-Residence program in New York City public schools in which New York Academy of Sciences scientists are placed in classrooms to lead projects with STEM teachers and students.
- A partnership between the Colorado School of Mines, the University of Northern Colorado, and the Denver Teacher Residency, which provides a pathway for engineering graduates to be trained and certified in teaching and then placed in STEM classrooms.

- A partnership between the Tennessee Department of Education and the education crowdsourcing website Donorschoose.org that's supporting STEM teachers in roughly 200 rural Tennessee schools, providing them with funds for necessary classroom supplies.

"100Kin10 has connected us with some of the best, most committed STEM leaders in the country, and we have seen first-hand how 100Kin10 is helping expand the appeal and commitment to STEM teaching across the country," said **Dr. Gregory Dell'Omo, President of Rider University**. "With the network's support we have been able to launch a brand new teacher Residency training program and are on track to train over 1,000 new, excellent STEM teachers in support of President Obama's ambitious ten-year goal. We are proud that Linda Hoffman, one of many new STEM teachers who is now teaching Elementary STEM subjects in New Jersey because of 100Kin10, is representing our collective accomplishments at the President's celebration today."

ABOUT 100KIN10

100Kin10 is a non-profit organization committed to recruiting, training, and retaining 100,000 excellent science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) teachers by 2021. 100Kin10 encourages multi-sector collaboration and provides the vision and resources to help nonprofits, foundations, academic institutions, and businesses meet their ambitious commitments to educate the next generation of innovators and problem solvers. More information is available at www.100kin10.org.

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