



VOLUNTEER REQUEST FORM

Let's Go Boys and Girls

Pro Bono Analytics overview:

The mission of the INFORMS Pro Bono Analytics program is to offer a platform for the operations research and analytics community to volunteer their skills for the benefit of underserved populations and developing communities in the U.S. and abroad. The program brings analytics techniques to non-profit organizations that may lack these skills internally and/or lack the resources to acquire these skills. The program also provides a new source of interesting real-world project experience to INFORMS members and other analytics/OR professionals, including experienced academics and practitioners as well as students and young professionals.

Project overview: Let's Go Boys and Girls - Measuring Program Impact

How to volunteer:

If you would like to be considered for this pro bono opportunity, please email your resume and a description of your skills to probono@informs.org to express your tentative interest.

Note: To help us manage the program, we request that you please not contact the non-profit organization directly.

Questions:

Contact us at probono@informs.org or visit us at www.probonoanalytics.org

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING PRO BONO ANALYTICS

Name of Organization: Let's Go Boys and Girls | <http://www.lets goboy sandgirls.com/>

Project Location: 19 Harness Creak View Ct. Annapolis, MD

Primary Objectives of the Organization: Break the cycle of poverty through STEM education and workforce development. Founded in 2009 by Dr. Clark "Corky" Graham, LET'S GO Boys and Girls, Inc. (LET'S GO) set out to increase the number of STEM professionals from our urban underserved communities by engaging and supporting elementary and middle school students through the STEM education pipeline. They partner with schools and youth organizations interested in offering STEM to their students and provide the materials, training, and support necessary to implement fun, hands-on STEM curricular activities. As a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, we focus our efforts on bringing high quality STEM programs into the hands of underserved students.

Main Activities of the Organization:

Professional Development, Materials for Science/Engineering, Math and Robotics, Program Planning and Coordination, Student Mentoring with STEM, STEM Speaker Series, Outcome Evaluation

Approximate number of staff and volunteers: 22 staff

INFORMS Pro Bono Analytics Project Number: 201807-1

Project title: Let's Go Boys and Girls - Measuring Program Impact

Project summary in 20 words or less: Improve their ability to measure program impact and explore improved outcome measurement options.

Desired start/end date: TBD by Volunteer(s) and LGBAG

Estimated time commitment by volunteers: TBD by Volunteer(s) and LGBAG

Is travel by the volunteer involved, and if so, where: Would love a Maryland resident for on-site visits, but remote work is okay as well.

Desired special skills/qualifications for volunteers: none

Project description:

LET'S GO Boys and Girls is working to break the cycle of poverty through STEM (science, technology, engineering, math) education and workforce development. Based in Baltimore, LET'S GO inspires and supports participation of low income/high risk students in activities that help them develop a STEM identity leading to improved academic achievement and career success in the 21st Century information age. A goal of LET'S GO is to increase the number of STEM professionals from urban underserved communities.

LET'S GO tracks students from the time they register in one of their informal STEM education activities (typically in elementary school) through middle, high, and post-secondary school and ultimately entrance into the workforce. They need a data base system to track demographics, history of participation in activities, academic record (grades, test scores, attendance, and disciplinary record), high school and post-secondary school completion, and entrance into the workforce.

LET'S GO would like to work with Pro Bono Analytics volunteers to improve their ability to measure program impact. They currently track students from the time they register in one of their informal STEM education activities (typically in elementary school) through middle, high, and post-secondary school and ultimately entrance into the workforce. They are planning to improve their data collection and data storage, and would like to use this opportunity to explore improved outcome measurement options. Key questions include:

- Is there evidence that low income/high risk students' participation and persistence in informal STEM education activities leads to improvement in students' academic achievement and life skills?
- What is the necessary quality of STEM activities and dosage/duration of delivery of activities for low income/high risk students to develop a strong enough "STEM identity" that motivates students to improve their academic achievement and life skills putting them on a pathway to success to economic prosperity?
- Does participation and persistence in informal STEM activities lead to the desired end goal of low income/high risk youth breaking out of generational poverty?