Investing in the Next Generation

We’re preparing students of all ages to meet the challenges ahead by inspiring their interest in technology and science through STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) programs. Ford Fund also supports other educational initiatives that empower young people to take control of their future, improve lives and drive social mobility.

• We work with Primary Engineer, a nonprofit that runs engineering-based courses for schoolchildren in the U.K. Every school is matched with a Ford engineer to bring a real-world context to the sessions. To date, we have engaged 65 schools, 140 teachers and more than 3,480 children with 45 Ford volunteers.

• Ford Driving Dreams (FDD) provides scholarships, community grants, youth literacy resources and student leadership training to inspire multicultural youth and celebrate the benefits of staying in school, achieving academic success and pursuing higher education. The initiative has donated over $2 million in community grants and 100,000 new books, impacting more than 200,000 students in the United States, Latin America and Spain.

• Ford College Community Challenge (Ford C3) has helped college student social entrepreneurs to launch social enterprises that have positively impacted people around the world.

• After more than two decades of support of FIRST®, a robotics community that prepares young people for the future, Ford became a FIRST Strategic Partner to encourage learning among students of all ages. During 2020–2021, we directly supported 229 teams across all FIRST programs in the U.S., and more than 400 Ford employees volunteered as mentors, impacting more than 5,000 students.

To learn more about Ford Fund’s efforts to strengthen communities, please visit www.fordfund.org.

To boost female representation in the tech industry, we support organizations including the Engineering Society of Detroit’s Girls in Engineering Academy and Girls Who Code, a nonprofit that equips young women with the skills to pursue opportunities in computing.

SHE-MOVES: Driving Human Progress Through Social Enterprise

Through our grant program SHE-MOVES (Strengthen Her: Mobilizing Ventures for Social Innovation), established in 2019, we have supported community projects in South Africa and Nigeria that benefit women-led social enterprises and whole-person development for women. After delays due to COVID-19, the projects were completed with the following accomplishments:

• **Uhambo** in South Africa offers caregivers relief from isolation, and provides community support and education to improve access to work, school or social events faced by children with disabilities. The project has trained 40 stakeholders on equality for people with disabilities, reached 85 community members through community dialogue, and completed 264 community member surveys to inform national policy for children with disabilities. Uhambo also supported 10 mothers leading parent support groups and launched the National Parent Advisory Committee and Parent Change Trust in South Africa.

• **Shuttlers** in Nigeria, which offers female bus commuters into Lagos onboard learning to support their personal and professional development. The project provided skills training to 630 women who later passed their exams, reached 350 women who are now pursuing further education, provided training to 105 women who have gained new jobs as a result and saw 22 new companies launched by women in the program.

Due to COVID-19, new SHE-MOVES grants were suspended for 2020 and restarted in 2021.