

Reach One, Teach One (R.O.T.O.) Program Guide



Cause for Action:

- Nationally, only 4% of doctorate degrees in science and engineering are awarded to women of ethnic minorities, according to the National Science Foundation.
- In K-12 education, girls and boys participate in science courses at equal rates, but enrollment does vary by other factors, including parents' education, race, and socioeconomic status. Syracuse has the highest child poverty rate in New York State, and students in Syracuse City School District consistently score below the state average on standardized tests.
- In order to ensure equitable access to higher education in STEM fields, Girls, Inc. offers additional resources to minority girls and teens, especially those from low-income families.

Where is the program?

This program is held at the [YWCA Zonta House](#), 401 Douglas Street, Syracuse, NY 13203, in partnership with Girls, Inc.

What does the Reach One, Teach One program do?

The YWCA, including its Zonta House programs, provides afterschool care, tutoring, and other services for girls across Syracuse. The Upstate student-designed Reach One, Teach One program partners with the existing afterschool program to provide hands-on science experiments in an effort to expose girls to STEM education at an early age.

Who does the Reach One, Teach One program serve?

This program serves young girls ages 5 and up who attend YWCA programs during the school year.

How does the program provide for this population?

Through creative and interactive science demonstrations, Upstate students help foster academic curiosity among children, as well as providing informal mentorship.

What would I do as a student?

Upstate volunteers assist elementary school students with homework and lead fun, interactive science experiments with student participants.

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How often would I serve?

There are Upstate student volunteers present at Zonta House every other Wednesday from 4 pm - 5:30 pm. Schedule may vary based on the needs of the community partner. Please check with the Center for Civic Engagement if you are interested in participating in this program.

What are the community impacts?

The Reach One, Teach One program provides age-appropriate supplemental science education meant to inspire girls' curiosity in the STEM fields. Volunteers also serve as mentors and role models for the participants.