NICE | community coordinating council

NICE Community Coordinating Council Promote Career
Discovery Working Group

1. Project Team Name

Unlocking Untapped Cybersecurity Potential through Faith-Based Organization and Alternative Education Pathway Ecosystems

2. Project Team Purpose

The Untapped Ecosystem project team will develop recommendations to those who influence career choices (e.g., teachers and faculty, school counselors, career coaches, career development personnel, mentors, and parents or guardians) impacting faith-based organizations (e.g., churches, mosques, and synagogues), and alternative education systems (e.g., homeschooling, micro-schools, private schools, and charter schools) to increase participation in the cybersecurity workforce.

This project aligns with the NICE Strategic Plan's Implementation Plan Goal 1 to Promote the Discovery of Cybersecurity Careers and Multiple Pathways. The project team will focus on the NICE *Implementation Plan Goal 1, Objectives 1.4.* Objective 1.4 centers on providing information and tools about cybersecurity-related career options to those who influence career choices (e.g., teachers and faculty, school counselors, career coaches, career development personnel, mentors, and parents or guardians).

3. Project Team Objectives

The objectives of this project group are to *examine the best ways to reach and impact faith-based organizations* and *alternative education systems* about *cybersecurity career opportunities*. The team will leverage existing research as well as conduct primary research, including establishing a program and activity directory of these untapped ecosystems. An analysis of research results will enable the identification of effective strategies for reaching untapped ecosystems to improve the appeal and understanding of cybersecurity career opportunities connected to the NICE Cybersecurity Framework Work Roles and promote participation in cybersecurity activities and education programs.

4. Project Team Deliverables

a. Environmental scan of faith-based organizations that host STEM-related activities and/or work-based opportunities
b. Literature review to document existing research on faith-based organizations providing employment and training services
c. Environmental scan of alternative education systems (e.g., homeschooling, micro-schools, private schools)
d. Literature review to document existing research on curriculum options and approaches for alternative education systems where cybersecurity careers are taught
e. Survey, webinar, or workshop for untapped ecosystem stakeholders to answer the question, "*What information and tools can career influencers use to disseminate content around cybersecurity career awareness, selection, reskilling, upskilling, and retention*?"
f. White paper/s using the project information results and from the literature review, author guidance for faith-based organizations, alternative education systems, and other individuals that influence career choices about effective strategies that improve the appeal and understanding of cybersecurity career opportunities connected to the NICE Cybersecurity Framework Work Roles, promote engagement in cybersecurity activities and education programs, and increase participation in the cybersecurity workforce.

5. Roles and Responsibilities

Project co-leads: Karl Cureton, Keith Davis, Davina Pruitt-Mentle, Tichi Pinkney Eppes, Craig DiSesa, Walter Novillo-Tapia