Upskilling a Diverse 21st-Century Cybersecurity Workforce

"Creating Accessible Cybersecurity Career Pathways 

Pursue a Cybersecurity Career

- Identify your area of interest in cybersecurity, such as network security, cryptography, or ethical hacking.
- Explore various job roles within your chosen area of interest to determine which roles align with your skills and goals.
- Pursue relevant education and certifications, free options, or learning pathways like TRYHACKME, Coursera, Hacksplaining, freeCodeCamp.org, Udemy.com, and CBT Nuggets for a bachelor's degree.
- Continuously stay updated on the latest technology, threats, and trends in the industry through attending conferences, participating in online forums, and reading industry publications.
- Seek mentors within your industry of interest who can provide valuable advice and support.

DEIA Cybersecurity Resources

- The Women's Society of Cyberjutsu offers mentorship programs, networking opportunities, and educational resources for women interested in cybersecurity.
- The National Society of Black Engineers provides networking events and conferences for black engineers, including those in cybersecurity.
- Diversity in Cybersecurity provides a directory of mentors and networking opportunities for underrepresented groups in the industry.

Storytelling

"I promote the benefits of a diverse and inclusive workforce and encourage organizations to adopt policies and practices that promote diversity and inclusion in the workplace. For one, organizations with a diverse workforce can better understand and meet the needs of a diverse customer base. Additionally, research has shown that various teams are more creative and innovative and are better able to solve complex problems. Moreover, when employees feel included and valued, they are more engaged and productive, ultimately leading to greater profitability for the organization. Finally, having a diverse and inclusive workplace can help to attract and retain top talent, as people are increasingly looking for workplaces that reflect their values and beliefs." – Andrea L. Wingo

Foster a positive workplace culture that values diversity and recognizes the importance of inclusivity in cybersecurity. Lead by example.