

# 2025

## ANNUAL REPORT



Creating Exciting  
Futures in **STEM**



[www.CEFInSTEM.org](http://www.CEFInSTEM.org)



# A MESSAGE OF THANKS



2025 was a year of forward momentum for CEF as we continued our mission to inspire ALL students to see themselves as future STEM innovators. Every day, we witness how a single spark of curiosity can grow into something extraordinary—and it's that spark that fuels everything we do.

From classrooms to competitions, our programs—the **You Be The Solution Challenge**, **Adventure Guides**, and **Career Conversations**—bring science learning to life through creative, hands-on experiences that connect students to real-world possibilities, from career and technical education to college and beyond.

Employee engagement also remains a cornerstone of CEF's community impact. This year, our industry partners provided more than **600 volunteers**, who contributed over **3,000 hours**, inspiring students while strengthening connections between learning and the workplace. Watching students light up as they engage with your employees and seeing themselves in those roles is what makes this work so rewarding.

Our impact continues to grow—reaching **nearly 500,000 students this year**—thanks to the generosity and dedication of our industry partners, donors, and volunteers. Together, we are truly **Creating Exciting Futures in STEM!**

## **Calvin Emanuel, Ph.D.** **Board President, CEF**

*Vice President and General Manager, Sustainable Growth Solutions  
Nalco Water/An Ecolab Company*



## 2025 PROGRAM IMPACT

# 496,000

Total Students Impacted

# 16,000

Total Teachers Impacted

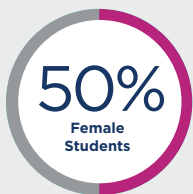
### STUDENT EXPERIENCES



**You Be The Solution Challenge** is a national, team-based STEM competition where middle school students tackle local issues and create community-driven solutions. The program builds essential skills in critical thinking, communication, entrepreneurship, and problem-solving.



**Career Conversations** engage students in exploring STEM career paths and gaining real-world insights from CEF's industry partners.



### EDUCATOR RESOURCES



**Adventure Guides** are educator friendly, hands-on, inquiry-based science lessons that use inexpensive household items to teach science anywhere!



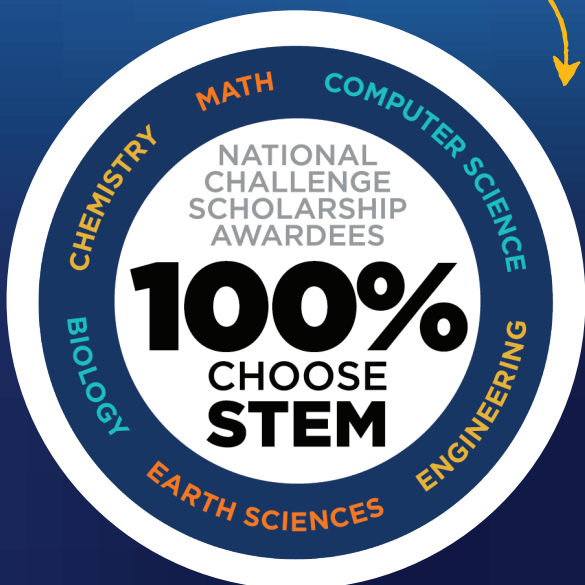
**Essential Elements** empowers educators with hands-on training and real-world tools that build confidence in teaching science and inspire curiosity in every student.

# INVEST & EMPLOY



Thanks to the generosity of our industry partners, CEF programs are offered **FREE** to students and teachers—opening pathways to STEM learning for all.

Through donations and employee engagement, companies ignite curiosity, strengthen communities, and help build a skilled, diverse, and future-ready STEM workforce. Their leadership in education and community partnerships ensures that every student has access to opportunity. The impact is clear: **100% of CEF's scholarship winners choose STEM.**



# 2025 COMMUNITY IMPACT



CEF's programs bridge today's classrooms and future STEM careers. Our work wouldn't be possible without volunteers who bring science to life in classrooms and communities. Their mentorship connects learning to real-world applications, showing students how curiosity leads to opportunity. These standout individuals share their time and expertise to inspire the next generation of innovators.

635

**Volunteers**

3,000

**Volunteer Hours**

94%

**volunteers from  
industry partners**

**“ Thank you for this amazing opportunity.  
We had an amazing day of science! ”**

**—Arlette R.**

*Bradley County Career and Technical Education Director*

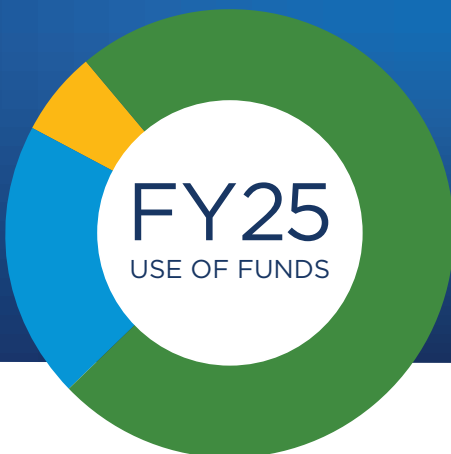
# FINANCIALS

For a full list of donors, visit [www.CEFinSTEM.org/donors](http://www.CEFinSTEM.org/donors).

■ Program & Communications  
**74%**

■ Operating & Governance  
**20%**

■ Fundraising  
**6%**



CEF is a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) charitable entity. Our financial position remained strong in 2025 thanks to our committed donors and sponsors.

*Scan to learn more!*



[www.CEFinSTEM.org](http://www.CEFinSTEM.org)

