

## **MUREP Precollege Summer Institute (PSI) - (MUREP PSI)**

**Title: 2022 Girls IMPACT Summer STEM Camp**

**Institution: Lawson State Community College**

**City/State: Birmingham, AL**

**PI: Shawanda Thomas**

### **Summary:**

Girls IMPACT (Increasing Mathematical Potential Among College-bound Teens) is an innovative, pre-collegiate STEM program uniquely designed for girls of color to be introduced to women of color who work in STEM professions. Additionally, as mathematics is critical to success in STEM fields, Girls IMPACT participants benefit from enhanced mathematics and problem-solving skills by engaging in ACT prep lessons, hands-on STEM activities, and individualized tutoring sessions throughout the program.

The 2022 Girls IMPACT Summer STEM Camp is specifically designed to encourage girls to pursue careers in STEM through STEM enrichment activities and access to STEM role models which will inherently address the stereotypes that may hinder girls' progress to pursuing STEM career pathways. Currently, women only represent about one fourth of workers in STEM careers, which are considered the highest paid and fastest growing occupations in the world. Addressing the gender and racial gap in STEM fields is imperative to increasing the number of candidates available to meet STEM workforce demands, particularly from groups historically underrepresented.