From the Director:

**The Mission**

Computer Training Institute of Chicago’s mission has always been to help build employment opportunities in the Chicagoland area. We can shape the future of tomorrow by how we invest our time, energy and resources in our young people today. Men should be providers, protectors and leaders in the community. The breakdown of the institution of marriage in our society along with other social factors, is impacting the quality of young men we are building in our community. This will impact the families and communities of tomorrow. Today it truly ‘takes a village’ to raise a child. Computer Training Institute of Chicago is committed to our village, our young men and the future of our community.

**Paul Johnson,**

*Founder/CEO of Computer Training Institute of Chicago*

Why Techmen?

**African-American Men: The Other STEM Minority**

*African-American men are one of the only minority groups not making progress in STEM.*

 Like women and other minority groups, African-American men are also underrepresented in the workforce.

 Census data show that in 2010, African-American men [made up 6.2 percent](http://factfinder.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?src=bkmk) of the population between 18 and 64 years old.

o In the same year, the NSF (National Science Foundation) reported that black men represented [just 3 percent](http://www.nsf.gov/statistics/wmpd/2013/pdf/nsf13304_digest.pdf) of scientists and engineers working in those fields.

 Roadblocks that prevent young, African-American men from pursuing careers in

STEM fields is largely due to a lack of:

o Resources

o Role Models

o "Relatability"

Solution: Start **teaching** and **engaging** students sooner, and work to dispel the curse of self-doubt.

**Source:** [**U.S. News & World Report – May 7, 2015**](http://www.usnews.com/news/stem-solutions/articles/2015/05/07/african-american-men-the-other-stem-minority)