### **Innovation and Improvement:**

### Using STEM Education to Empower Impoverished Young Adults





Ebony Webber, COO



Dr. Jeneen Abrams, National Parliamentarian

### Impoverished Young Adults Statistics

#### **Defining Poverty**

According to U S. Census Bureau poverty occurs when a single individual makes > \$11,770

- 14% of non-elderly population is impoverished
- 59% of the 14% are underrepresented from groups
  - Gendler
  - Ethnicity

#### Mission:

- Raise population from areas of poverty
- Place emphasis on underrepresented because they consist of largest portion





# Introduction

- Where We Stand
- MANRRS: Leading Forward Movement
- Removing Employment Barriers



Education



#### Leadership







### Where We Stand: Diversity Limited

- Apparent shortage in underrepresented groups studying STEM
- Apparent shortages in underrepresented groups employed in STEM industries
- STEM: Science, Math, Engineering and Mathematics ...Add A for Agriculture



### Connection Keys

- MANRRS Chapters Engaged
  - Goal of land grants
  - Chapters 1862 and 1890 schools
    - Extension and community outreach
    - Desert communities
    - Community gardens
      - Self --sustainability
    - Partnerships with commodity groups to educate



### MANRRS Strengthens The Community

MANRRS Salsa Garden-Gate to Plate

 Hands on activity as producers, processors and sales agents





# • Connection with Food Source

- Skills to grow food (Science and Technology, Math) - photosynthesis, physiology, planting schedule and calculation for planting density
- Challenges producers face (Science & Math) entomology, plant pathology



### True STEM in Action

- Coordination of harvest (Technology & Engineering)
- Preparation for processing (Engineering)
- Canning and Labeling (Technology & Engineering)
- Sales (Math)





#### Nursery Garden



Pepper Garden





#### Salsa Preparation

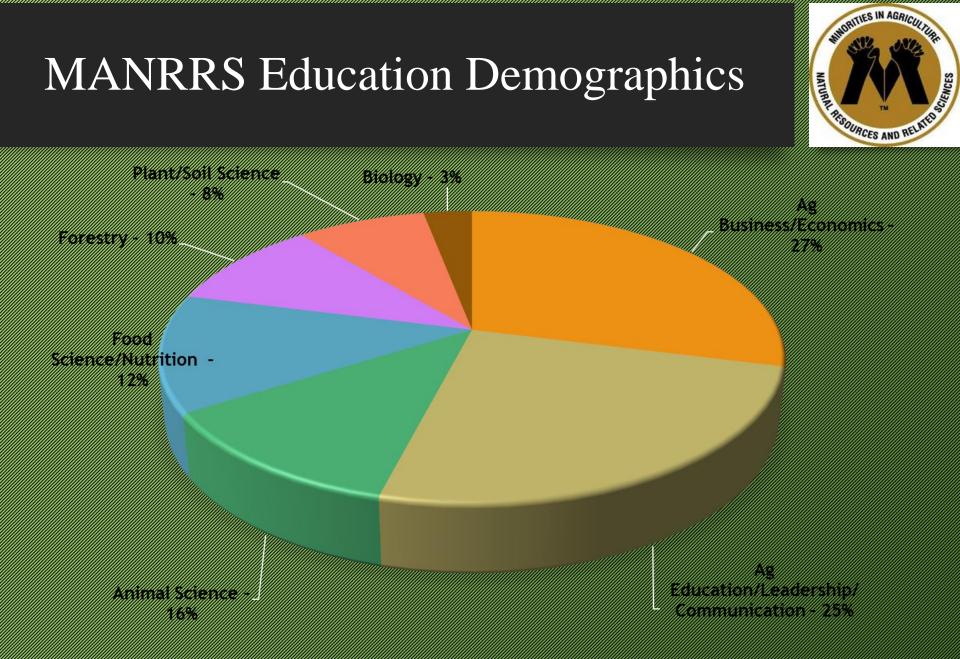
#### Working Together

AORITIES IN AGRIC

#### Innovation and Improvement:

### MANRRS: Leading Forward Movement





# MANRRS: Future Outlook

#### Short-Term Initiatives

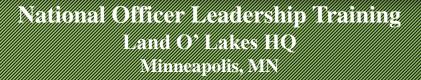
- Expand Jr. MANRRS high school membership by connecting collegiate chapters to local high schools
- Increase the number of student/professional members and collegiate chapters
- Create opportunities for MANRRS Alumni







# MANRRS: One-Stop Destination





2016-17 National Officer Team

- Highly qualified, diverse students
- Diverse pool of professionals
- Exclusive training events
- Showcase your organization at Annual Conference and Regional Meetings
- Name recognition through sponsorship, volunteering and branding opportunities



### Removing Employment Barriers



Cultural Intelligence MANRRS Diversity Study



### Where We Stand: Strategy Forward

- Strategy for Movement
  - Identify- true problem
  - Quantify-measure correct metrics
  - Inspire- hire the best and brightest
  - Assess- test change in technique
  - Evaluate- determine what data means
- Adjust- Make needed changes to assure progress
  Where we begin
  - Change begins with us
    - Implementation of powerful programs





# MANRRS: Focus Areas

#### Engagement.

- Local Chapters' Leadership Development/Regional Clusters
- 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Career Fair & Training Conference March 29<sup>th</sup> – April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017
- Collaborative Partnerships with other Ag based organizations
- Jr MANRRS Leadership Institutes
- Diverse.
  - Membership includes all ethnic backgrounds and genders
  - Membership consists of high school, collegiate and professional members
- Development.
  - Exposure to Industry and New Careers
  - Internships and Job Placement
  - Career Development Workshop Seminars
  - Student Research and Competitions





# Questions



