7 million Americans are unemployed. Many struggle to get by in part-time jobs that don't offer career growth. They could be filling the 500,000+ open tech jobs today if they had the right skills. The major contributors to this gap between the tech industry and potential talent are:

1. Lack of diversity in recruiting.
2. Lack of effective on-ramps to educate & introduce candidates to viable tech careers.
3. A focus on expensive college education.

The IT industry needs more workers — and more workers need more opportunities. We reach motivated people with an aptitude for technology from multiple under-served populations, including low-income, long-term unemployed, multiple ethnic and racial groups, individuals without college degrees, women, and veterans. Our goal by 2022 is to serve 1,000 students per year across the US, and help them gain family-sustaining wages, which will boost their local economies.

We create on-ramps for more people to prepare for, secure, and succeed in IT careers. We particularly encourage an IT path for populations that traditionally have been under-represented in the information technology workforce, such as women and people of color. Our IT-Ready program is an in-person 8-week program that assesses, trains, certifies, and provides placement assistance to our students, free of charge to them. We also work with middle schoolers and high schoolers to get them interested in a tech career by having them participate in hands-on tech activities.

Creating IT Futures is the largest charity of CompTIA, and as such, CompTIA covers overhead costs. This is especially meaningful to our donors, in that their donations go directly to programmatic costs that help unemployed, underemployed, and/or underrepresented demographics gain employment in the IT field. Through CompTIA, we have a truly global reach, including:

1. 168 member communities and councils committed to diversifying & growing the tech industry
2. 139,000 members & registered users
3. 1,600,000 certified IT pros in 150 countries
4. 4,200 schools and education partners with their own STEM efforts

Additionally, our partnerships provide us with invaluable capabilities. Our growing list of corporate donors (available here: https://www.creatingitfutures.org/donate/our-donors) provide us with much needed programmatic support. We also have alliances with other nonprofits to bolster adult tech training, including Genesys Works, Goodwill, Jewish Family & Children's Services, Per Scholas, Stride Center, and Year Up.