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MEDIA ADVISORY

Mile High United Way Hosts GradNation Workforce Summit

Visuals: Business leaders, educators and community youth working together to develop talent pipelines

- What** Community officials, business leaders, educators and youth will assemble to rally support for new pathways that help prepare young people for school success and workforce entry.
- Who** Participants will include business leaders, educators and community youth, as well as: Keynote speaker **Fiona Arnold**, executive director, Colorado Office of Economic Development and International Trade; **Jandell Allen-Davis**, MD, vice president of government and external relations, Kaiser Permanente; **Lisa Donovan**, chief people officer, Sage Hospitality; **Mark Everett**, senior group director, Target Corporation; **Noel Ginsburg**, founder, chairman and CEO, Intertech Plastics; **Gloria Schoch**, community commerce and partnerships management, MillerCoors; and **Christine Benero**, president and CEO, Mile High United Way
- When** Thursday, May 7, 2015 | 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. (See agenda following page)
- Where** Mile High United Way Morgridge Center for Community Change
711 Park Ave., Denver CO 80205
- Background** Hosted by Mile High United Way, the **GradNation Workforce Summit** engages local businesses and educators to increase school-to-work pathways including internships, job shadow opportunities and mentoring, particularly for students at risk of failing to graduate.
- The event includes a keynote by Fiona Arnold, executive director of the Colorado Office of Economic Development and International Trade; a panel discussion with business executives from around Metro Denver; and an afternoon marketplace to link business to engagement opportunities with youth from participating local schools: Aurora Public Schools, Cherry Creek Schools, Denver Public Schools, Englewood Schools, Jefferson County Schools.
- The Summit is one of 100 around the country that is part of [America's Promise Alliance's GradNation](#) campaign, which focuses on raising the national on-time high school graduation rate to 90 percent by 2020 and increasing postsecondary enrollment and completion. The premier sponsor of the GradNation Community Summits initiative is AT&T. Other sponsors include the GE Foundation, Intertech and Alps.
- For more information: unitedwaydenver.org/gradnation

About Mile High United Way

Mile High United Way unites people, ideas and resources to advance the common good. We focus in the areas of school readiness, ensuring kids are entering school ready to read and succeed; youth success, helping youth graduate from high school prepared for college or work; and adult self-sufficiency, giving individuals and families the resources they need to be economically stable.

GradNation Summit, May 7, 2015
Mile High United Way Morgridge Center for Community Change

Agenda

Breakfast/registration (8:00 – 8:30 a.m.)

8:30 – 9:00 a.m. | Welcome

AT&T (sponsor) and Christine Benero, president and CEO, Mile High United Way

9:00 – 10:00 a.m. | Panel Discussion about Business and School Engagement

Panelists from Intertech, Miller Coors, Kaiser, Sage, Denver Chamber of Commerce
Moderator: Christine Benero

10:00 – 10:15 a.m. | Break

10:15 – 11:15 a.m. | Keynote Address

Keynote speaker Fiona Arnold is Executive Director of the Colorado Office of Economic Development and International Trade

11:15 – 11:35 a.m. | Sector Partnerships Presentation

Discussion on needs and trends in different industries in Colorado

11:35 – 11:50 a.m. | Youth Voice

High school youth tell their stories about positive impacts of workforce exploration opportunities

11:50 – Noon | Company Pledges

Corporate leaders pledge to engage with schools and students in 2015

Noon – 1:00 p.m. | Lunch, students exhibit STEM project demos in the lobby

1:00 – 2:00 p.m. | Effective School Engagement

Denver Public Schools and its business partners will conduct a one-hour interactive session providing practical guidance to businesses on specific “entry points” for engagement (job shadowing, speaking opportunities, internships, etc.)

2:00 – 2:10 p.m. | Break

2:10 – 4:00 p.m. | The Marketplace

Speed-dating style session between schools and businesses; schools will be showcasing their current needs including job shadowing, internships, speaking engagements and discussing logistics in one-on-one appointments