Graduate! Network

LearnX
Kansas City
Friday, October 19, 2018
Agenda

- Kresge background
- Education Program overview
- Urban Higher Education Ecosystem
- Feedback
• National private foundation
• Goal: Expanding opportunities in America’s cities
• $3.6 billion endowment
• Funded through grants and social investments
• Six program areas and two practices
Program Areas

- Arts & Culture
- Detroit
- Education
- Environment
- Health
- Human Services
## Education Strategy

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Goal</th>
<th>Increase postsecondary attainment, while eliminating gaps for low-income students and students of color</th>
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| Niche | Support both college access and success, through collaborative, practical, and flexible investments, emphasizing investee relationships  
Focus on poverty’s impact on student success through our longstanding commitment to minority-serving institutions and equity |
| Strategies | Urban Pathways to College – Focus on access  
Capacity Building for Success – Business models and student success in urban institutions  
Urban Higher Education Ecosystems – Cross-sector and systemic approaches to increasing college attainment |
Urban Pathways to College

Approach

- Narrow focus to college access for high school seniors, plus new emphasis on adults.

Activities

- Explore how to incentivize high school district partnerships.
- Focus on scalability and sustainability of effective college access organizations.
- Foster grantee talent capacity building.
National Attainment Gaps: Race/Ethnicity

*Values above do not include postsecondary certificates, only achievement of associate degree or higher.

(source: Lumina: Stronger Nation)
Sample Investments Supporting Adults

1. Graduate! Network
2. The New Press: *Never Too Late*
3. Degrees When Due
4. Strong Start to Finish
5. SAVI
Capacity Building for Student Success

Approach

▪ Build the student success capacity of urban institutions focused on low-income and students of color.

Activities

▪ Expand business model transformation support for urban institutions.

▪ Increase investment in leadership development that is representative, collaborative, and laser focused on student success.

▪ Leverage change in South African leadership to infuse student-centered approaches across all 26 institutions.

▪ Continue focus on networked efforts.
Urban Higher Education Ecosystems

Approach

▪ *Continue investigating how multiple sectors affect student success* by addressing *non-academic, non-campus barriers*.

Activities

▪ Identify, support, evaluate, and elevate proof points that move the needle on student success.
▪ Map systems and make contextual investments in cities emerging as UHEE leaders.
▪ Explore opportunities to leverage or align public funding to advance local college attainment.
▪ Apply lessons from University of Pretoria’s community engagement to South African cities.
▪ Co-design initiative with Human Services Team.
Run this video:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_FvesJ5Mhb0
THE U.S. NEEDS AN ALIGNED URBAN HIGHER EDUCATION ECOSYSTEM THAT:

- Puts students at the center
- Connects and coordinates around their needs
- Reduces silos and inefficiencies where efforts are duplicative

A WELL-FUNCTIONING ECOSYSTEM

WOULD INCLUDE COORDINATION BETWEEN:

1. K-12 SCHOOLS
2. TWO-YEAR UNIVERSITIES
3. FOUR-YEAR UNIVERSITIES
4. GOVERNMENT
5. PUBLIC TRANSIT
6. SOCIAL SERVICES NONPROFITS
7. THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY
8. HOUSING
9. PHILANTHROPY
10. EDUCATION NONPROFITS
Sample Investments: UHEE

1. Talent Dividend Prize
2. NCAN FAFSA Challenge
3. Talent Hubs
4. Sara Goldrick-Rab’s research on homelessness and hunger
5. Single Stop
6. Transit impacts
7. Low-income housing
8. Emergency grants: Austin and Dallas
Lessons Learned: Urban Ecosystems

1. Cities have different levels of commitment to and capacity for greater coordination of college access and success efforts.

2. Some higher education leaders realize cross-sector partnerships are needed, but no city so far has a fully aligned ecosystem.

3. Traditional higher education incentives and culture don’t encourage collaboration, while other sectors value these partnerships mainly when it furthers their interests.

4. Postsecondary institutions are the only entities that confer degrees, so they must be active leaders in an ecosystem approach.

5. Philanthropic prizes can build on existing local momentum and collaboration, especially on short-term, easily moved outcomes.
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