

NEWS RELEASE
For immediate release

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Inclusive Communities Announces New Cohort of LeadDIVERSITY Advocates

OMAHA, Neb. (Aug. 1, 2022) – Inclusive Communities partnership with the Omaha Public Power District, the Greater Omaha Chamber of Commerce, and TriFaith Initiative, will launch its fourth LeadDIVERSITY cohort in September. LeadDIVERSITY is a 9-month leadership program centered around creating organizational opportunities and conversations surrounding diversity, equity, and inclusion.

Since its establishment in 2019, LeadDIVERSITY has graduated over 80 advocates across three cohorts. The advocates selected provide an inclusive representation of Omaha’s diverse community. “We are so excited to welcome this fourth cohort of LeadDIVERSITY, which includes Advocates for Norfolk, Lincoln, and Council Bluffs, in addition to the greater Omaha metro,” said Cammy Watkins, Inclusive Communities’ Executive Director. “As we go into this new year, we are excited to expand connections and create a lasting impact on our community in the Omaha metro area and beyond,” echoed Maggie Wood, Inclusive Communities’ other Executive Director. There will be a meet and greet for the new cohort of advocates on August 18, 2022, from 9 am-11 am, at KANEKO, 1111 Jones St., Omaha, NE 68102

Inclusive Communities is proud to introduce their 2022-2023 LeadDIVERSITY advocates:

Adia Brighton, Special Education Teacher and Learning Consultant *Omaha Public Schools*
Alicia Frieze, Workforce Development Director, *Council Bluffs Area Chamber of Commerce*
Becky Nickerson, Senior Director of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion, *Creighton University*
Brittney Hodges-Bolkovac, Dean of Students and District Special Projects Coordinator, *Westside Public Schools*
Chastin Bailey, Director of Human Resources, Talent, and Culture, *Koley Jessen P.C., L.L.O*
Cheryl Murray, Director of Development, *Partnership 4 Kids*
Chris Stratman, Community Engagement Manager, *Kiewit Luminarium*
Dominique Johnson, Legislative Aide, *Nebraska State Legislature*
Elizabeth Blanco Rodriguez, Associate Director, *University of Nebraska at Omaha – Multicultural Affairs Office*
Jamin Johnson, Health Equity Advisor, *Douglas County Health Department*
Jonathan Acosta, Director of Advising, *University of Nebraska at Omaha*
Katie Kodad, Culture & Inclusion Coordinator, *Children’s Hospital & Medical Center*
Laura Fritz, Child Development Program Evaluator, *University of Nebraska Medical Center*
Leonor Fuhrer, Assistant Vice President of Community Response, *Nebraska Children and Families Foundation*
Loreno Jameson, Senior Safety & Technical Specialist, *Omaha Public Power District*
Lori Tatreau, Assistant Director, *Society of St. Vincent de Paul Omaha*
Mariana Schelle, Assistant Vice President of Cultural and Linguistic Response, *Nebraska Children and Families Foundation*
Michelle Deseure, Director, Corporate Audit, *Omaha Public Power District*
Mo Bailey, Community Organizer, *Western Organization of Resource Councils*



MISSION

We confront prejudice, bigotry, and discrimination

Ralph Kellogg, AVP, Human Resources, *Lutheran Family Services*
Robert Aranda, Director of Student Services, *Westside Community Schools*
Rosalva Reyes, Director of CK26 Programs, *Completely KIDS*
Rosey Higgs, Director of Programs, *Nonprofit Association of the Midlands*
Stephanie Tafoya Keyser, Sr Data Analyst, *First National Bank of Omaha*
Yesenia Valenzuela, Community Relations, *City of Omaha*

For more information about the program or to learn how to become a sponsor, visit www.inclusive-communities.org/leaddiversity.

About Inclusive Communities

Since 1938, Inclusive Communities has served Nebraska, Iowa, and the region by directing our efforts in the areas of youth, community and workplace human relations, and leadership programming to achieve our mission of creating inclusive communities. For more information or to find out how you can help, visit our website at: www.inclusive-communities.org.

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