You are receiving this email because you requested to receive news from Ascendium or are participating in one of our events.

We are excited to announce that Ascendium is moving! For the last year and a half, we've been building a new corporate headquarters in Madison, Wisconsin. This new facility allows us to better collaborate with our partners and continue to fulfill our vision of elevating opportunity for all by increasing our ability to collaborate with organizations in our communities through a variety of grants and giving initiatives.

Ascendium Cares, which includes employee time spent volunteering through paid leave and matching gift programs, has donated more than $1.3 million to education and workforce training nonprofit organizations. This was done through our employee giving program, Ascendium Cares, and our corporate giving program, Ascendium Philanthropy.

We are committed to supporting organizations in the communities where our employees live and work. Last year, Ascendium approved $15.6 million for 18 new grants focused on a range of education and career goals.

### Additional Ascendium News

**Leveraging Arkansas Community Colleges to Support Economic Mobility**

Local Initiatives Support Corporation | $240,000 | 12/2021 - 05/2023

This grant supports Rural Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC) in providing technical assistance to the Arkansas Association of Community Colleges to help rural and regional postsecondary education institutions in Arkansas to improve access to high-quality postsecondary education programming.

**Expand Postsecondary Education in Prison**

This grant supports organizations that contribute to the landscape of higher education in prison programming in prisons. The goal of the project is to conduct research, develop insights about Rural Institutions, Learners and Communities and share findings to benefit the field.

**Examining Faculty Decision-Making in Course Equivalency and Transfer Articulation Processes**

MDRC | $1,122,000 | 12/2021 - 12/2024

MDRC will conduct research and analysis of faculty's role in transfer articulation processes and explore system-level policy and practice considerations which may impact student success.

**Paving the Way to Equitable, Adequate, and Effective Community College Completion, Apprenticeship Strategy, Rural**

This grant supports the Community College Research Center (CCRC) at Teachers College, Columbia University in developing an equity-focused approach to two-year college completion that acknowledges the concentration of learners from low-income backgrounds and students of color at two-year colleges. The goal of the project is to develop guidance for learners from low-income backgrounds and students of color at two-year colleges in California.

**Strengthening Implementation of Equitable Placement Policy Reform at**

Campaign for College Opportunity | $650,000 | 12/2021 - 12/2023

This grant supports the implementation of equitable math placement policy to increase student success in California.

**Who Is a First-Generation Student?**

National Directory of Higher Education in Prison Programs

The Landscape of Higher Education in Prison 2019-2020

(Open Campus Launches Efforts to Cover Key Topics in the Landscape of Higher Education in Prison)

### Events

**Association for Public Policy Analysis & Management's 2021 Fall Conference**

March 27 - 29, 2022
Austin, TX
(postponed from Nov. 11-13, 2021)

**Association of American Colleges & Universities 2022 Annual Meeting: Educating for Democracy**

February 15 - 17, 2022
Washington, D.C./Virtual

**Campaign for College Opportunity: West Coast Regional Forum**

February 14 - 17, 2022
Washington, D.C./Virtual

**Community College Research Center (CCRC) at Teachers College, Columbia University**

January 19 - 21, 2022
Washington, D.C./Virtual

**Institute for Higher Education Excellence in the Community College**

**March 2022 SXSW EDU**

February 14 - 17, 2022
Austin, TX

**National Institute for the Study of Transfer Students: From Moment to Movement: Shaping the Future of Transfer**

February 15 - 17, 2022
Washington, D.C./Virtual

**National Policy Forum: Shaping the Future of Transfer**

February 14 - 17, 2022
Washington, D.C./Virtual

**National Student Clearinghouse Research Center, Community College Research Center (CCRC)**

**The International Association of Campus Leafhoppers (IACL)**

**Knowledge for Change**

**The Landscape of Higher Education in Prison (Part VII)**

**March 2022 SXSW EDU**

**2022 SXSW EDU**

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