Education Philanthropy Positions Will Enhance Evidence Based Grantmaking, Translate Evidence to Insights and Enrich Strategic Connections

Ascendium's Education Philanthropy is hiring for three mission-critical positions. These roles underscore our commitment to evidence-based grantmaking and will deepen our capacity to tell compelling stories that amplify partners' important work. This growth will also bolster Ascendium's ability to share insights with those best positioned to improve outcomes for learners from low-income backgrounds. Read more...

Learning Communities Bring Together Rural College Leaders

Since early 2020, leaders at rural community colleges have been meeting virtually to discuss ways their institutions could be better prepared to meet the challenges of learners and communities as they emerge from the COVID-19 health crisis. Convened through National Center for Inquiry and Improvement (NCII) and with grant funding from Ascendium, briefs created by participants of the Rural Leader Learning Community remain helpful resources and tools for rural community colleges as they navigate pandemic challenges. Additionally, conversations from the initial learning community have laid the foundation for NCII to convene a new cohort of colleges focused on the unique set of issues faced by rural colleges that implement guided pathways. Read more...

Proposals Still Being Accepted for Fund for Workforce Equity

The Fund for Workforce Equity is still accepting applications! A request for proposals for those interested in applying for grants from the Fund for Workforce Equity will remain open through July 31. Ascendium is one of several funders supporting this pooled fund for organizations that are centering workers and learners of color in the design and implementation of workforce policies and programs. New Resources

Our grant partners regularly create resources that benefit organizations focused on student success. These resources are published to our Resource Library often; here's what's new this month.

- Categorization of Place-based, Postsecondary Learning Experiences for Rural Students (University of Montana)
- College Completion Strategy Guide (MDRC)
- Diving Into Place-Based Education Programs (Part VI) (Rural Matters)
- Rural Educator Academy Background, Brief and Core Competencies (Community Colleges of the Appalachia Region)

Recent Grants

Field Support and Development The Future of the Texas Transfer Alliance Communities Foundation of Texas Inc | $50,000 | 07/2022 - 03/2023
This grant supports Educate Texas in facilitating a visioning and strategic planning process for the Texas Transfer Alliance, an innovative coalition of higher education leaders serving low-income and marginalized learners across the state of Texas.

On the Go: Find Ascendium Staff in the Field

Ascendium is committed to the safety of our staff and will continue to monitor and follow the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's guidance regarding travel. We look forward to seeing you at upcoming virtual and in-person events.

- Hudson Link for Higher Education in Prison Inc: Virtual Rise Up: Honoring the Past While Shaping the Future Sept. 7-9, 2022
- National College Attainment Network: NCAN National Conference Atlanta, GA Sept. 12-14, 2022
- Rural Community College Alliance: RCCA National Conference Omaha, NE Sept. 14-16, 2022
- Council for Opportunity in Education: 41st Annual Conference and Awards Dinner San Diego, CA Sept. 21-24, 2022
- National Fund for Workforce Solutions: 2022 National Fund Convening Minneapolis, MN Sept. 27-29, 2022
- Excelencia in Education Inc: Celebración de Excelencia Washington, D.C. Sept. 29-30, 2022

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