



At the core of any organization's strategy for success is a belief in its leaders to drive business imperatives forward. Leaders are not only those who hold specific titles at the top of an org chart, but also those who demonstrate leadership throughout all areas of executing a business strategy.

If you're looking for opportunities to connect, develop, and engage for yourself or for others on your team, the [Leadership Center at the Cincinnati Regional Chamber](#) can help you take the next step. The Leadership Center's programs foster professional development, focus on diversity, equity, and inclusion throughout their programs, and provide individuals valuable opportunities to network with other leaders from across the region. Learn more about current opportunities here:

- [Apply for Building Cultural Competence](#) – a program that equips leaders with the skills to build bridges across the cultural, political, and social divides in our region and country
- [Apply for the Leadership Center's newest program, Cincy LEAD](#) – a program designed to equip advancing early to mid-career leaders with the skills and tools to accelerate their leadership while building a meaningful network of peers
- [Register to attend WE Speak on March 23](#) – We Rise: Breaking Wealth Stereotypes, Building Personal Prosperity, and Lifting Others

As spring gets closer, the Leadership Center will also share information on the next classes of Leadership Cincinnati, WE Lead, C-Change, Cincy Next, and WE Ascend. Be sure to [follow the Leadership Center on LinkedIn](#) to stay in the know.

At a time when employers are seeking additional ways to retain their most valuable employees, consider investing in the growth of yours through some of the Leadership Center's outstanding programs.



**Audrey Treasure**  
Executive Director | Workforce Innovation Center



## Join Us for Facilitated Forums – An Opportunity to Connect and Learn from Experts and Peers

As the saying goes: "It's lonely at the top." While that may be an evergreen statement, we have heard from our client CEOs and CHROs that the last two-plus years have put an even finer point to this adage. Navigating a global pandemic, defining corporate responsibility to social injustices, the increasing challenge of recruiting and retaining employees in today's labor market, inflation, and the daily work of operationalizing Covid-related pressures. These are on top of the demands of business as usual.

In response, the Workforce Innovation Center created Facilitated Forums: an engaging opportunity for organizational leaders to come together and work through their most pressing talent-related issues. The purpose of the Facilitated Forums is to:

1. Enable connections to build a learning community between participating leaders and organizations.
2. Provide content and facilitation to accelerate progress within the leaders' organizations.

In its first series, two of the Center's Lead Consultants, [Dr. Kevin Sansberry](#) and [Erin Bledsoe](#), hosted seven companies through four content- and discussion-rich forums focused on a range of topics such as recruitment, retention, economic mobility, and data and governance.

The forums are grounded in the tenants of diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging, and enables enables participants to share questions and problem-solve in real time. The setup of each forum blends learning, discussion, and best practice sharing, resulting in new ideas, solutions, and partners that support participants and their organizations in addressing their most critical challenges.

The Workforce Innovation Center is preparing to launch a second series of Facilitated Forums later this year and is currently welcoming new companies to participate. If your company is interested in learning more, [contact us here](#).

**CONTACT US TO PARTICIPATE**



## Workforce Innovation Center Career Board

We recently launched a new career board – **free for all Cincinnati Chamber members**. If you are interested in having your open roles listed, [visit the career board](#) and [submit information](#) about your company's available positions.

[VISIT THE CAREER BOARD](#)



## Ohio's Diversity & Inclusion Technology Internship Program is Now Open

The Diversity & Inclusion Technology Internship Program connects young, diverse talent with innovative companies in Ohio. The State of Ohio reimburses two-thirds of the intern's wages up to \$7,500. You can be a technology company or simply a company with a technological need. Companies need to provide a meaningful internship experience, must have non-residential workspace, and must hire interns as employees (W-2). You can hire as many as four (4) interns for different positions. The minimum wage for interns is \$15 per hour but can exceed that amount.

[LEARN MORE](#)



## Connect with New Talent Sources through the Chamber's Talent Pipeline Opportunities

Are you an employer that currently offers job shadowing, paid or unpaid internships, or mock interviews to current high school students or other young adults interested in tech? [Apprenti Cincinnati's](#) IT pre-apprenticeship partners such as Goshen High School, Warren Career Center and Grant Career Center have immediate opportunities for employers to work with their students. [Contact Christina Misali](#) for more information.

Our partners at Cincinnati Public Schools are looking for manufacturing hiring partners for their career tech and work-based learning programs. For more information on what an ideal partner looks like, please visit the Chamber's [Work-Based Learning](#) page.

[LEARN MORE](#)



## Workforce Innovation Center featured in What Works Cities Economic Mobility Article

As part of our engagement as one of nine cities in the What Works Cities Economic Mobility initiative, we're pleased to be a part of this article describing our work in Cincinnati along with important efforts from other cities including Dayton, Ohio and Racine, Wisconsin.

[READ THE ARTICLE](#)



**United Way  
of Greater Cincinnati**

## **Free Tax Preparation through the United Way of Greater Cincinnati**

Tax season is here, and United Way of Greater Cincinnati has an excellent resource available for you, your employees, their family, and friends. [Free Tax Prep](#) provides free income tax preparation and filing services, helping families save approximately \$300 in preparation fees along with getting the credits they deserve, including the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) and Child Tax Credit. Before your employees spend several hundred dollars on a fee-based service, connect with one of United Way's Free Tax Prep sites to find services that might meet their needs. United Way also offers [MyFreeTaxes.com](#), a free self-filing tool available through United Way Worldwide.

[LEARN MORE](#)



## **The Cincinnati Chamber is honored to announce its fourth annual #MakingBlackHistory honorees!**

These seven honorees represent a variety of experiences and professions, but one thing they all have in common is that each of them is currently redefining the standard in his or her career, creating a path for all who follow. Their stories are shining examples of how their resiliency and leadership helps move the Cincinnati region forward.

[LEARN MORE](#)



## Apply or Refer a Leader for Building Cultural Competence!

Building Cultural Competence is a leadership development program that equips you with the skills to build bridges across cultural, political, and social divides. You will widen your perspectives and deepen your understanding of others and yourself, helping you grow into a more effective leader capable of leading a cultural shift within your organization. **Applications are open and due by March 11, 2022.**

[LEARN MORE & APPLY](#)

We're now on Twitter – Follow [@CenterWorkforce](#) and join the conversation!

You can also follow us on LinkedIn and subscribe to the Cincinnati Chamber's YouTube channel.



## How Well Do You Know Your Regional Chamber?

For over 180 years, the Cincinnati Regional Chamber has been serving the business community by delivering upon our mission to grow the vibrancy and economic prosperity of the Cincinnati region. The work has evolved over the years, but our commitment to the mission is unwavering. [Check out this short video](#) to get to know us better and all the work we're driving to make sure the region's businesses and residents thrive.

[WATCH NOW](#)

## News of Interest

[TriHealth creates \\$14M fund to expand first-in-region apprenticeship program](#)

[Bengals' Burrow teams with nonprofit to help train people for jobs](#)

[As the talent battle rages, Amazon makes a big move to \\$350K](#)

[Restaurant workers are quitting in droves. This is how they are being lured back](#)

[Teachers Are Quitting, and Companies Are Hot to Hire Them](#)

[Alphabet, PayPal, and 7 Other Stocks That Can Thrive in a Labor Shortage](#)



## **OUR PLEDGE**

Since the launch of the Workforce Innovation Center's pledge in November 2020, 44 companies have signed our pledge demonstrating their commitment to exploring how their policies and practices can enable our region's talent and businesses to thrive.

**[VIEW THOSE WHO HAVE SIGNED THE PLEDGE](#)**

**[SIGN THE PLEDGE](#)**

Partnering with business leaders to advance the adoption of inclusive practices in their workplaces that empower employees, the community and their businesses to thrive.

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