



Institute for Diversity Certification
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For Immediate Release

Energizing Excellence and Sustainability with Skilled Diversity & Inclusion Leaders

16 Elite Professionals and Executives Obtain Diversity & Inclusion Credentials

Indianapolis - August 9, 2016: What is the difference between a skilled diversity and inclusion leader and one that was selected because of his/her passion for equity? *Outcomes*. Passion is required, but it will not yield results that match thousands, or millions, of dollars invested by employers into diversity and inclusion efforts.

The journey to drive excellence, invigorate sustainability and foster culture change is often on a road filled with potholes and winding curves. Nevertheless, The Institute for Diversity Certification is an internationally recognized credentialing program that has fine-tuned a process for executing better strategies and securing anticipated results. Its process is packaged in a diversity and inclusion certification program that was developed by industry professionals and is updated in entirety every two (2) years to account for rapid developments in the field.

Since 2009, the Institute for Diversity Certification (IDC) has sought to be a standard-bearer in the field of diversity and inclusion as it pertains to excellence, achievement and professional accountability. It recently concluded its second 2016 exam window and conferred credentials to 16 professionals and executives in the U.S. and abroad.

CERTIFIED DIVERSITY PROFESSIONALS (CDP)

Diane Bailey-Boulet, CDP	<i>Humana</i>
Sandy Cross, CDP	<i>The PGA of America</i>
Mariya Goodbrake, CDP	<i>Branch Global</i>
Amber Jackson, CDP	<i>Aon</i>
Patricia Jameson, CDP	<i>University of Maryland University College</i>
Sarah Klarer, CDP	<i>Humana</i>
Stacy Lee-Williams, CDP	<i>Grow Business Solutions</i>
Jennifer Medley, CDP	<i>Humana</i>
Rhonda Plunkett, CDP	<i>Humana</i>
Karla Rodgers, CDP	<i>Infirmary Health System</i>
Katherine Wall, CDP	<i>Carma Productions, Inc.</i>
Loreli Wilson, CDP	<i>Veterans United Home Loans</i>

CERTIFIED DIVERSITY EXECUTIVES (CDE)

Debra Peterson, CDE	<i>Bemidji State University</i>
Jasmine Smith, CDE	<i>Blue Cross Blue Shield of North Carolina</i>
Valerie Van Meter, CDE	<i>Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago</i>
Tiffany Williams, CDE	<i>Coming Together Stark County</i>



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These elite leaders join nearly 300 Certified Diversity Professional (CDP) and Certified Diversity Executive (CDE) designees around the world who have successfully completed the credentialing process. Successful program completion includes passing a standardized exam with an 80% or better, and submitting an approved professional work. The professional work, or Candidate Project, is reviewed and approved by industry peers who already possess a CDP or CDE designation.

Leah Smiley, President, says, "I always get excited about conferring credentials because our designees go on to do great things! These are the leaders who have increased responsibilities, are provided with more people and financial resources, get promotions or new employment opportunities, and share their expertise on a larger national or even global forum. Hence, IDC is unique because it provides a medium for leaders to grow their careers over time, and advance the field of diversity and inclusion."

Once designees complete the program, the Institute for Diversity Certification offers opportunities to contribute to the rising body of knowledge in the field, as well as accrue continuing education credits by writing blogs, hosting diversity and inclusion workshops, mentoring new candidates, teaching online classes, updating the curriculum and peer reviewing professional works. Accordingly, the Institute for Diversity Certification's carefully controlled process was developed for, and is sustained by, the work of Diversity and Inclusion experts. This key distinction allows IDC's designees to experience better results. Additionally, it is a tacit acknowledgement that D&I work is connected and not detached from the organization or other entities with which the company interacts.

For more information about the Institute for Diversity Certification, log onto www.diversitycertification.org.

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