



MENDOZA COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

Nonprofit Executive Programs

Coalition Building Across Diverse Chambers: Aligning Interests and Expanding Opportunity

January 13-14, 2015

AT&T Headquarters
208 S. Akard St.
Suite 110
Dallas, TX 75202



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Mendoza College of Business

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TUESDAY, January 13, 2015

8:00 – 9:00 AM | Continental breakfast at the AT&T Headquarters

12:00 – 1:00 PM | Lunch

9:00 AM – 4:00 PM | Coalition Building Across Diverse Chambers:
Aligning Interests and Expanding Opportunity



Presenter: Angela Smith Cobb

Session Description:

This session is designed to foster alignment and collaboration within and across underrepresented chambers with the goal of driving greater opportunity for all. Specifically, the session will:

- Communicate the value proposition for greater collaboration nationally and locally
- Define a common agenda and priorities
- Identify specific opportunities for local activation
- Garner commitments to action from session participants

Day 1: Alignment

Agenda Review:

Panel Discussion - The Case for Collaboration

- National leadership from represented chambers discuss the benefits of working together more closely.

Breakout Session – Defining What’s Sacred and Where Collaboration Can Drive Opportunity

- Chambers will divide into groups to discuss what they want to preserve as independent initiatives and where they can benefit from collaboration. The purpose of this session is to give voice to what’s sacred and to unearth opportunities for partnership.

Networking Lunch

Report Out/Sort/Prioritize Feedback from Breakout Discussions

- The report out will surface themes around opportunities and challenges and allow the group to begin to identify priorities upon which to build a shared agenda.

Breakout Session – Align Priorities and Define Opportunities

- Cross-chamber teams will further refine priorities and identify specific programs and initiatives for collaboration that are aligned with priorities.
- The scribe for the breakout session will share notes with the facilitator for review and documentation for Day Two.

Closing - Group Reflection

- Participants will be invited to write down one area that excites them and one area of concern.
- A small number of participants will be invited to share reflections with the group.
- Reflections will be shared with facilitator to inform Day Two.

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Angela Smith Cobb is a director at Frequency540 where she helps lead the agency's corporate social impact practice. Most recently, Angela spearheaded the agency's work with New Options Project a three-year, \$28M investment of the W.K. Kellogg Foundation that developed innovative tools and approaches to connect 16-24 year-old, out-of-school, out-of-work young adults with meaningful career opportunities, while leading employers to source of untapped talent.

Additionally, Angela is founder and CEO of FirstGen Partners LLC, a firm that helps organizations and individuals evolve and adapt to maximize their impact. She has two decades of experience in recruiting, diversity, community development, strategic philanthropy and change management.

Before launching FirstGen Partners LLC, Angela served as the first chief diversity officer at Teach For America—the country's national teaching corps—where she led organization-wide diversity and inclusion efforts. Angela also has extensive experience launching and leading new philanthropic efforts and business ventures through her work at FirstGen, and in various senior roles at Allstate, Monster and Deloitte.

Angela is a member of the board of Umoja Student Development Corporation; serves on the Dean's Alumni Council for Kellogg School of Management and is a member University of Notre Dame Nonprofit Professional Development Advisory Board for the of the Chicago Children's Museum, and is a member of the current cohort of the Pahara-Aspen Education Entrepreneurs Fellowship, a part of The Aspen Institute's Crown Fellows Program.

Past leadership and honors include serving as a Trustee of the University of Notre Dame and as a member of the Advisory Council for the University's Mendoza College of Business. Angela was a 2008 Leadership Greater Chicago Fellow and recently completed the Pahara-Aspen Fellowship, part of the Aspen Institute's Global Leadership Network.

Angela received her MBA from Northwestern University's Kellogg School of Management. She is a 1993 graduate of the University of Notre Dame.

6:00 – 8:00 PM | USHCC Foundation Reception: Celebrating America's Business Future:

Altitude, W Hotel, 2440 Victory Park Lane, Dallas, TX 75219

Transportation provided from Dallas Marriott City Center

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WEDNESDAY, January 14, 2015

8:00 - 9:00 AM | Continental breakfast at the AT&T Headquarters

12:00 - 1:00 PM | Lunch

9:00 AM - 4:00 PM | Coalition Building Across Diverse Chambers: Aligning Interests and Expanding Opportunity

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Day 2: Activation

Day 1 Insights and Opportunities

- Facilitator will review insights and opportunities from breakouts and reflections to inform Day 2 discussions

Breakout Session - Planning for Activation

- Participants will divide into cross-chamber groups and each group will develop a high-level activation plan for one of the opportunity areas. Multiple groups will be assigned to each opportunity area to develop varied approaches.

Sharing Activation Plans

- Each group will briefly present their activation plan to participants. The purpose is to begin to get each local chamber thinking about how they might work with other underrepresented chambers in their communities.

Networking Lunch

Commitments to Action

- Each chamber will make at least one commitment to activate cross-chamber collaboration locally.
- Commitments will be documented by opportunity area and shared with participants following the meeting.

HAVE A SAFE TRIP HOME!

