Part 2 – Coalition Building
Across Underrepresented Chambers:
Aligning Interests and Expanding Opportunity

July 14-15, 2016

1871
LEAP Room
222 W. Merchandise Mart Plaza, Suite 1212
Chicago, IL 60654
Thursday and Friday, July 14-15, 2016

8:00 - 9:00 AM | Registration
8:00 - 9:00 AM | Continental breakfast
9:00 AM - 4:00 PM | Coalition: The Action or Process of Joining Together with Another or Others for a Common Purpose

Presenter: Angela Smith Cobb

We all have big goals and want to accomplish great things for our communities. Yet, we rarely have the time, human or financial resources to do everything on our wish lists. In this era of constrained resources, one of the most effective ways to deepen reach and impact is through collaboration. This sounds nice in theory, but what does it really take to make collaboration work? This session will highlight collaboration best practices, explore approaches for aligning partners around a common purpose and share strategies for identifying ways to structure collaborative efforts to achieve positive outcomes for all. Through cases and small groups, participants will have the opportunity to apply insights from the session and learn lessons from each other. The session will also include consultancies to help attendees problem-solve and develop strategies for their real-time collaboration challenges. The goal – arm participants with the tools and action plans that they need to develop effective collaborations that create value for their members.

Although this training builds off of the January 2015 session, you did not have to attend the previous training to benefit from this part two.

Angela Smith Cobb is founder and CEO of FirstGen Partners LLC, a firm that provides consulting and coaching to those seeking to launch and lead new strategic initiatives. Cobb has more than two decades of experience in the areas of diversity, community development, strategic philanthropy and change management. Most recently, Cobb spearheaded Frequency540’s work with the New Options Project — a three-year, $28M investment of the W.K. Kellogg Foundation to develop innovative tools and approaches to connect 16-24 year-old out-of-work young adults with meaningful career opportunities.

Prior to the New Options Project, Cobb served as the first chief diversity officer at Teach For America, where she led organization-wide diversity and inclusion efforts as a member of the organization’s leadership team.

Cobb’s other professional achievements include launching two major philanthropic initiatives for Allstate, such as the creation of the Allstate Foundation’s Domestic Violence Program. This program seeks to create a holistic network of programs and services — focused on economic self-sufficiency — to empower domestic violence survivors and their advocates.

Cobb is a member of the board of Umoja Student Development Corporation and serves on the University of Notre Dame’s Nonprofit Professional Development Advisory Council. A 2000 graduate of Northwestern University’s Kellogg School of Management MBA program, Cobb earned her undergrad degree from the University of Notre Dame in 1993.
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