

Proposal and request for ARPA funding submitted to DeKalb County Government

1st Annual DeKalb County Education and Workforce Development Summit.

“Education is Everyone's Business in DeKalb”

The DeKalb Chamber of Commerce is submitting the following request for funding in the amount of \$40,000 annual or \$120,000 for a 3-year commitment and sponsorship to plan and establish an Annual DeKalb County Education and Workforce Development Summit.

Overview

The COVID pandemic over the past several years has highlighted the greater challenges and impacts in marginalized communities. The increase in mental health, violence and other detriments seen has impacted the future growth and opportunities of not only our youth and families but the overall economic success of the DeKalb County community as whole. The strength and economic vitality of every community is rooted in the success of its **Education System**. When leaders in communities, business, government, Higher Ed and K-12 systems work in concert with shared ownership, everyone benefits, especially our youth, our workforce, and overall economy.

Our goal is to convene a community ecosystem of leaders to discover and formulate solutions to strengthen birth through postsecondary education success and graduation rates, reduce loss of learning impacts, and create stronger workforce pipeline to address the educational disparities in DeKalb County.

It is with this vision in mind that we submit this proposal for an Education focused Summit.

This seed funding for the first three years will provide necessary qualitative data to gauge and measure the impact of strategies and resources needed to create long term student success in our county.

Theme: “Education is Everyone’s Business in DeKalb”

Target Date for Summit: Fall 2023

Location: Georgia Piedmont Technical College in Clarkston, GA (virtual option will be provided).

Target Audience: Anticipated participation of 300 – 450 conference attendees.

This Summit will bring together sector leaders from across the County, State and Country.

Including:

- K-12 teachers, CTAE, Directors, Principals, Superintendents

- Municipal, County, and State Officials
- School Board Members
- Higher Education Faculty, Directors, Vice Presidents, and Presidents
- Business and Industry Leaders
- Chambers of Commerce
- Community and Faith-Based Organizations
- Education Researchers
- Students- K-12 to Higher Education

Outcomes Expected:

We will discuss challenges, look at best-in-class practices from other communities and how partnerships are driving the success of school districts.

Participants will walk away from the summit Learning:

- Importance of building, nurturing, and protecting partnerships to support Education
- Potential blind spots that get in the way of achieving success
- How to build Collective Impact strategies to affect transformation in the School District
- How Education connects all sectors to build sustainable and thriving communities
- Best Practices of leadership in guiding new possibilities in addressing educational Disparities especially in communities of color.
- To take both a qualitative and quantitative approach to solving inequalities in the DeKalb and other communities
- Building seamless pipelines for students to move from Early Learning to K-12 to Higher Ed and beyond.
- Importance of Georgia's Technical College and University System and College and Career Academies

Event Planning Expenses may Include (but not limited to):

- Summit Planning and implementation
- Communications and Marketing
- Events Management
- Printing (signage and materials)
- Audio/Visual and Production
- Chamber Administrative fee (15%)

A Conference Fee and Sponsorship package will be created to cover additional costs such as speaker fees, AV, and Food & Beverage All Funds will be used for services to plan, coordinate and implement Education Summit and outcomes from Summit. In-Kind support is also welcomed.

Sample Presenting Sponsor Benefits Include:

- Organization logo on all materials (both printed and electronic)
- Sponsor Keynote Remarks at Main Luncheon
- 1 Tables of 10 at Luncheon (total of 10 luncheon tickets)
- 10 Conference Event Tickets
- 2 Presentation opportunities at the conference

Sample Summit Agenda (Example Topics)

(Draft Topics- Planning Committee will be formalized to oversee topic creation)

Welcome and Introductions

Keynote Speaker

Morning Panels and Breakout/Plenary Sessions

- Impacts of Prioritizing Education
 - A new kind of Leadership and A new Perspective
 - Best-in-class Examples of collective impact community partnership
 - (invite 3 communities to present—inside and outside the region)
 - Uncovering the story myths.
- The New Workforce and Digital Economy
A new vision of collaboration and success.
 - Open to the possibilities
 - Early Childhood to Higher Ed and Beyond
 - What do the numbers say?

Luncheon and Networking

Keynote Speaker

Afternoon Panels and Breakout/Plenary Sessions

- Assessing DeKalb's Challenges and Opportunities head on (Not a Blame Game)
 - New perspectives
 - Collective impact through Alignment
 - College and Career Academies
- Impacts to the People

© R.S. Empowerment Group, LLC., R. Keith Sagers II, 2021-2023

This document was prepared by and is the proprietary and exclusive property of R.S. Empowerment Group, LLC except as otherwise indicated. No part of this document, whole or in part, may be reproduced, stored, transmitted, or used for design purposes without the proper written permission of R.S. Empowerment Group, LLC.

- Invite various perspectives (e.g., parents, students, business owners)
- Explore what's working and not working and where are the gaps (SWOT)
- Closing Remarks and Next Steps

Networking