

DATE: January 30, 2014

SUBJECT: Colleges of Memphis Approach to Drive to 55

ACTION RECOMMENDED: Information

BACKGROUND: On February 4, 2013, Lumina Foundation announced that Memphis will be among the first 20 cities in America to partner with Lumina in a mobilization effort designed to increase the number of local residents with postsecondary credentials.

Purpose: The purpose of Memphis' Community Partnership for Attainment is to increase postsecondary attainment in Memphis by creating a city-wide postsecondary attainment goal tied to Tennessee's Drive to 55 strategies, the Lumina Foundation's Goal 2025 and the Obama Administration's 2020 postsecondary achievement goal. The approach for improving postsecondary attainment in Memphis constitutes creating a Collaborative Action Network within the context of the Strive framework. This effort is critical for aligning current college attainment efforts across our community around a set of common metrics, a shared understanding of challenges, and an opportunity to come up with collective solutions. Memphis is one of twenty cities that will take part in the first round of this partnership supported by the Lumina Foundation.

Process: A Collaborative Action Network facilitates a movement from collaboration to collaborative action amongst network members to drive improvement of a selected community level outcome.

- The shared community outcome is the 'North Star'
- Improving this outcome guides decision making and actions taken by the Network
 - Leading indicators are selected and tracked to measure success
 - Local data is prioritized and used for continuous improvement

Partners:

- The City of Memphis
- Colleges of Memphis
- Latino Memphis
- Memphis Talent Dividend
- Office of the Governor of Tennessee
- PeopleFirst Partnership
- Strive Mid-South
- Tennessee Higher Education Commission