



## **The National Talent Dividend Network**

The National Talent Dividend Network is a new learning network of cross-sector leadership teams in 19 major U.S. cities focused on achieving postsecondary attainment gains. The program builds on the Talent Dividend initiative launched in 2008-2009 by CEOs for Cities – it demonstrates that a one-percentage point increase in postsecondary attainment has concrete economic pay-offs in economic prosperity. Realizing the Talent Dividend in all the top 51 metros will contribute \$124 billion in new income annually to the national economy.

The simple message coupled with the large economic payoff has galvanized new attention and action in the 19 cities now part of the Network. Each city has formed a team of drawn from the region’s elected officials, community college and university presidents, private sector CEOs, K-12 superintendents, and foundation officials. Each of these civic teams has come together to work toward significant increases in their rates of postsecondary attainment, realizing a commensurate increase in overall per capita income, and creating a platform to push the city/metro attainment metrics to ever increasing levels. The overall goal of the Network is to build a shared learning environment and provide targeted guidance so that each of the 19 cities achieves short- and long-term attainment increase.

With the support of the Ford Foundation and in partnership with CEOs for Cities, FutureWorks is organizing national meetings and other activities to support the work of 19 cities, helping them learn from and support each other. The first meeting will be April 21-22, 2010 in NYC. The meetings serve as an opportunity to facilitate best practice among cities, provide guidance from national experts, track progress and data-driven change through a sophisticated set of metrics, and encourage more effective state and federal policy. But the national learning network doesn’t stop there – FutureWorks and its partners are working with the individual cities between meetings to help mobilize regional leadership, identify metrics that are relevant to particular strategies, communicate the brand and move leadership, and structure engagement of the business community.

### **Members of the National Talent Dividend Network**

The following 19 cities have signed-on as founding members of the Network:

Baltimore	Detroit	Richmond
Billings	Indianapolis	San Jose
Chattanooga	Memphis	Seattle
Cincinnati	Miami	Tampa Bay
Cleveland/Akron	Milwaukee	Tulsa
Dallas	Philadelphia	
Denver	Portland	

**The Network's Managing Partner:**

[FutureWorks](#), a consulting and policy development firm, is leading the design and implementation of the Talent Dividend Network. FutureWorks designs and builds strategies and institutions that promote sustainable, skill-based regional economic growth. Brian Bosworth, President and Founder of FutureWorks, is the senior person leading the National Talent Dividend Network. Others on the FutureWorks team are Stephen Michon, Vice President, Professor Malo Hutson, of the University of California Berkeley's Department of City and Regional Planning, and Joe Cortright, economist and principal of Impresa Consulting.

[CEOs for Cities](#) is working in close partnership with FutureWorks to implement and support the Talent Dividend Network. CEOs for Cities is a national cross-sector network of urban leaders from the civic, business, academic and philanthropic sectors dedicated to building and sustaining the next generation of great American cities. With support from the Lumina Foundation, CEOs for Cities has visited 35 cities to introduce urban leaders to the Talent Dividend. Carol Coletta, President and CEO, and Bridget Marquis, Program Director, are CEOs for Cities' key personnel supporting efforts of the Network.

For more information contact:

Brian Bosworth  
FutureWorks  
206-329-3400  
Bosworth@futureworks-web.com