NEWS RELEASE

Three Colleges Selected to Lead Collaboratives to Improve STEM Pathways

*Cuyahoga Community College, Miami Dade College, and Norwalk Community College will work with their states to guide stronger Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) education and employment pathways*

Orlando, FL (February 24, 2014) – Achieving the Dream and Jobs for the Future (JFF) today announced the selection of the first-ever community college-led STEM Regional Collaboratives at DREAM 2014:

- Cuyahoga Community College and the Ohio Association of Community Colleges
- Miami Dade College and the Florida College System
- Norwalk Community College and the Connecticut Board of Regents for Higher Education

This effort will help colleges and states better align their college completion and middle-skill STEM agendas in both practice and policy. With technical assistance from Achieving the Dream and JFF, these collaboratives will work to strengthen high demand, middle-skill STEM pathways; improve regional coordination among community colleges and their workforce partners; inform state leaders on policy changes that can support stronger STEM pathways; and foster cross-state learning and collaboration.

These states and colleges were selected due to the strength of their proposed STEM pathways strategies; they have also historically been exemplary performers in the Postsecondary State Policy Network and Achieving the Dream National Reform Network. The learnings from these collaboratives will be shared broadly throughout the two networks to accelerate scalable, sustainable strategies that align the STEM and college completion policy agendas.

This initiative is funded through a $700,000 grant from The Leona M. and Harry B. Helmsley Charitable Trust. For more information about the STEM Regional Collaboratives click [here](https://www.achievingthedream.org).
Dream National Reform Network, including over 200 institutions, more than 100 coaches and advisors, and 15 state policy teams - working throughout 34 states and the District of Columbia - helps nearly 4 million community college students have a better chance of realizing greater economic opportunity and achieving their dreams.

*Jobs for the Future*
Jobs for the Future works to ensure that all lower-income young people and workers have the skills and credentials needed to succeed in our economy. JFF designs and drives the adoption of innovative, scalable approaches and models—solutions that catalyze change in our education and workforce delivery systems.

*The Helmsley Charitable Trust*
The Leona M. and Harry B. Helmsley Charitable Trust aspires to improve lives by supporting effective nonprofits in health, place-based initiatives, and education and human services. Since 2008, when the Trust began its active grantmaking, it has committed more than $1 billion to a wide range of charitable organizations. Through its National Education Program, the Trust views education as a lever to advance both American economic competitiveness and individual social mobility. In K-12, the Trust focuses on ensuring all students graduate high school prepared for college or careers by supporting teacher effectiveness and the adoption and implementation of high academic standards. In postsecondary education, the Trust is primarily interested in increasing the number of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) graduates who can participate in high growth sectors of the economy. The Trust also focuses on policy levers that improve postsecondary completion, particularly for underrepresented populations. For more information, please visit [www.helmsleytrust.org](http://www.helmsleytrust.org).

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