

# *Social Equity* LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE



JUNE 5 - 7, 2013 - NC STATE UNIVERSITY, RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA

## Education

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### ***The Raleigh Promise: Increasing Educational Opportunity and Success of Disadvantaged Urban Youth***

**Wednesday 4:15 pm; Panel 3**

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**Abstract:** The Raleigh Colleges and Community Collaborative has a goal is to double the number of Raleigh low-income youth, often with multiple disadvantages, who achieve a postsecondary credential and living-wage employment by 2025. This is a community-wide effort because the community as a whole benefits when our residents have the education they need for future success - as community leaders, productive employees and engaged citizens. We call this commitment The Raleigh Promise. It is supported by the six colleges and universities in Raleigh: Meredith College, N.C. State University, St. Augustine's College, Shaw University, Wake Technical Community College and William Peace University. The Collaborative also includes the City of Raleigh, the Wake County Public School System, Wake County Human Services, businesses, faith-based organizations, nonprofits, teens and college students. We are committed to high school students who show strong potential to earn a college degree or certificate - selected as Future Scholars, they receive programs and support to help prepare for success at the college level. In partnership with the City of Raleigh, we are creating Raleigh College Centers to serve as locally convenient information hubs for young people and their families looking for information about colleges and financial aid. The first Raleigh College Center is at Chavis Community Center, 505 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. Students attending colleges and universities in Raleigh, chosen for the Raleigh Fellows program, receive mentoring support they need to complete their college programs and intern opportunities to enter the market for jobs that pay a living wage. The panel, representing the leadership of the Collaborative from local colleges, community groups, public school system, and participating students, will describe the processes used to establish and initially fund this Collaborative by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. Panelists will speak to the role of Wake County Public School System in identifying Future Scholars, the role of Fellows Liaisons on the college campuses in supporting college Fellows, and the importance of community engagement of nonprofits and neighborhood organizations, as we strengthen local leadership, affect policies, and build capacity in support of the goal. Accountability, sustainability and outcomes on the youth and the community will also be addressed by speakers.