Pooling Resources
To Create Arizona’s Premier Education Advocacy Organization
Impetus To Think Differently

- Education community is both fragmented and crowded
- Business community is fragmented
- Limited pool of Arizona education funders—and resources of those may shrink in current economy
- Uncertainty about long-term societal and financial implications of current or recurring COVID-19 pandemic
- Many of the same people work across College Success Arizona, Expect More Arizona and Achieve60AZ Boards
Aligning Organizations for More Impact

Achieve60AZ
College Success Arizona
Expect More Arizona

AzCAN
College Success Arizona
Expect More Arizona

AdviseAZ
College Success Arizona
Over several months:

• CEOs and their seconds met 18 times to:
  • Consider structural models
  • Develop mission, vision, and value proposition
  • Outline high-level strategic goals
• Select Board members met monthly
• All 3 Boards unanimously approved every recommendation
• Assets of EMA + Achieve60AZ transferred to College Success Arizona in February 2021
Design Principles Guiding New Alignments

1. Achieve Equity
2. Value Diversity
3. Commit to Action
4. Build Public Will
5. Advocate for Student Success
6. Maximize Strengths
7. Lead a Statewide Coalition
8. Leverage Data and Research
9. Promote Innovation
10. Engage Nationally
How The Enhanced Organization Will Be Different

- Significant Scalable **Impact**
- Increase **Funding** Statewide
- Increase **Public / Political Will** for Educational Changes
- Create Courage for **Change**
Move AZ From Bottom to the Top

To get there:

1. Create a pro-education culture in Arizona
2. Close achievement gaps among rural, racial, education levels
3. Hit the state attainment goal, starting early
4. Secure appropriate and adequate funding
Ongoing Services and Initiatives
The Economic Power of FAFSA

Arizona students and families that complete a FAFSA receive an average of almost $10,000 each year. This award adds over 16% to a typical middle income household making $60,000 per year.²

50% FAFSA Completion → $64 Million

If Arizona reaches 50% FAFSA completion, those students could receive $64 million more in federal financial aid for their freshman year, and over $250 million over their academic careers.³

Annual Federal Financial Aid → $4.13 Billion

Students completing the FAFSA generated $4.13 billion in Federal Pell Grants and Direct Student Loans for Arizona-based postsecondary institutions in 2016-2017.²

Achieve 60AZ → $6.4 Billion

Increased FAFSA completion = increased attainment. Reaching national attainment averages would add $6.4 billion over the lifetime of each student cohort.¹

VALUE OF A DEGREE → $660,000

Every student who completes a bachelor’s degree in Arizona adds over $660,000 to the state’s economy over their lifetime.¹
Mayor’s and Cities Can….

• Dedicate resources that align with local-ready activities that impact access and success

• Focus on achieving equity and valuing diversity as assets that can move the education progress meter goals

• Encourage and align with schools, non-profits and other community systems to help localize efforts around the Achieve60AZ attainment goal
Stay Connected
Email any questions or ideas

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