**SPRING 2019 NEWSLETTER** 



#### **Rising Professionals Happy Hour**

Thank you to everyone who came out to Twin Cities R!SE's first ever Rising Professionals Happy Hour at Fair State Brewing Cooperative on February 26th! Despite the weather, we had a great turnout, enjoying an evening of craft beer, delicious refreshments, and fantastic company, while learning about the Minnesota Employer's Fair Chance Hiring Guide, TCR's toolkit to help employers navigate hiring people with criminal records.

Special thank you to Fair State for hosting us in their taproom and TCR President & CEO, Tom Streitz, and Director of Business Development, Jacquelyn Carpenter, for sharing about the work TCR does through our job skills training programs and the release of this valuable resource!

You can learn more about the Fair Chance Hiring Guide by visiting our website at **www.twincitiesrise.org.** If you are a Rising Professional interested in volunteering with TCR or helping to plan more Rising Professionals events, please contact Whitney Larson at **wlarson@twincitiesrise.org**.





BUILDING CAREERS. EMPOWERING LIVES.

# RISING UP AN UPDATE FROM TWIN CITIES R!SE



TWIN CITIES RISE 2019 Annual Stakeholder's Event Wednesday, May 29, 2019

RSVP: bit.ly/tcrstakeholders2019





Dear TCR Friends and Supporters,

I'm honored to serve as the new Board Chair of Twin Cities R!SE and to follow the very large footsteps of Steve Rothschild, our founder and Board Chair Emeritus. Twenty-five years ago, Steve recognized a critical need in our community to change the cycle of generational poverty, and he founded an organization that has been remarkably successful in transforming the lives of thousands of people in the Twin Cities and across the country. Thanks to Steve's vision and leadership, TCR has evolved into a highly effective organization that delivers an exceptional return on investment to our community.

In the years ahead, TCR will continue to transform lives out of generational poverty through meaningful employment. My Road to Success, our core program founded on Personal Empowerment training, serves people facing many challenges and barriers to employment, including criminal history and substance abuse. Our Career Pathways program creates partnerships with local employers to meet their needs for specific positions, such as call center jobs with Target. Our Empowerment Institute uses a train-the-trainer approach to bring Personal Empowerment to schools and other non-profit organizations in Minnesota and throughout the U.S. These programs, along with innovative partnerships with Metro Transit and North@Work, will serve about 1,500 people in 2019. But our goal is to do more than provide training and job placements - it's really about lasting change and long-term employment.

On behalf of everyone at TCR, I'd like to extend a heartfelt thanks to the individuals, corporations, and foundations that provide us with financial support and make our work possible. We're energized by the road ahead, and we greatly appreciate your continued support.

Sincerely, Craig Bentdahl

### "The moment I enrolled at Twin Cities R!SE in 2012, Empowerment became a part of my life.

I came to Twin Cities R!SE after being incarcerated, and it was the best thing to happen to me outside of meeting my wife. Before coming to TCR, I was a lost man and I had a drinking problem to go along with my bad temper. A temper that I couldn't control. I had lost my then wife, my job, my home, and my life savings.

I decided to give TCR a try. The course that helped me the most was Personal Empowerment. Personal Empowerment changed my life and helped with my temper. Through this course, I learned how to handle different situations and to be assertive with how I respond to people. I learned my birthright, that I am a lovable, valuable, and important person. I no longer allow anyone to control my emotions."

- Leonard H, TCR Graduate

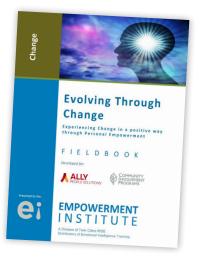
Leonard has had steady and progressive full-time employment since graduating from Twin Cities R!SE in 2013. He is currently working as a Receiving Clerk with a local Minnesota company. Stories like Leonard's are possible because of your support. Thank you for continuing to support second chances and empowered lives.



### **C** EMPOWERMENT INSTITUTE

## EVOLVING THROUGH CHANGE

The Empowerment Institute is helping clients achieve their organizational goals and become more effective, by utilizing customized emotional intelligence trainings and workshops. Companies, community organizations, and schools are discovering more and more, that



emotional intelligence has been a missing piece to the overall work that they do. When we focus on human emotions, we can increase business outcomes, and deepen the impact that we have in the community.

Most recently, Ally People Services approached a strategic business change as they embarked on a merger with Community Involvement Programs (CIP). Ally, a long time Empowerment Institute client, and TCR employer partner, invited us to facilitate a company wide workshop to assist them with their transition.

"TCR's Empowerment Institute presented "Evolving Through Change" at our annual all staff in-service day. We had just announced an exciting merger between our organization and CIP. Though excitement was palpable, so too was hesitancy, anxiety, and uncertainty. Throughout the workshop, the Empowerment Institute facilitators engaged our staff in an open and honest conversation about change. Rather than attempting to compel positivity into the room, the workshop leaned on several core concepts from Personal Empowerment and allowed space for each person to make a choice about how to connect to the reality of change we are embarking on as a group. The workshop provided a blueprint not only for our individual journeys through change, but a pathway towards interdependence as a newer, stronger, and more empowered organization."

-Jennifer Walton, Ally People Solutions Program Director

To learn more about how the Empowerment Institute can assist your organization, visit **twincitiesrise.org/empowerment-institute**.

### EMPOWER YOURSELF!

TCR'S EMPOWERMENT INSTITUTE IS OFFERING AN EMPOWERMENT FOR LEADERS COURSE -SPECIFICALLY DESIGNED FOR EXECUTIVES, MANAGEMENT - AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!

Empowerment Institute workshops available include:

#### SOLUTIONS WORKSHOPS

- Yes, I Can! (Dedicated to Developmentally Impaired)
- Empowered Employers! (For Retention and Change Management)
- Surviving and Thriving! (Dealing with Trauma, Crisis, or Violence)
- Unplug and Connect! (The Human Connection Within Technology)
- Diversity and Inclusion! (Cultural Leadership)
- Evolving Through Change (Change Management)

#### **EMPOWERMENT WORKSHOPS**

- Empowerment Building Blocks!
- Community Empowerment and Engagement!
- The Empowered Job Seeker!
- Empowered Youth!
- Empowered Teens!

When we are all empowered, we are at our best! For more information, or to schedule a workshop for your organization, contact Jacquelyn Carpenter at jcarpenter@twincitiesrise.org or 612-666-8026.