



Notice for media release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Chamber introduces inaugural Empower cohort

Empower begins its mission to realize more executive female leaders in the Dayton region

DAYTON, Ohio – The Dayton Area Chamber of Commerce has named the inaugural *Empower* class of business leaders. In partnership with program sponsor **Fifth Third Bank**, this group of women began its experience September 13, 2018, with a retreat hosted at Mills Park Hotel in Yellow Springs.

Over the next nine months, the cohort will engage in leadership workshops combined with day-sessions, business coaching and an extensive network of training support to help participants identify individual leadership strengths, values and goals, develop a personal brand and eliminate barriers to advancement.

Through a strategic partnership with Aileron, the region’s world class leadership and training development center, Empower will provide participants with a unique blend of hands-on business coaching and group support with peers. The experience will culminate with a closing retreat on June 13, 2019.

Introducing the 2019 class of Empower:

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	EMPLOYER
Arney	Jessica	Enviro Control/Lifestyle Comfort Solutions
Bruns	Bethany	CYMI, Ltd.
Buchheit	Jennifer	Cox Media Group
Chouinard	Lorna	Alzheimer’s Association
Clark	Juli	Boost Engagement DBA Shumsky
Corbin	Crystal	Montgomery County TID
Deal	Monica	LexisNexis
Dingle	Amy	Five Rivers MetroParks
Glotfelter	Vanessa	Barge Design Solutions
Hawk	Miranda	Brixey & Meyer
Hinders	Irda	The AES Corporation
Kearns	Deirdre	Power Solutions Group Ltd.

(Continued)

Kershner	Lori	LMK Advocacy
Narayan	Roopsi	Premier Health
Oakes	Kathryn	Heidelberg Distributing
Riley	Michelle	The Foodbank
Seibert	Carolyn	Nidec Press & Automation
Shancey	Mary	Bank of America Merrill Lynch
Troxell	Dee	Hollywood Gaming at Dayton Raceway
Vance	Lori	Henny Penny
Wallace	Lawana	CareSource Management Group
Ward	Katie	P&R Communications
Ward	Vanessa	Omega Community Development Corp.
Wilson	Tywauna	Compunet Clinical Laboratories

The chamber announced Empower in April 2018 and accepted applications for the first class through June 2018.

“The chamber recognized a gap that exists in many metros across the country; the number of women in top-level executive positions in our business community doesn’t proportionately reflect the number of educated women in our community who have the skills to lead companies,” said Chris Kershner, executive vice president, Dayton Area Chamber of Commerce.

According to Emsi, a labor market analytics firm, there are 622 c-suite executive positions in the Dayton region. Of those, 144 are occupied by women. When compared to numbers that show women hold 51.5% of all management and professional positions nationally, and that 40% of U.S. MBA grads are women, the chamber found a need for programming that will advance women business leaders to top-level business roles.

The chamber extends its gratitude to program sponsor **Fifth Third Bank** for realizing the importance of this initiative and providing support.

About Dayton Area Chamber of Commerce

The Dayton Area Chamber of Commerce brings together more than 2,400 businesses and organizations in a 9 county area surrounding Dayton, Ohio. The Chamber strives to improve the region’s business climate and overall standard of living through public policy advocacy, economic development initiatives and providing networking and training opportunities for its members. Nationally awarded with “5-Star Accreditation” from the United States Chamber of Commerce, the Dayton Chamber is widely recognized for its innovative programs and outstanding contribution to positive change in the region. Information about the Dayton Area Chamber of Commerce is available at daytonchamber.org or 937-226-1444.

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