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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Chamber introduces 4th Empower cohort**

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

DAYTON, Ohio – The Dayton Area Chamber of Commerce has named its fourth *Empower* cohort of women business leaders. In partnership with program sponsor **Fifth Third Bank**, this group of women began its experience September 30, 2021, 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 in June 2022.

**Introducing the 4th Empower Cohort:**

<b>NAME</b>	<b>EMPLOYER</b>
Kelly Abbott	EAGLE Certification Group
Makell Baccus	Montgomery County Department of Job and Family Services
Roberta Bailey	City of Dayton
Mary Bane	Concentric Solutions, Inc.
Karen Carter	Alzheimer’s Association
Lisa Coker	Infinite Management Solutions, LLC
Emma Harris	LexisNexis
Mary Ann Kabel	AES Ohio (Formerly Dayton Power & Light)
Barbara Kedziora	Cox First Media / Dayton Daily News
Amy Lowry	CareSource
Ellen Miller	Cincinnati Bell
Nikol Miller	Miami Valley Urban League
Nichole Moore	Haven Behavioral Hospital of Dayton
Jena Pado	Dayton Children’s Hospital Foundation

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Megan Peters	Cross Street Partners
Carissa Rexroth	MW Metals Group
Leanne Rubosky	The Mall At Fairfield Commons, WPG
Lisa Schaefer	Universal 1 Credit Union, Inc.
Marci Snyder	LJB Inc.
Nicole Steele	CityWide Development Corporation
Suzanne Sumner	Taft Stettinius & Hollister LLP
Erin Swim	Procter & Gamble
Sonya Townsend	Jamestown Staffing
Hannah Walker	JJR Solutions
Shelly Woodard	Kuhns Group, Inc.

Empower began as a new initiative under the Dayton Area Chamber of Commerce in 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, president & CEO, 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 2,200 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](http://daytonchamber.org) or 937-226-1444.*

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