

The Amarillo Area Foundation, No Limits No Excuses Amarillo Partners
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TEXAS CONVENING II
OCTOBER 1-2, 2014
AMARILLO, TEXAS

Honorary Chairman, Texas Senator Kel Seliger

Hosted by the Amarillo Area Foundation
Amarillo, Texas

WELCOME!

The Amarillo Area Foundation and the No Limits No Excuses Amarillo Partners are proud to welcome you to “Blazing New Trails,” our second Texas Convening.

THIS EVENT WILL WORK TOWARD FIVE OUTCOMES:

1. Identify needed improvements to current policy and practice impacting post-secondary success and economic vitality throughout the state.
2. Create an understanding of community and state data collection, measurements, policies, evaluation, resources and distribution targets relating to postsecondary success.
3. Instill the community/economic development imperative of post-secondary success to education and public service providers.
4. Showcase the work of postsecondary programs by identifying collaborative efforts that have achieved a substantial impact on education and workforce initiatives and could be replicated for large-scale impact.
5. Create a collaborative networking and communication structure to build on and leverage major funders’ investments in Texas through additional funding and expanded social capital for long-term sustainability.

TEXAS CONVENING II HASHTAG

Please use #TXCNV14 when posting to Twitter, Instagram, Pinterest, Google+ and Facebook.

THE FOLLOWING SESSIONS WILL HELP PARTICIPANTS ...

- Understand the roles that state agencies, philanthropic investors, evaluators, and support organizations are playing to advance systematic change for postsecondary success in Texas.
- Understand the how to’s and required involvement of community and institutional partnerships in effecting systemic change to improve postsecondary success in Texas.
- Identify and learn about successes, challenges and systems of influence impacting the success goals.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 1

8:00 A.M. Buses depart hotels for venue (Polk Street United Methodist Church Great Hall)

8:30 A.M. Registration and Continental Breakfast

- Welcome Guests - Clay Stribling, *Amarillo Area Foundation President and CEO*
- David Hudson, *Xcel Energy CEO and Presenting Sponsor*

SESSION I – This session will frame the conference with an understanding of the current status of both public and private resources in Texas leading to postsecondary success, a living wage job, helping low-income and underserved people and a path to social stability for Texas residents.

9:00 A.M. **SESSION I – THE STATE OF POSTSECONDARY SUCCESS IN TEXAS**

Introduction of Tom Luce - Charlotte Rhodes, *Convening Coordinator, Vice President of Regional Services, Amarillo Area Foundation*

Tom Luce, *Chairman of the Board, National Math and Science Initiative Former U.S. Assistant Secretary of Education, Dallas*



Tom Luce

10:00 A.M. BREAK

SESSION II & III - Through a presentation of the No Limits No Excuses community model developed by the Amarillo Partners for Postsecondary Success, funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and local funders, participants will be introduced to a toolkit of programs developed and implemented by institutions and support groups throughout the community. Pathways to and through postsecondary programs have provided access and success impacting low-income, first generation and underrepresented students in two- and four-year institutions with support systems for retention and the skills for completion.

10:15 A.M. **SESSION II – THE DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NO LIMITS NO EXCUSES INITIATIVE IN AMARILLO**

Introduction of Russell Lowery-Hart, Ph.D. - Belinda Palacios, *Vice President, Cal Farley’s*

WEDNESDAY, continued

10:15 A.M. Russell Lowery-Hart, Ph.D., *President, Amarillo College*
Introduction: No Limits No Excuses Philosophy and Model

10:25 A.M. Damen Lopez, *Founder and President, No Excuses University, Dallas*
Why, How, Action, Results

11:15 A.M. Donna Beegle, *President, Communication Across Barriers, Tigard, OR*
Understanding Poverty as a Component to Student Success



Damen Lopez



Donna Beegle

12 NOON LUNCH

12:30 P.M. Julie Mitchell, *Chairman, Amarillo Area Foundation Board of Directors*
Introduction of Rod Schroder

Panel Presentation and Discussion: The Amarillo NLNE Community Model

- Panel Moderator: Rod Schroder, *Superintendent of Amarillo ISD, Amarillo Area Foundation Board of Directors*
- Doug Curry, *Coordinator, No Excuses Schools and Neighborhoods*
- Dan Adams, *President and CEO, Cal Farley's*
- Elia Moreno, *Community Engagement Manager, Cal Farley's*
- Anette Carlisle, *Director, Panhandle Twenty/20, AISD School Board*
- Donna Littlejohn, *Director, City of Amarillo Public Library*
- Anthony Harris, *Pastor, St. John Baptist Church*
- Jill Goodrich, *Executive Director, Opportunity School*

1:15 P.M. BREAK

1:30 P.M. SESSION III – POSTSECONDARY PROGRAMS

Introduction and Panel Moderator – Russell Lowery-Hart, Ph.D.

1:30 P.M. **Amarillo College No Limits No Excuses Team**

- Achieving the Dream
- Success Coach and Mentor Model
- Food Pantry
- The Benefit Bank of Texas
- Career Center
- Financial Education Center, Kristin Boyer, TG, *Director of Public Benefit Grants, Austin*

2:20 P.M. **Alignment Between the Community College and the Four-Year University**

- J. Patrick O'Brien, Ph.D., *President, West Texas A&M University, Canyon*
- Russell Lowery-Hart, Ph.D., *President, Amarillo College*

3:15 P.M. BREAK

SESSION IV – This national leadership and evaluation panel will present examples of successful broad-based coalitions of workforce, civic, education, philanthropic and nonprofit organizations working together to raise awareness and integrate community-based programs focused on postsecondary completion and the importance of a community investment for long-term success. A strong theory of change and clear goals about actions that drive results are guided by evidence points, assessments and impact.

3:30 P.M. SESSION IV – THE POWER OF A COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP; SUSTAINING SUCCESS

Introduction – Dan Adams, President and CEO, Cal Farley's

3:30 P.M. **Panel Presentation and Discussion:**

- Panel Moderator: Paul Matney, Ph.D., *Past President, Amarillo College*
- Meg Long, *Director, OMG, Philadelphia, PA*
- Bonnie Gordon, *Senior Director, MDC, Raleigh-Durham, NC*
- Angela Oriano, Ph.D., *Executive Director, Texas Success Center, Austin*
- Traci Wickett, *President and CEO, United Way of Southern Cameron County, Brownsville*
- Trent Morris, *Director, Workforce Solutions Panhandle, Amarillo*

5:30 P.M. Buses depart for hotels

WEDNESDAY, continued

- 6:00 P.M. Buses depart for evening event (casual)
- Helen Piehl Ranch, Bushland
 - Reception: Ranch Home
 - Dinner and Entertainment: Party Barn
 - Steak Dinner by Amarillo Coors Cowboys and Ed Montana, vocals and guitar

9:00 P.M. Buses depart for hotels

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 2

8:00 A.M. Buses depart hotels for venue (Polk Street United Methodist Church Great Hall)

- 8:30 A.M. Registration and Continental Breakfast
- Welcome and Introduction of Senator Kel Seliger - Roy Bara, *Member, Amarillo Area Foundation Board and President, Amarillo Chamber of Commerce Board*
 - Senator Kel Seliger, *Honorary Chairman of Texas Convening II and Chairman of the Texas Senate Higher Education Committee*



Senator Kel Seliger

SESSION V & VI - State lawmakers and educational leaders will provide the state of education and relevant data influencing the passage of House Bill 5 with a response from educational leaders and stakeholders on policy recommendations, implementation issues, counseling and expanded learning opportunities.

8:45 A.M. **SESSION V – TEXAS HOUSE BILL 5: WHY, HOW, COSTS, PROJECTED OUTCOMES**

Introduction - Mark Bivins, *Past Chairman, Amarillo Area Foundation Board of Directors, and Member, Don and Sybil Harrington Foundation Board*

- 8:45 A.M.
- Panel Moderator: Jason Sabo, *Founder, Frontera Strategies, Austin*
 - Senator Kel Seliger, *Amarillo*
 - Senator Robert Duncan, *Chancellor, Texas Tech University, Lubbock*
 - Rep. Ken King, *Canadian*
 - Rep. Four Price, *Amarillo*
 - Rep. John Smithee, *Amarillo*

9:45 A.M. **SESSION VI – HB5 IMPLEMENTATION PLANS AND COLLEGE AND CAREER READINESS STANDARDS vs. NATIONAL COMMON CORE**

Introduction - Angela Lust, *Senior Vice President, Amarillo Area Foundation*

- 9:45 A.M.
- Panel Moderator: Wade Shaffer, Ph.D., *Vice President and Provost, West Texas A&M University*
 - Rod Schroder, *Superintendent, Amarillo ISD*
 - Marty Rowley, *State Board of Education Member, Amarillo*
 - Ryan Franklin, *Interim Associate Commissioner for Educator Leadership and Quality, Texas Education Agency, Austin*

10:45 A.M. BREAK

SESSION VII - Two state leadership panels representing STEM, workforce, upskills training, postsecondary student debt and state economic development will provide timely information and program examples based on the economic well-being of communities in the state and nation as directly connected to educational attainment.

11:00 A.M. **SESSION VII – THE IMPACT OF POSTSECONDARY SUCCESS ON THE ECONOMIC VITALITY OF TEXAS**

Introduction - Wes Reeves, *Senior Communications Consultant, Xcel Energy*

- 11:00 A.M. Development of STEM Programs and Integration with HB5
- Panel Moderator: Paul Harpole, *Mayor of Amarillo*
 - Cathy Allen, *Senior Director, Texas Tech University T-STEM Center, Lubbock*
 - David Hudson, *CEO, Xcel Energy, Amarillo*
 - Kathy Wetzal, *Dean, STEM, Amarillo College*

THURSDAY, continued

11:45 A.M. The Impact and the Future of the Texas Workforce and Economic Development

Introduction: Lilia Escajeda, Amarillo City Council Member; Past Chairman, Amarillo Area Foundation

- Panel Moderator: Kyle Ingham, Local Government Services Director, Panhandle Regional Planning Commission, Amarillo
- Jennifer Colehower, Texas Workforce Commission, Chief of Staff, Austin
- Jeff Webster, Assistant Vice President for Research and Analytical Services, TG Student Loan Corporation, Austin
- Elaine Barber, Vice President, Greater Houston Partnership, Upskill Houston
- Steve Smith, Vice President for Instruction and Workforce, El Paso Community College

12:30 P.M. LUNCH

1:00 P.M.

LUNCH PANEL – THE ROLE AND FUTURE OF PHILANTHROPY IN POSTSECONDARY SUCCESS

Introduction: Alice O'Brien, Past Chairman, Amarillo Area Foundation Board of Directors

Panel Presentation and Discussion:

- Panel Moderator: Clay Stribling, President and CEO, Amarillo Area Foundation
- Terry Price, Senior Foundation Representative, Xcel Energy Foundation, Amarillo
- Lucille DiDomenico, CEO, Philanthropy Southwest, Dallas
- Jason Sabo, Advocacy Consultant to Texas Education Grantmakers Consortium, Austin
- Kevin Byrne, Education Program Officer, Michael and Susan Dell Foundation, Austin
- Fred Markham, Executive Director, Texas Pioneer Foundation, San Marcos

1:45 P.M. BREAK

SESSION VIII – National and state leaders will address the importance of communities in developing a collective impact model to improve student achievement and measurable change with a commitment to a cradle-to-career approach. Panel members will discuss community and organizational capacities, vision and indicators for positive change.

2:00 P.M.

SESSION VIII – APPLYING INNOVATIVE BROAD SECTOR COORDINATION TO ADDRESS CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

Introduction – Anette Carlisle, Panhandle Twenty/20 Director, AISD School Board Member

“Sustaining Pathways from Cradle to Career . . . From Greater Autonomy to Greater Integration”

Jeff Edmondson, Managing Director, StriveTogether, Cincinnati, Ohio

3:00 P.M. Educate Texas Model, J. Chris Coxon, Chief Program Officer, Educate Texas, Communities Foundation of Texas, Dallas

3:30 P.M. Panel Presentation and Discussion:

- Panel Moderator: J. Chris Coxon, Chief Program Officer, Educate Texas, Dallas
- Bob Wimpelberg, Executive Director, All Kids Alliance, University of Houston
- Luzelma Canales, Director, Educate Texas, Rio Grande Valley Project, McAllen
- Susan Dawson, E3 Alliance, Austin
- Sagar Desai, Director, Higher Education/Access/Completion, Commit2 Dallas



Jeff Edmondson

4:15 P.M. Wrap-up and Evaluation/Connecting
Russell Lowery-Hart, Ph.D., Facilitator

4:45 P.M. Buses depart for hotels

6:00 P.M. Informal Networking Dinner for Participants Staying Overnight (location to be announced)

Business professionals may apply these sessions toward their Continuing Education Units (CEUs) at no additional cost. 10 hours = 1 CEU. Amarillo College will provide forms at conference registration desk.

TEXAS CONVENING II

PLANNING COMMITTEE

Charlotte Rhodes, *Convening Coordinator,
Amarillo Area Foundation*
Julie Arias, *West Texas A&M University*
Lori Bigham, *Amarillo Area Foundation*
Mary Bralley, *XCEL Energy*
Anette Carlisle, *Panhandle Twenty/20*
Mary Coyne, *McCormick Company*
Doug Curry, *Amarillo ISD*
Jill Goodrich, *Opportunity School*
Anthony Harris, *St. John Baptist Church*
Russell Lowery-Hart, Ph.D., *Amarillo College*
Danita McAnally, *Amarillo College*
Elia Moreno, *Cal Farley's*
Alice O'Brien, *Amarillo Area Foundation*
Belinda Palacios, *Cal Farley's*
Karen Phillips, *Amarillo Area Foundation*
Linda Pitner, *Panhandle PBS*
Terry Price, *XCEL Energy*
Misty Rueda, *West Texas A&M University*
Clay Stribling, *Amarillo Area Foundation*
Dana West, *Amarillo ISD*
Becky Zenor, *Amarillo Chamber of Commerce*

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