



**Cedar Rapids/Iowa City
Professional and Technical Diversity Network**

NEWS: For Immediate Release

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**CORRIDOR DIVERSITY GROUP PLANS NEW RESIDENTS EVENT
NOV. 8: PTDN to Highlight Best Practices in Diversity with Alliant Energy
and Other Companies in Free Event**

The Cedar Rapids/Iowa City Professional and Technical Diversity Network will host a “New Corridor Residents” welcome reception and business diversity program Monday, Nov. 8 at the African-American Museum and Cultural Center.

The event is designed to welcome new residents to eastern Iowa and provide a networking opportunity and information on businesses and events in the area. The reception will be held from 5:30 to 7 p.m. with a program highlighting diversity hiring and recruitment at 6 p.m.

Keynote speaker for the program will be Alliant Energy’s Director of Strategic Employment and Compliance, Jeanne Arellano. “Embracing Diversity: Alliant’s Journey” will be the subject of Arellano’s remarks, highlighting a recent award the company received from *Diversity Inc.* Magazine naming Alliant Energy one of the Top 50 companies in America for its diversity efforts.

A follow-up discussion will also spotlight several other Technology Corridor™ companies named to the *Diversity Inc.* Top 50 list. Representatives from the Gannett, General Mills, Procter & Gamble, United Parcel Service, the U.S. Postal Service and Wells Fargo have all been invited to share brief comments on their diversity efforts in eastern Iowa.

Alliant Energy is also the corporate sponsor of the Nov. 8 PTDN networking event. There is no cost for the program and all are welcome. Refreshments will be served, along with a collection of gifts from supporting businesses for all attendees who pre-register for the event. All interested persons can RSVP at the PTDN web site:

www.ptdn.net

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In addition, the African-American Museum and Cultural Center will provide a discounted admission to their exhibits for only \$3 from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

PTDN is a partnership between employers, the community and professional organizations with a shared commitment to attract, develop and retain diverse professional and technical specialists. Membership is free, and open to anyone who wishes to belong to PTDN.

Businesses and organizations supporting the community through PTDN include: AEGON USA, Alliant Energy, The Cedar Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce and Priority One, Cedar Rapids Community Schools, College Community Schools, Gazette Communications, Iowa City Area Development Group, the Iowa City Area Association of REALTORS®, Iowa City Veterans Administration Medical Center, Kirkwood Community College, Panera Bread Bakery-Cafes, Procter & Gamble, Rockwell Collins, Sales Associates of Cedar Rapids and The University of Iowa.

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For more information concerning the Professional/Technical Diversity Network of Cedar Rapids/Iowa City, please contact chair@ptdn.net.