



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Reagan Institute Summit on Education Adds President, CEO of Communities in Schools to Speaker Lineup

Dale Erquiaga to participate in panel on holistic approaches to student education, success

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation and Institute today announced that Dale Erquiaga, President and CEO of Communities in Schools, will serve as a panelist at the Reagan Institute Summit on Education (RISE), held in Washington, D.C. on April 10-11, 2019.

“Under Dale’s leadership, Communities in Schools continues to change thousands of students’ lives – not just by keeping them in school, but attending to the real challenges they experience outside of school,” said Roger Zakheim, Director of the Reagan Institute. “This important work makes him an ideal participant in this discussion. We eagerly anticipate hearing his thoughts on what we can do to prepare children to thrive not just as students, but as people.”

Erquiaga will participate in a panel session entitled “Measuring What Counts: Educating the Whole Child.” This panel will build on insights gained from the National Commission on Social, Emotional and Academic Development’s 2019 report “From a Nation at Risk to a Nation at Hope,” critically considering current and former measures of success to envision a fuller approach to education.

“It’s easy to focus on the letter on a report card or the number on a standardized test,” said Erquiaga. “It’s harder to engage children as individuals, sitting at a complex nexus of political, economic and racial realities. My hope is that, through these conversations, we’ll be able to develop strategies that enable us to address these complexities, giving each child a chance to grow and develop their unique gifts.”

Erquiaga leads Communities in Schools, a national nonprofit that works inside schools helping at-risk students overcome the nonacademic and academic challenges that are often the result of poverty. Previously, he served the people of Nevada through in a variety of public offices, including advisor for Gov. Brian Sandoval, Nevada state superintendent of public instruction, Executive Director of Government Affairs, Public Policy and Strategic Planning at Clark County School District and Nevada Chief Deputy Secretary of State. Prior to his work in public service, he worked in marketing, advertisement and consulting. He

holds a bachelor's degree from the University of Nevada-Reno and a master's from Grand Canyon University.

Erquiaga joins other leaders in education, policy, business and technology participating in RISE 2019, including Rep. Virginia Foxx, Sen. Tim Kaine, Pennsylvania Secretary of Education Pedro Rivera, Founder of Khan Academy Sal Kahn and many others. Throughout the conference, bipartisan panels and plenaries will foster conversation on a wide range of education policy issues. These issues include developing a holistic approach to education, preparing students for the job market of the future, surveying the higher education horizon and setting audacious national goals for our education system.

RISE 2019 is open to registered media. For more information, visit www.reaganfoundation.org/reagan-institute or follow RISE on Twitter @ReaganInstitute. Join the conversation with #RISE2019.

Media Contact: Emilee Lamb — lamb@pinkstongroup.com or 571-480-2367

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About the Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation and Institute

The Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation and Institute is the nonprofit organization created by President Reagan himself and specifically charged by him with continuing his legacy and sharing his principles - individual liberty, economic opportunity, global democracy and national pride. The Foundation is a non-partisan organization which sustains the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library and Museum in Simi Valley, CA, the Reagan Center for Public Affairs, the Presidential Learning Center, The Air Force One Pavilion and the award-winning Discovery Center, as well as the Reagan Institute in Washington, D.C. Ronald Reagan said, "**Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction.** We didn't pass it on to our children in the bloodstream. It must be fought for, protected, and handed on for them to do the same, or one day we will spend our sunset years telling our children and our children's children what it was once like in the United States where men were free."

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