

TEACHFORAMERICA

Hi all,

I loved seeing many of you at our [25th Anniversary Summit](#) in D.C. last month. Spending the weekend with more than 15,000 of you left me reinspired and reinvigorated by the power of diversity and the collective. I'm writing today to build on [my remarks at the Main Event](#) with an update on the direction of Teach For America.

Teach For America's contribution to the broader effort for educational equity and excellence is and always will be the leadership of remarkable people. Today, after 15 years of rapid growth, we are a network of 50,000 diverse leaders bound by an unwavering belief in the potential of all students and their right to an excellent education. Our scale and diversity of opinion, of identity, of belief is our greatest strength. We represent the coalition our nation needs to make lasting, systemic change that expands opportunity for all.

I believe the defining question for Teach For America today is whether we can evolve from an organization designed to grow to scale to an organization designed to leverage the incredible scale and diversity we've built over 25 years to help propel our nation forward. The answer is we can, and we must.

This week I'm announcing significant changes to the size, structure, and orientation of Teach For America's national organization. Our regions will have more autonomy to adapt and innovate on our program in ways that meet the unique and varied contexts in which we work. Our center will become leaner and more nimble, oriented toward learning from the real progress we see in classrooms, schools, and communities in order to accelerate change across our entire network. I'm confident these steps will increase our impact for students and set Teach For America on a course to thrive in the next 25 years.

So, what does this mean for you? Here's how I hope you will experience these changes as a corps member and an alum in the Teach For America community:

- **You will be part of a thriving, inclusive and supportive community oriented toward collective impact.** We'll make it easier for you to find, know and collaborate with each other. And we'll do this in a way that scales as we grow our community to nearly 100,000 strong over the next 10 years. We know that system change requires dynamic teams and collective leadership across our network and with our partners, and we aim to model this orientation toward collective impact in everything we do.

- **You will have access to supports at the vanguard of transformational learning and leadership development.** We've learned a lot about what it takes to make meaningful progress in classrooms, schools, school systems, and the sectors that shape them. And yet the world and the context in which we work are changing fast. This calls for new and different approaches and the agility to evolve quickly. Teach For America's unique value is our ability to access and synthesize learning from the innovations, breakthroughs, failures, and setbacks within our community and outside it. We will iterate rapidly with you, making learning accessible to you and constantly reflecting alongside you on our approach to training and support.
- **You will be consequential to our ability to rally the next generation of leaders to join this effort.** Each year, we will continue to grow the size of our leadership force with our incoming corps. The energy, commitment, and imagination of new leadership will be critical to our community—to the innovations and learning happening within it and most importantly, to our students. To compete for diverse future leaders in the most competitive and challenging recruitment environment in our history, we're changing how we recruit. Our prospect corps members' experience will unfold over several years, defined in part by meeting corps members, alumni, and students.

I'm committed to changing how Teach For America the organization operates in order to transform how Teach For America the community connects, learns, and pursues collective impact. I hope you choose to engage fully and contribute to this community, just as I hope you will benefit from and grow in it.

As I travel to the communities where we work in the coming months, I'll make time to meet with those interested in learning more about these changes and helping to shape the path forward. And, as always, you can reach out directly to me or to the executive director in the region where you live. We love hearing from you.

Together, we rise.



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