

# **Expanding Employment Pathways through Impact Hiring**



While overall unemployment levels have decreased over the past several years, economic opportunity has remained out of reach for some—including large numbers of youth. As the labor market has tightened, competition for entry-level talent has increased among employers. These factors underpin the value of impact hiring: talent practices that create business advantage through hiring and developing individuals who often face barriers to economic opportunity.

The Innovation Labs offer pioneering companies an opportunity to test impact hiring innovations while being provided access to consulting support, peer-to-peer learning, and a communications platform to share best practice employment innovations, improving their employment brand.

## WHY JOIN AN INNOVATION LAB

Innovation Labs provide employers with a **low-cost**, **low-risk** opportunity to realize the business value of impact hiring through:



**Consulting Support**: Expertise and technical assistance to support companies with implementing impact hiring pilots



**Peer-to-Peer Learning**: At both the individual and company level to provide the support this type of intra/entrepreneurship requires



**Communication**: A communications platform to share best practice employment innovations improving their employment brand

### **HOW TO GET INVOLVED**

**Our second Innovation Lab cohort** will focus on best practices for building a talent pipeline that encourages the retention of entry level workers and is scheduled to run from October 2017 through September 2018.

**Learn more** by visiting the <u>Impact Hiring Project website</u> or contacting Nicole Trimble at nicole.trimble@fsg.org.

### WHO'S INVOLVED?

Our **first Innovation Lab cohort** is currently underway and is comprised of the following pioneering companies:









**NORDSTROM** 





Expert faculty include:





### WHY YOU SHOULD JOIN

## **Company Benefits**

- The opportunity to engage in low-risk and no-cost consulting, implementation, and data analysis support to address real business needs
- The potential for PR opportunities and recognition as a company with innovative talent strategies
- The opportunity to find solutions to improving talent retention, engagement, and advancement at your company
- Engagement in a learning community experience with tangible, practical, and relevant results

### **Individual Benefits**

- Interesting, impactful professional development tied to a project with business outcomes for your company
- A networking opportunity to engage deeply with HR and CSR leaders from other companies
- An opportunity to work on a purpose-filled project with like-minded peers

# WHAT INNOVATION LABS ENTAIL

Participation in Innovation Labs is **free of charge**. The Rockefeller Foundation and Walmart have generously underwritten all aspects of the experience except travel and lodging for in-person gatherings. Innovation Lab members commit to the following:

- **Active participation** over a 9-12 month timeframe
- Conducting a small-scale pilot to test an impact hiring or opportunity youth employment strategy
- Sharing data and/or impact stories related to the pilot with the aim of contributing to the broader business case for impact hiring and engaging opportunity youth
- Sign-off from senior leadership to participate to ensure organizational buy-in

### INNOVATION LAB EXPERIENCE Storytelling and build communication plan, Senior HR Late spring, leader who Location TBD Continue talks about Design pilot and Inspired implementation of piloting at your this work Company pilot at your company company publicly Communication Design Thinking, **Navigating Complex** Begin analyzing activities Pilot evaluation pilot Systems, Influencing design, Without Authority, Summer/Fall 2018 Oct 10-12, 2017 Early winter, Aspen, CO New Orleans, LA = In person gatherings = Consultants paid by FSG who will help you do the work