

# College Readiness, Access, and Success Initiative (CRI)

The College Readiness, Access, and Success Initiative (CRI) is a dynamic platform for business and higher education to work together to promote college readiness, access and degree completion for underserved populations, particularly in math and science. Because these challenges are interrelated and require systemic solutions, the CRI takes a comprehensive, systemic approach to addressing them in the elementary-through-graduate school education pipeline.

**The CRI harnesses the influence and resources of BHEF** and its membership, a unique cross-section of prominent corporate, higher education, and foundation chief executives to:

- Address critical issues in the elementary-through-graduate school education pipeline;
- Focus on systemic solutions and strategies that support systemic change;
- Identify practical solutions to local education concerns; and
- Create a platform for local/state member-led partnerships to develop strategic approaches, implement them, and disseminate lessons learned.

## HALLMARKS OF THE CRI INCLUDE:

**Engagement of business and higher education leaders** to raise public awareness and create a network of leaders equipped to advance the CRI's goals through advocacy and action.

**Local member-led work** to improve college readiness and success in selected communities, supported by strategic advice, resources, and information to guide middle school through graduate school education improvement. Great strides have been made particularly in [Louisville, KY](#), and [Philadelphia, PA](#). Louisville has become the leading example of BHEF efforts, and a model for the nation, for how to create lasting partnerships that improve education outcomes. [Read more](#).

**Adaptable models** for education improvement developed in BHEF's local member-led work and through research generating strategic blueprints, case studies and resources on education reform efforts, including a case study on the successful cross-sector improvement effort in [Long Beach, CA](#).

**A Web-based resource center, [StrategicEdSolutions.org](#)**, that provides strategies, programs, and resources to help leaders make more informed decisions about their investments in college readiness, access, and success. The site includes an integrated framework, strategies, and illustrative programs to equip users to understand and use the most important levers that influence P-16 education.

## LEADERSHIP:

The CRI is led by BHEF members **Charles B. Reed**, chancellor of The California State University System, and **David Jones Jr.**, chairman of Chrysalis Ventures, board member of Humana Inc., and a BHEF member working group of senior executives.

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*BHEF brings together a coalition of corporate, academic, and foundation chief executives who provide leadership to improve U.S education and competitiveness. Learn more at [www.bhef.com](http://www.bhef.com).*