

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



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**Cedar Rapids YP Groups Join Forces to “ImpactCR”**

Cedar Rapids, IA – Two Cedar Rapids based YP groups officially merged at last night’s Cedar Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce’s PM Exchange to create a new group under the Chamber, “ImpactCR.” ImpactCR will combine the energy and coordinate the strategic visions of both Access Iowa and the Next Generation Commission by “connecting, engaging and empowering young talent in the Cedar Rapids area to ensure the long term advancement of the community.”

A volunteer organization, ImpactCR, seeks to reach out to all young talent, regardless of background, who demonstrate an interest in and a commitment to creating a stronger, more vibrant community. Mirrored after the strong committee structure that supported Access Iowa throughout its 10-year history, ImpactCR’s core values include the promotion of civic, leadership, social, and charitable initiatives that drive positive, real change within the Cedar Rapids area.

The Chamber has hired Kathleen Horan as Director of Leadership Development. She will be responsible for developing, coordinating and administrating Impact CR while providing professional leadership and support. Members of both the Access Iowa Board of Directors and Next Generation Commission have volunteered to serve as the initial Advisory Board for the new organization through September 2009. Christian Fong, chair of NGC, and Monica Lyons, chair of Access Iowa, will serve as co-chairs. Eric Hanson, Vice President of Access Iowa, and Jessica Palmer, member of NGC, will serve as co-chairs elect. They will co-chair the new organization Sept. 2009-September 2010. All other board positions will be open for election. The description of the positions and call for nominations will be announced at our members meeting on June 4.

For more information on ImpactCR, contact Chairs Monica Lyons or Christian Fong at [chair@impactcr.org](mailto:chair@impactcr.org) or visit us on Facebook by searching “ImpactCR.”