



Center for Leadership & Educational Equity

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 5, 2022

Providence, RI

### **CLEE AWARDED FEDERAL GRANT TO BUILD EDUCATION LEADERSHIP CAPACITY IN MASSACHUSETTS**

#### **Partners with the American Institute of Research (AIR) to implement model that can be replicated nationally**

The Center for Leadership in Educational Equity (CLEE) announced today that it has been awarded a three-year grant from the U.S. Department of Education. The Department's Supporting Effective Educator Development (SEED) program provides long-term investments to address the chronic shortage of teachers and education leaders. Just 22 three-year grants were awarded. The grant enables CLEE to continue working with the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) to retain talent, implement effective systems and practices, and provide a sustainable pipeline and continuous career development for school leaders.

Based on success CLEE has already had in Massachusetts and across the country, CLEE will implement the **Equity Leader Accelerator Project (ELAP)**. ELAP utilizes evidence-based mentoring, induction, and preparation practices to increase equity leadership practices among early career principals, as well as school leaders across career stages.

This innovative leadership model trains early career principals to enact the MA Anti-Racist Competencies for School Leaders, while concurrently supporting:

- experienced school leaders to serve as mentors for early career principals
- diverse emerging school leaders and aspiring principals to become leaders
- district leaders to strengthen systems that support leadership preparation, induction, and mentoring.

Donna Braun, Executive Director of CLEE said, "A key reason principals leave the profession is due to inadequate professional development and support for their challenging positions. Providing support for early career principals can have a ripple effect by increasing support for experienced principals who mentor early career principals, and for emerging leaders mentored by early career principals. ELAP has the potential to build capacity and results beyond Massachusetts as a replicable model nationally."



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To ensure the objective integrity of the program and enable the success of ELAP to be replicated, CLEE will partner with AIR. AIR will conduct an independent evaluation of ELAP, providing timely feedback on the fidelity of implementation. Evaluation results will directly contribute to the quality of the program implementation and estimate program impact on educator and student outcomes.

“This project offers an excellent opportunity to study and build on promising practices for school leader development and to contribute to the broader goals of the SEED program,” said Eric Larson, Principal Economist at AIR.

CLEE’s three-year grant from the U.S. Department of Education totals \$9,754,000, representing 75% of the cost of the project. The remaining 25% will be contributed through in-kind sources by CLEE and Local Education Agencies.

## **ABOUT CLEE**

CLEE has been at the forefront of supporting educational equity through school leadership since it was founded in 2010. A 501(c)(3) non-profit, it offers a variety of services that scale the work of key equity-focused leadership development programs, including a residency-based principal preparation program. While the work has been concentrated in southern New England, in recent years CLEE has expanded to support the needs of school districts across the country.

## **ABOUT AIR**

AIR is a nonpartisan, not-for-profit organization that conducts behavioral and social science research and delivers technical assistance to solve some of the most urgent challenges in the United States and around the world. Our experts in education, health, workforce, human services, and international development follow the evidence to find and apply solutions that will work. Our work helps policymakers make important decisions based on evidence, and we work with leaders, organizations, and communities to create more effective programs. For more than 75 years, we have been working to evolve systems, policies, practices, and interventions to create a better, more equitable world.

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