



NEWS RELEASE

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EPIC CORPORATE CHALLENGE AWARD WINNERS ANNOUNCED

CEDAR RAPIDS, Iowa - Transamerica and Collins Aerospace will be recognized at the EPIC Annual Awards Celebration on Jan. 31, 2019, with Most Innovative Initiative Awards for their work in advancing women leaders over the past year and taking part in the EPIC Corporate Challenge.

“The EPIC Awards are a great way to celebrate the innovation and ownership Iowa organizations have taken to grow the number of women in leadership roles,” Tiffany O’Donnell, CEO of Iowa Women Lead Change said. “These companies are unique examples and are receiving well-deserved recognition by the state of Iowa and their peers.”

Transamerica’s Women’s Impact Network (TWIN) Steering Committee Team (the Team) spearheaded a groundbreaking panel discussion, open to all Cedar Rapids employees, with the ten members of the company’s America’s Management Board (AMB) all of whom are based outside of Iowa. TWIN provides resources in various Transamerica offices across the country for men and women to connect, network and develop business acumen and leadership skills. A post event survey confirmed the success of the event revealing 93% satisfaction and many helpful comments which the Team has committed to sharing with the AMB.

Collins Aerospace began an *Introduce a Girl to Engineering* initiative in conjunction with the annual internationally-recognized Engineers Week each February. In 2018, this event hosted 680 female middle school students at 13 company locations with 300 employee volunteers. Each event pairs students with Collins engineers as they work through a variety of activities that represent different branches of engineering. Students participate through activities such as building a prosthetic hand for children in need, assembling drones, as well as touring engineering labs and hearing from a variety of keynote speakers to show how powerful and impactful a career in engineering can be.

The EPIC Corporate Challenge was launched in March 2016 as a public-private partnership to spur Iowa companies to formally commit to grow and retain women at all levels of business.

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Iowa was the second state in the nation to bring together government, private businesses and non-profit organizations dedicated to working on the vital issues of recruiting, retaining, and promoting women in the workforce. EPIC now boasts 86 partners across the state of Iowa.

The EPIC Corporate Challenge is sponsored by Delta Dental of Iowa with partner organizations Women Lead Change, Iowa Office of the Governor, Iowa Workforce Development, Iowa Economic Development Authority and Nexus. For more information or to sign up for the EPIC Corporate Challenge visit www.epiciowa.org.

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