PHOENIXIDA

**MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** November 20, 2014

**TO:** Members, Board of Directors

**FROM:** Juan Salgado, Executive Director

**SUBJECT:** Jerome E. Miller Summer Leadership Academy

## BACKGROUND

Jerome E. Miller was a former Deputy City Manager in the City of Phoenix who worked in public service for more than 34 years. He was a trusted, dedicated and respected professional who was dearly loved by his City family, along with the many neighborhood leaders, housing advocates and senior service providers he closely worked with throughout his career.

In order to commemorate his leadership, service and legacy, the Jerome E. Miller (JEM) Summer Leadership Academy was established this past June. This week-long academy was designed to expose high school students to careers in public service, as well as fuel and diversify the pipeline for public service, and prepare students for college, career and life success.

Approximately 25 students in 10th thru 12th grades from local Phoenix high schools were invited to apply for a spot in the academy. Students were exposed to college planning and civic engagement through College Depot and also participated in a course on the campus of Phoenix College entitled 'Leadership for Citizenship' receiving one college credit at the end of the course. In addition, students were assigned a City of Phoenix leader as a mentor who they shadowed and met with during the course of the week.

At the end of the week, students were brought together with their mentors and other invited guests to share their feelings about the overall program. The sentiment from the students was that the program helped them begin to plan for their post-secondary education and consider a future career in public service.