



Contact:

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## For Immediate Release

### Diversity Awareness Partnership to close DAP - Columbia regional office, welcomes Inclusive Impact Institute

**St. Louis, Missouri – May 9, 2018 – [Diversity Awareness Partnership \(DAP\)](#)** will close their regional office in Columbia, Missouri to make way for the newly-established Inclusive Impact Institute, according to DAP Executive Director, Melanie Powell-Robinson. Since March 2015, Diversity Awareness Partnership, the region's catalyst to increase awareness, engagement and education about diversity and inclusion, has provided support, resources and leadership to the Columbia, Missouri area through the DAP - Columbia office, led by Regional Manager Nikki McGruder.

"Diversity Awareness Partnership-Columbia has had the awesome opportunity to expose thousands of Columbia community members to thought provoking discussions, educational programs, professional networking opportunities and diversity trainings," says Powell-Robinson. "The impact on the region has been exceptional."

"Under the leadership of Nikki McGruder as Regional Manager for DAP - Columbia, the community has benefited tremendously from her trainings, programs and collaborations," says Powell-Robinson. "We are excited about the introduction of a new diversity initiative in Columbia which will continue the mission set forth by DAP."

Diversity Awareness Partnership will cease operation in Columbia but will remain a support resource to the Inclusive Impact Institute, with McGruder taking a leadership role. "I am eternally grateful for the foundation that Diversity Awareness Partnership has laid for the Columbia community," Says McGruder. "DAP was the catalyst for getting work off the ground for Columbia and will continue to be a strong partner in this work. We will work collaboratively wherever the opportunity presents itself, and we are united in the fight to create inclusive communities for all."

A recognized regional leader in diversity and inclusion efforts, DAP collaborates with Fortune 500 corporate partners, non-profit organizations, and academic, government, and faith-based institutions to promote inclusive communities where diversity is respected and embraced, and equity is the norm.

For more information on Diversity Awareness Partnership, [visit DAP's website.](#)

*Diversity Awareness Partnership is a catalyst to increase awareness, facilitate engagement and provide education about diversity and inclusion. DAP is a recognized leader in collaborative efforts with regional businesses, universities, community organizations, the legal community, and area middle and high schools to develop more diverse and inclusive working, learning, and living environments.*

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