

June 13, 2013

Business Record  
2013 Women of Influence Selection Committee

Dear Committee Members:

I am pleased to recommend Meg Fitz to be considered for the 2013 Des Moines Business Record Women of Influence recognition.

In 2000, Meg Fitz started her career at the Greater Des Moines Partnership and currently serves as Senior Vice President, Regional Business Development. Meg leads our regional efforts to provide creative and innovative programming for our 4700 business members and 20 Affiliate organizations. Under Meg's leadership, our Affiliate chambers have expanded to include Newton and Grinnell, overall membership numbers are growing, and member satisfaction continues to rise.

Meg has been a champion of several programs related to growing the Central Iowa entrepreneurial ecosystem such as Thinc Iowa, Startup City Des Moines, TEDx Des Moines, and SourceLink Central Iowa. Meg also is helping to lead the Partnership's efforts to develop strategic alliances with the technology communities throughout the Midwest through the Heartland Collaborative with colleagues in Omaha, Kansas City, and St. Louis, and, as a result, has created exciting new relationships with both the Kauffman Foundation and Gallup.

Meg staffs both the Capital Crossroads Wellness Capital and Environmental Capital Committees. In this capacity, she helped launch "Des Moines Get Active" which helps promote regional wellness events. Meg also engaged Drake Law School students in developing model sustainable building practices.

Meg also serves on the board of the Iowa Chamber of Commerce Executives, is a member of Leadership Iowa Class of 2011, and is a member of the Des Moines Business Publications' 2012 class of "Forty Under 40".

In the community, Meg has served as a board member on the City of Des Moines' Youth Advisory Board, as a member of Maddie's Circle, and as a mentor to young adults through Young Women's Resource Center, Drake University, and Orchard Place. She is also a member of Junior League of Des Moines, United Way of Central Iowa's Leadership Circle, Mary Louise Smith Women's Leadership Program, and a past committee member of the American Heart Association's Go Red for Women luncheon.

For these many reasons, Meg Fitz is very much deserving of this honor. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,

  
Jay Byers  
Chief Executive Officer

