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TALNET UNVEILS WEBSITE AND ANNOUNCES CONFERENCE SERIES TO SHARE WORK OF MEMBERS IN TALENT INNOVATION

GRAND RAPIDS, MICH., October 12, 2020 – TalNet, the Talent Innovation Network of West Michigan, today announced a series of five virtual conferences highlighting the work of its members to accelerate economic mobility in West Michigan by improving the quality of career decisions in education, training and job selection.

The announcement coincides with the launch of [TalNet.org](https://talnet.org), detailing how the network partners are working to improve career systems.

“COVID-19 has presented many challenges in our daily routines, but the innovative work of our members has continued across West Michigan,” said Bill Guest, TalNet’s facilitator. “We’re pleased to share this work now with a wider audience – through the website as well as the virtual conference series.”

The five-part “Good to Great” conference series will highlight the work of each of TalNet’s five innovations that are designed to align talent needs and hiring decisions of employers with the lifelong career journeys of students and job seekers.

Each event runs 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. and is free to the public. Go to the [events](#) section of TalNet.org or follow the links below to learn more and register.

Nov. 18: [HireReach](#): Reducing bias and other inconsistencies in the hiring process has never been more important. Learn how you can use fair and objective decisions to connect the right people to the right jobs.

Jan. 13: [IncludeAll](#): To reduce bias and combat racism, individuals and institutions must be intentional. IncludeAll supports applying a diversity lens to programs and processes. Learn how this TalNet innovation is advancing progress toward more equitable outcomes.

Jan. 27: [JobSync](#): JobSync supports analyzing, documenting and communicating the essential characteristics of West Michigan jobs and what it takes to succeed in them. Discover the benefits of a common language that connects qualified applicants to occupations where they can thrive.

Feb. 17: [CareerPoint](#): CareerPoint helps students and adults navigate to their place in the world of work, matching interests and abilities with training, support and careers. Learn how this framework of evidence-based career pathways is useful in a variety of settings: public workforce, nonprofits, K-12, and private employers.

March 17: [SkillSense](#): Communication, teamwork, responsibility and other social-emotional skills are vital for children and adults to thrive in school, at work and every stage of life. Discover how SkillSense supports defining, improving and documenting these skills.

The strength of TalNet is that the members bring expertise from diverse backgrounds and organizations that directly support students, job seekers, educators, career coaches and employers.

The goal of TalNet is to empower people to work in jobs where they are highly engaged, high performing, and earning good rewards.

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