INTRODUCING MINORITY YOUTH TO THE MEDICAL FIELD

By Andrew Fowler
For The St. Louis American

St. Luke’s Hospital has been taking big steps improving the lives of minority students in high schools at the St. Louis area through their work with the St. Louis Internship Program. The St. Louis Internship Program (SLIP) helps underserved high school students find internships that correlate with their interests. Since 1996, St. Luke’s Hospital has been working with the program and interns who have an interest in the medical field.

“We felt the interns placed at our facility become very prepared for a professional work setting,” Hess said. “It’s really investing in our community,” Hess said. “I can easily see how this program has benefited us as an organization.”

The benefits of the SLIP program are far reaching, giving students experience and making them more attractive to colleges, universities and future employers. St. Luke’s has even hired some of its past interns who have come through the SLIP program.

“Our region’s diversity is our strength,” Hess said. “It’s really investing in our community.”

Diversity: A Business Imperative

Our region’s diversity is our strength. We realize diversity has many faces, from the way we look to the experience we bring to the table. Diversity is more elusive in the workplace than in the community. Companies and organizations that have a diverse workforce are positioned to offer better services to meet the demands of customers whose characteristics are becoming more diverse.

As vice president and CEO of Ameren Corporation, I’m proud of the strong diversity effort our company has been working on. The work is not yet complete, but we are making significant progress. We’re working to move ahead on our diversity strategy with renewed energy and purpose.

We began our effort to increase diversity at the top of the organization. Here’s how we realized the importance of recruiting, retaining and developing talented employees. We committed to hiring and promoting employees based on their abilities and performance, not their race, gender or any other personal characteristic.

We believe that diversity and inclusion are critical to our success. It is important for us to promote diversity, to embrace differences and to recognize the value of diversity for the success of our company and our region. We are committed to creating a workplace where every employee feels welcome, respected and valued. Diversity is a competitive advantage for our company and our region. We are committed to creating a workplace where every employee feels welcome, respected and valued.

Every community and region is working to create something better. Whether it’s an education system, a health care system or a creative workforce, we must find ways to make these systems more diverse. We believe that diversity is the key to success and that diversity requires innovation.

We believe that diversity is more than just having a diverse workforce. Diversity is about creating a culture where people feel valued and respected. Diversity is about creating a workplace where people can bring their whole selves to work. Diversity is about creating a workplace where people can be themselves and be comfortable doing so.

“Diversity is a key factor in our success,” Hess said. “It’s really investing in our organization.”

Local leaders sound off on diversity

Workforce diversity doesn’t just happen. It takes a deliberate effort to recruit and retain and develop talented employees. And, the commitment starts at the top of the organization. Here’s what local leaders have said regarding diversity and inclusion and their importance for the benefit of the entire region:

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St. Louis College of Pharmacy

Diversity at Work

We know that diversity in our neighborhood stores and our corporate office gives us a fresh perspective that makes us stronger. As we continue to grow, we count on that strength to help us serve you and the community. Whether you work with us, or shop with us, you find diversity is essential to our success!