



**Press Release** – March 23, 2015  
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## **Community Shares Hosts Cultural Competence Leadership Institute April 20-21**

MADISON — Community Shares of Wisconsin (CSW) is hosting a two-day Cultural Competence Leadership Institute April 20-21. The curriculum designed to help leaders reflect, analyze, and prepare for professional and organizational growth—especially as it relates to serving diverse groups. The Institute is designed for nonprofits, individuals, educators, businesses, and governmental agencies, and all are invited to attend.

Over two eight-hour days, participants will gain insight into what subtle or overt messages their organization sends out about power, privilege, and culture. Attendees can also identify effective ways to build cultural competence, learn about evidence-based strategies, and plan how to better serve diverse groups. Longer term, attendees are likely to see other benefits: improving staff and team development, and fostering community relationships.

The Cultural Competence Leadership Institute, held at the Goodman Community Center, will be 8:30-4:30 on April 20 and 21. The cost of \$160 includes lunch and materials; a discounted cost of \$130 applies to multiple people from an organization.

The facilitators are Harold Gates, President of the Midwest Center for Cultural Competence, LLC, and Lilly Irvin-Vitela, President of Common Worth, LLC.

According to Crystel Anders, Community Shares' Executive Director, "We are so pleased to offer a training on this critically important issue, and to be working with Harold and Lilly, who are such highly regarded facilitators in this arena. CSW has been singularly focused for nearly 45 years in supporting positive social change, yet we know that system change, even when long overdue, doesn't occur overnight.

"By offering this Leadership Institute, we expect that more individuals—including leaders in the nonprofit, business, education, and government sectors—will be better able to serve diverse groups with the benefit of having gained added competence, and a more informed perspective," she explained.

Anders added that attendees will have an opportunity to reflect, analyze, and come away with strategies for moving toward professional and organizational growth.

Though Community Shares of Wisconsin is planning and hosting the Institute, CSW thanks lead sponsor Forward Community Investments, and Partnering Sponsor CUNA Mutual Group.

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### **For More Information Contact**

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### **About Community Shares of Wisconsin**

Community Shares of Wisconsin's many member nonprofits work to build a fair, just community and protect our environment. CSW is a member-directed fundraising federation based on a cooperative model; all of its member groups hold a seat on the CSW board. CSW raises money for its member groups through workplace giving campaigns, the Round Up program at Capitol Centre Market, and the Community CHIP™ program at Willy Street Co-op. Community Shares not only raises money for its groups, it actively helps expand their capacity through training, 1:1 support from experts, networking, and technical assistance.