



American  
Leadership  
Forum  
Silicon Valley



Contact: Debbie Ford-Scriba  
Vice President of Network Relations  
American Leadership Forum – Silicon Valley  
[dfordscriba@alfsv.org](mailto:dfordscriba@alfsv.org)  
408.554.2002  
OR  
Duffy Jennings  
Vice President, Communications  
Joint Venture: Silicon Valley Network  
[jennings@jointventure.org](mailto:jennings@jointventure.org)  
408.278.2256

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**AMERICAN LEADERSHIP FORUM-SILICON VALLEY & JOINT VENTURE:  
SILICON VALLEY NETWORK ANNOUNCE “REALIZING THE  
CALIFORNIA DREAM” COLLABORATIVE**

June 15, 2009 Santa Clara and San Jose, Calif. – American Leadership Forum-Silicon Valley (ALF) and Joint Venture: Silicon Valley Network (Joint Venture) have launched a collaborative called “*Realizing the California Dream*” to assure Silicon Valley’s role in California governance and fiscal reform.

ALF is dedicated to building a better Silicon Valley community by joining and strengthening leaders to serve the common good. Joint Venture convenes Silicon Valley leaders across multiple sectors to assess the region’s challenges and lead initiatives addressing those challenges.

Both nonprofit organizations have identified California governance as a priority issue and are on record calling for reform. Through this collaborative, ALF and Joint Venture will embark on a program designed to coalesce the region’s leaders around a reform agenda, and join with other regional and statewide organizations to advance that agenda.

“ALF and Joint Venture have long held similar values and goals in terms of advancing an agenda for the common good of Silicon Valley,” said Chris Block, ALF CEO. “It is a natural evolution for ALF to be collaborating with Joint Venture on this project of crucial importance to the future not only of Silicon Valley, but to all of California.”

“With this partnership Silicon Valley can flex its considerable muscle on statewide issues more than ever,” said Russell Hancock, President & CEO of Joint Venture. “The combined influence of our two organizations brings a powerful voice for our region to Sacramento.”

The *“Realizing the California Dream”* collaborative will include: the hire of a program manager; the development of a youth and technology strategy; the establishment of a joint oversight committee; the rollout of a series of working sessions on reforming California on the second Thursday of the month from noon – 2 p.m. beginning July 9; the recruitment of collaborative members and the development of a vision, mission, set of principles and reforms for promotion.

*“Realizing the California Dream”* is a Common Good Collaborative project in partnership with the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation. The Common Good Collaborative was launched by ALF and the Knight Foundation in June 2008 with a goal of creating a new way for Silicon Valley to address issues and affect positive change. Activities to date include a series of community dialogues on issues of political, economic and social relevance to Silicon Valley and the “Uncommon Exchange” conversation series which explores what it means for communities to make complex decisions in a high-stakes environment.

#### **About American Leadership Forum-Silicon Valley**

American Leadership Forum-Silicon Valley (ALF) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to building a better Silicon Valley community by joining and strengthening leaders to serve the common good. ALF-SV was founded in 1988 to create a regional network of diverse senior-level leaders across private, public and nonprofit sectors. Graduates of the organization’s one-year Fellows program, now numbering more than 400, have created a network that brings together a broad cross-section of leaders committed to building a stronger community, using collaborative leadership skills to identify and deal with complex regional issues, and creating opportunities to work together in ways that make a significant difference to Silicon Valley.

#### **About Joint Venture: Silicon Valley Network**

Established in 1993, Joint Venture provides analysis and action on issues affecting the Silicon Valley economy and quality of life. The organization brings together established and emerging leaders—from business, government, academia, labor, and the broader community—to spotlight issues, launch projects, and work toward innovative solutions.

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