



INSTITUTE *for* EVIDENCE-BASED CHANGE
Informing Decisions · Improving Practice · Increasing Student Success

For Immediate Release

The James Irvine Foundation Awards \$700,000 Grant to Institute for Evidence-Based Change in Continued Support of Linked Learning

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San Diego – The James Irvine Foundation has awarded the Institute for Evidence-Based Change (IEBC) a \$700,000, one-year grant to continue data assistance for Linked Learning schools across California.

According to Brad Phillips, PhD, IEBC President/CEO, “We are excited to have this opportunity to continue to help districts use data better and to support evaluation work. Using data well fuels continuous improvement and there is high interest in this approach. We appreciate the support of the Irvine Foundation in selecting us to help educators grapple with, and understand, what data and other evidence can tell them about the impact of Linked Learning on student progress and outcomes.”

Linked Learning integrates rigorous academics with career-based learning and real-world workplace experiences and comprehensive student support services. Its goal is to tap into young people’s motivation to understand that education matters. The Linked Learning approach transforms education into a personally relevant, wholly engaging experience - and opens students to career and college opportunities they never imagined. IEBC’s work ensures Linked Learning districts are using student academic progress and outcome data to drive program improvement and accurately report their work. IEBC also supports Linked Learning research endeavors by providing student data to research organizations exploring the impact of Linked Learning under agreement with the districts.

Research is showing that compared with their peers, students in certified Linked Learning pathways earn more credits in the first three years of high school, report greater confidence in their life and career skills, and say they are experiencing more rigorous, integrated and relevant instruction. When it comes to graduation rates, recent IEBC research shows that the average high school graduation rate for class of 2014 students who were in a Linked Learning Pathway is 27% higher than for students who were not: 98% compared to 71%.

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THE INSTITUTE FOR EVIDENCE-BASED CHANGE (IEBC)

IEBC is a nationally-recognized nonprofit organization dedicated to improving academic success for all students. IEBC helps education stakeholders use data and information to make to make informed decisions, improve practice, and increase student success. Learn more at www.iebcnow.org.

THE JAMES IRVINE FOUNDATION

The James Irvine Foundation is a private, nonprofit grantmaking foundation dedicated to expanding opportunity for the people of California to participate in a vibrant, successful and inclusive society. The Foundation's grantmaking focuses on three program areas: Arts, California Democracy and Youth. Since 1937 the Foundation has provided over \$1.3 billion in grants to more than 3,500 nonprofit organizations throughout California.