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**Bader Philanthropies Launches Innovative Leadership Development Program and
Announces 2024-2026 Inaugural Bader Leadership Institute Fellows**

MILWAUKEE-(October 15, 2024) – Since 1992, Bader Philanthropies has committed over \$500 million in organizations addressing major social needs throughout Milwaukee, the state of Wisconsin, and the world through grants and program related investments. Today, the Foundation announced the official launch of the Bader Leadership Institute (BLI), a comprehensive leadership development program, designed to empower emerging leaders in Milwaukee through a dynamic three-phase approach. BLI is led by Brandon Wigley, who was appointed to the position of BLI Director in June 2023.

BLI aims to foster personal growth, enhance organizational effectiveness, and strengthen community ties among participants through three phases over 21+ months.

- **Phase One: Monthly Sessions**

Beginning this month, Bader Fellows will engage in a series of monthly sessions that explore essential leadership qualities and their connections to philanthropy and effective problem-solving. Participants will work in small groups to select nonprofit organizations and develop strategies to achieve goals.

- **Phase Two: Project Implementation**

Teams will implement their strategies in partnership with the chosen nonprofits. This hands-on experience will provide Bader Fellows with leadership skills while delivering benefits to local organizations. Upon completion, participants will graduate and gain access to an alumni network.

- **Phase Three: Alumni Network**

Bader Fellow alumni will remain connected through an active network, utilizing their new knowledge and skills to address ongoing community challenges. Collaborating with Bader Philanthropies and other leaders, alumni will continue their commitment to driving positive change in Milwaukee.

“Bader Philanthropies is honored and privileged to engage with the nonprofit sector in truly unique ways, said Daniel J. Bader, President and CEO of Bader Philanthropies. “And, we see great potential across the city. Our communities need leaders who are authentic and inspire conversations that lead to solutions embraced by many for generations to come.”

The inaugural BLI Fellows represent a cross-section of Milwaukee which means people will learn from one another and bring forward a collective understanding on societal issues. The following 2024-2026 BLI Fellows convened last week at Wingspread Retreat & Executive Conference Center for the BLI Summit.

- **Dr. Deborah Allen**, Golden Path Home Care Inc.
- **Dr. Victor Amaya**, Data You Can Use
- **Rabbi Aryeh Borsuk**, Yeshiva Elementary School
- **Charlotte Cannon-Sain**, Community Leader
- **David Cohn**, First Tee-Southeast Wisconsin
- **Maritza Contreras**, American Family Insurance
- **Colleen Foley, JD**, Legal Aid Society of Milwaukee
- **Reverend Mark Fraley**, Presbytery of Milwaukee
- **Dr. Colleen Galambos**, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
- **Lo Neng Kiatoukaysy**, Hmong American Friendship Association
- **Dr. Phyllis King**, Community Leader
- **Pastor Raymond Monk**, Ephesians Missionary Baptist Church
- **Michael Nguyen**, Teach for America Milwaukee
- **Nikki Purvis**, African American Chamber of Commerce
- **Byron Thompson**, The Phoenix
- **Charlie Uihlein**, Teens Grow Greens

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About Bader Philanthropies, Inc.

Milwaukee-based Bader Philanthropies, Inc., one of southeastern Wisconsin’s top five foundations. Its mission is to help people and honor the legacy of its Founders. The Foundation strives to accomplish this with grants and program related investments and by convening partners, engaging with community and developing leaders. The Foundation shares the values of Dignity, Compassion, Humility, Integrity and Service. The Foundation also strives to practice Cultural Intentionality, Embedded Philanthropy, Continuous Improvement, and Good Governance. Since its founding in 1992 as the Helen Bader Foundation, the organization has committed over \$500 million in grants and program related investments, such as loans, loan guarantees, equity investments and other credit enhancements that advance its charitable mission. For more information on Bader Philanthropies, visit bader.org.