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Rappahannock Community College President Dr. Shannon Kennedy Selected for the Aspen Institute's Presidents Fellowship

Glenns, VA – The Aspen Institute College Excellence Program announced that Dr. Shannon Kennedy, Rappahannock Community College President, was selected for the inaugural class of the Aspen Presidents Fellowship. This program, made possible with support from JPMorgan Chase, focuses on developing a sustainable and comprehensive reform agenda that advances excellence and equity in student outcomes at scale.

This class of fellows represents the diversity of our nation's community colleges. They lead institutions across 14 states that collectively educate over 280,000 students in incredibly varied settings, from a rural college of 700 students to an urban one with enrollment over 24,000. The incoming class of Presidents Fellows is 56 percent women and 44 percent people of color.

Selected through a competitive process, the fellows will, over 12 months, work closely with a faculty of leading community college presidents and senior staff from the Aspen Institute. They will learn about and compare their practices to those of field-leading colleges; analyze their students' graduation and post-graduation outcomes, and advance their priority reforms aimed at delivering excellent and equitable student outcomes.

"Scaled improvements in student outcomes at our nation's community colleges requires excellent leadership," said Josh Wyner, executive director of the College Excellence Program. "I am continually inspired and motivated by the dedication and expertise that our fellows bring to the work of advancing excellence and equity on their campuses, and I look forward to supporting them as they improve outcomes for their students."

"I'm honored to be part of this diverse cohort of community college Presidents from across the nation," said Kennedy. "I'm looking forward to working with the group and learning from others' expertise and experience while providing insight into our rural community college processes and outcomes."

JPMorgan Chase's philanthropic support for the Aspen Presidential Fellowship is part of the firm's New Skills at Work initiative to prepare young people for the future of work and meet the growing demand for skilled workers, and the \$30 billion commitment to advance racial equity and drive an inclusive economy.

Learn more about these extraordinary leaders at <https://highered.aspeninstitute.org/meet-the-presidents-fellows/>.

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The Aspen Institute College Excellence Program supports colleges and universities in their quest to achieve a higher standard of excellence, delivering credentials that unlock life-changing careers and strengthen our economy, society, and democracy. We know it takes visionary college leaders to achieve this higher standard and we make it our mission to equip them with the knowledge, skills, and research-backed tools to inspire change, shift practice, and advance the capacity of colleges to deliver excellent and equitable student outcomes. For more information, visit <https://highered.aspeninstitute.org/> and follow us on LinkedIn and Twitter.

The Aspen Institute is a global nonprofit organization committed to realizing a free, just, and equitable society. Founded in 1949, the Institute drives change through dialogue, leadership, and action to help solve the most important challenges facing the United States and the world. Headquartered in Washington, DC, the Institute has a campus in Aspen, Colorado, and an international network of partners.

About JPMorgan Chase

JPMorgan Chase & Co. (NYSE: JPM) is a leading global financial services firm with assets of \$3.7 trillion and operations worldwide. The Firm is a leader in investment banking, financial services for consumers and small businesses, commercial banking, financial transaction processing, and asset management. A component of the Dow Jones Industrial Average, JPMorgan Chase & Co. serves millions of customers in the United States and many of the World's most prominent corporate, institutional and government clients under its J.P. Morgan and Chase brands. Information about JPMorgan Chase & Co. is available at www.jpmorganchase.com.

About RCC

Since 1970, Rappahannock Community College has been breaking down barriers to education in the Middle Peninsula and Northern Neck. Five degrees, 6 certificates, and 26 career and workforce studies programs are offered through RCC, in addition to nearly 40 guaranteed admissions agreements with colleges and universities across the state and region. For more information, visit rappahannock.edu.