



Employer Guest Speaker

Name: Kristen Metherd

Organization Name Teach For America

Biography

I am a visionary leader committed to seeing greater opportunity and access for all children, particularly students of color from low-income communities. After graduating from Indiana University, I jumped into a 9th grade algebra classroom in Phoenix. I taught high school math for 6 years and was an Assistant Principal at Denver's #1 public high school for 2 years. I helped lead my school community toward amazing academic progress for my students despite extreme challenges. Today, I work to expand opportunity for education equity by inspiring and enlisting the most diverse, talented undergraduates student leaders throughout Oklahoma and Arkansas to become lifelong leaders in this movement as well.

Presentation Lists

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Can you imagine what our country would be like if every legislator, doctor, lawyer, or education leader had two years of hands-on experience in a low-income community at the beginning of their career? This is where Teach For America comes in. Teach For America is a leadership development organization that helps young leaders use their talents to end educational inequity in America. At Teach For America, we believe three things: first) the fact that 1.3 million kids, most of color and low-income, drop out of high school each year is one of our nation's greatest injustices, second) that this is a solvable issue, and third) that the future of our nation depends on our ability to fix this. Our approach to addressing this is to develop the collective impact of our nation's most diverse and highest potential leaders so that they are best positioned to lead our country towards the systemic-level change needed to end educational inequity. This comes to life in the short-term as our leaders teach for two years in a low-income classroom across 51 different regions with a full-time salary and benefits. Our teachers make an immediate impact on kids and communities. In the long-term, our alumni network of more than 60,000+ leaders – some staying in classrooms, while others bring their perspective and leadership to all different sectors continue to channel their collective talents across sectors to create the systemic-level change needed to realize greater educational equity for the kids in our country.