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For Immediate Release February 25, 2014

Suzann Foerster Leadership Coaching and Inforum Launch New Mentoring Program

Secrets to Being a Dynamic Leader to Debut in West Michigan

GRAND RAPIDS // Secrets to Being a Dynamic Leader: A Mentoring Roundtable Series of Suzann Foerster Leadership Coaching and Inforum is a year-long mentoring roundtable series that will debut in West Michigan in fall 2014. The program is developed by Suzann Foerster Leadership Coaching and Doreen Bolhuis, president and CEO, Gymco, Inc. The series will be offered through Inforum Center for Leadership, the education and research arm of Inforum.

The Secrets to Being a Dynamic Leader program features individual and peer mentoring over the course of a year to address gender-specific obstacles faced by women leaders. Doreen Bolhuis, who brings 30 years of experience in business as a successful entrepreneur, board director, teacher and speaker, will lead the monthly group discussions. Additionally, Doreen will meet with each participant separately once a month to provide guidance and practical advice to personalize leadership concepts according to individual styles and professional situations.

"When I started my business 33 years ago, there were no female role models to help guide me," said Doreen Bolhuis, president and CEO, Gymco, Inc. "Secrets to Being a Dynamic Leader reveals tried and true 'secrets' to overcoming obstacles that only women professionals face."

Suzann Foerster Leadership Coaching is an expert in executive leadership coaching for men and women. Secrets to Being a Dynamic Leader is the first program of Suzann Foerster Leadership Coaching that focuses solely on women.

"Secrets to Being a Dynamic Leader addresses a need we kept hearing from emerging women leaders in this market," said Suzann Foerster, owner, Suzann Foerster Leadership Coaching. "Our program is relationship-based and tailored to individual circumstances to help women reach the next level of leadership."



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Secrets to Being a Dynamic Leader is a complementary addition to the existing portfolio of leadership development programs developed and delivered by Inforum Center for Leadership (ICL), the 501(c)3 education and research arm of Inforum. ICL programs feature research-based skill development and serve a broad range of professional women in different stages and types of careers – from emerging leaders, to high-potential executives, high-tech entrepreneurs, and for-profit corporate board leaders. Nearly 400 women in West Michigan have already benefited from ICL's portfolio of outcome-focused programs for women leaders. Another 250 women have attended general-session Inforum BoardAccess™ Briefings.

"Secrets to Being a Dynamic Leader offers a creative approach to professional mentoring and complements Inforum's work in accelerating careers for women and boosting talent initiatives for companies," said Terry Barclay, president and CEO, Inforum and Inforum Center for Leadership. "We are pleased to collaborate with Suzann Foerster Leadership Coaching to extend the reach of this program through our extensive network and infrastructure."

The first Secrets to Being a Dynamic Leader roundtable will launch in fall 2014 with the generous support of Huntington Bank whose former Rising Women Leaders program in West Michigan inspired the development of this new series. Opportunities for individuals and companies to underwrite scholarships for participants will be available in the coming weeks.

The Secrets to Being a Dynamic Leader roundtable will be limited to 12 participants for maximum interaction and will meet once per month for two hours with each session devoted to studying and discussing a leadership concept. The facilitated discussion will explore practical ways to apply leadership skills and personalize them according to professional circumstances related to career paths, positions, industries and personal styles. Participants will practice implementation of the leadership concept in their business and personal lives in between group gatherings. Each roundtable participant member will receive a monthly personal mentoring session with Doreen Bolhuis to discuss and enhance their leadership growth.

Applications are currently being accepted for the first roundtable. Visit www.suzannfoerster.com/blog or inforummichigan.org for more information.





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About Suzann Foerster Leadership Coaching

Suzann Foerster Leadership Coaching was founded by Suzann Foerster in 1999 and specializes in leadership coaching and team coaching. Suzann Foerster holds a Professional Coach Certification (PCC), is accredited with the International Coaches Federation (ICF) and carries a bachelor's degree in business with a double major in Marketing and Management. She is an instructor for Corporate Coach University, an international coach-training organization; she is a Certified Behavioral Analyst (CPBA) and a Certified Values Analyst (CPVA); and she is a certified trainer and facilitator of The Change Cycle. For more information, visit <u>suzannfoerster.com</u> or call (616) 560-7475.

About Inforum and Inforum Center for Leadership

Inforum is one of the few professional organizations in the country – and the only one in Michigan – that combines strategic connections, proven professional development programs, a respected forum for new ideas, and original research to accelerate careers for women and boost talent initiatives for companies. Inforum Center for Leadership (ICL) is the 501(c)3 education and research arm of Inforum. ICL programs serve a broad range of professional women in different stages and types of careers – from emerging leaders, to high-potential executives, high-tech entrepreneurs, and for-profit corporate board leaders. Inforum Center for Leadership also conducts and publishes research on women's leadership influence in Michigan. For more information, visit inforummichigan.org or call 877.633.3500.

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