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## **The Unity Collaborative Appoints Kenneth Mathies as Executive VP, Chief Operating Officer**

**DETROIT- April 8, 2026** - The Unity Collaborative (TUC), a national organization dedicated to strengthening workplaces and communities through leadership development, cultural engagement, and cross-sector collaboration, today announced the appointment of Kenneth Mathies as its new Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer. Mathies brings decades of executive leadership experience spanning corporate strategy, organizational development, technological advancements, and community engagement. A respected leader in business and nonprofit sectors, he has built a reputation for driving transformational initiatives that strengthen organizational culture, operational excellence, and inclusive leadership.

In his role as EVP/COO, Mathies will oversee the organization's day to day operations, strategic program execution, and partnership development as TUC continues to expand its local and national footprint delivering impactful leadership programs across the business community, nonprofit sector and youth initiatives and engagement.

"Ken brings a rare combination of strategic vision, operational expertise, and a deep commitment to strengthening organizations and communities," said Darlene King Turner, CEO and President of The Unity Collaborative. "His leadership will be instrumental as we continue building partnerships that create lasting impact."

Mathies most recently served as Vice President and Chief Diversity Officer at AAA, The Auto Club Group, where he led enterprise wide initiatives, employee networks and strategic community alliances. During his tenure, he developed best in class inclusive frameworks, comprehensive leadership training programs, award winning employee resource communities, strengthened supplier diversity efforts, and introduced strategic metrics to measure organizational impact.

A recognized thought leader, Mathies has also been honored with Crain's Detroit Business Notable Leadership award and serves on the Detroit PBS Board of Trustees, several boards and advisory councils supporting workforce development, education, community advancement and technology innovation.

"Joining The Unity Collaborative at this moment of growth is incredibly exciting," said Mathies. "The organization is uniquely positioned to help organizations and communities build stronger leadership cultures and meaningful connections. I look forward to helping advance that mission and deepen the impact of TUC's programs and partnerships."

Mathies has also served on The Unity Collaborative's governance board and advisory leadership, contributing to the organization's strategic direction and growth.

### **About The Unity Collaborative**

The Unity Collaborative (TUC) is a national organization committed to strengthening workplaces and communities through leadership development, cultural engagement, and collaborative learning. Through strategic programming, partnerships, and thought leadership, TUC equips organizations and leaders with the tools needed to build stronger cultures, expand opportunity, and foster meaningful connections across industries and communities.

For more information, visit: [www.theunitycollaborative.org](http://www.theunitycollaborative.org)