



Detroit
Regional
Partnership

Maria LaLonde

Vice President of Investor Relations



Maria LaLonde is the Vice President of Investor Relations for the Detroit Regional Partnership (DRP), a leading economic development nonprofit serving the 11-county Detroit Region. In this role, LaLonde oversees annual fundraising strategies and engages investors to support the DRP's work to attract foreign and domestic business and investment to the Region. Her responsibilities also include grant management, operational financials, and serving as an advisor to the CEO.

A recognized entrepreneurial leader in Southeast Michigan, LaLonde has two decades of experience building and leading successful organizations and initiatives. Most recently, she worked as Senior Program Officer for the New Economy Initiative (NEI), one of the nation's largest philanthropic partnerships where she managed NEI's high-growth and inclusion entrepreneurship grantmaking strategy and grant portfolio.

Prior to NEI, LaLonde served on the leadership team for Bizdom, a tech startup business accelerator founded by Dan Gilbert. She is a serial entrepreneur that has founded businesses in the recruiting, automotive, and real estate industries. LaLonde is a Detroit native that has served on numerous advisory boards and is skilled at entrepreneurship, and community and inclusive economic development.

NOTABLE ACHIEVEMENTS AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- Class 44 graduate, Leadership Detroit
- Advisory Board Member, Accelerate Michigan Innovation Competition, Invest Detroit
- Executive Board Member, Accelerate4Kids
- Advisory Board Member, Detroit Mobility Initiative, City of Detroit
- Advisory Board Member, EmpowerChange Social Venture Competition, Michigan Women's Foundation
- Joint Evaluation Committee Member, Angel Capital Development RFP, Michigan Economic Development Corporation
- Advisory Board Member, Detroit Technology Exchange Launch Accelerator, TechTown
- Innovation Council Member, Forward Cities National Learning Collaborative Initiative
- Member, Junior Achievement of Southeast Michigan's Youth Entrepreneurship Taskforce
- Executive Board Member, Automotive Women's Alliance Foundation

PAST EXPERIENCE AND EDUCATION

- Senior Program Officer, New Economy Initiative, Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan
- Recruiting and Development Leader, Bizdom (Nonprofit Tech Startup Accelerator Founded by Dan Gilbert)
- Realtor, Century 21 East Lake Realty
- Finish Line Motors Sales, Owner and Operator
- Direct Hire Network, Owner
- Harvard University Kennedy School, Executive Education, Strategic Fundraising for Nonprofit Leaders Program
- Michigan State University, Bachelor of Arts in Communication