



## **Mary Kay Leonard**

*President and CEO*

Mary Kay Leonard is the President and CEO of the Initiative for a Competitive Inner City (ICIC). She is responsible for managing ICIC's strategic direction and increasing ICIC's impact on inner city economic development across the U.S. She also directs ICIC's efforts to engage new corporate and foundation partners, expand recognition and education programs for inner city businesses and leverage the underutilized assets of America's urban communities to maintain the country's competitiveness internationally.

Mary Kay's background is well-suited to advance ICIC's mission with businesses, city, state, and national governments, and the foundation community. Prior to joining ICIC, Mary Kay served as the Senior Vice President for The Community Builders (TCB), one of the nation's leading developers for low-income housing areas. Under her leadership, TCB successfully launched a program to double the earned income level of residents living in affordable and mixed income housing. Previously, Mary Kay was the Interim CEO and Chief Operating Officer of United Way of Massachusetts Bay (UWMB), and later the Vice President of Investor Relations for the United Way system where she was responsible for raising more than \$1 billion in annual revenue.

Before her tenure with the United Way system, Mary Kay was the Senior Vice President for Work/Family Directions (WFD), a privately held company that designed and delivered work/life and employee assistance programs for Fortune 500 companies. She was instrumental in growing WFD from \$20 million in annual revenue to \$70 million before its sale to Ceridan. From 1985 to 1990, Mary Kay served as the Commissioner for the Massachusetts Office for Children and is credited with doubling the agency's budget during her tenure.

Mary Kay is a graduate of Colgate University with a degree in Urban Studies and holds a J.D. from Northeastern University School of Law. She has completed senior executive programs at Yale School of Management, Harvard Kennedy School, and Harvard Business School.