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To: Godfrey, Rob <RobGodfrey@gov.sc.gov>  
Adams, Chaney <ChaneyAdams@gov.sc.gov>  
Date: 2/5/2016 3:24:09 PM  
Subject: FW: Meeting Request: Your Advice to Young Leaders

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Thoughts?

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From: Robert Hargrove [mailto:robert.hargrove@americasfutureleaders.org]  
Sent: Friday, February 05, 2016 2:54 PM  
To: Priester, Nicole  
Subject: Meeting Request: Your Advice to Young Leaders

### **Where have all the leaders gone?**

*“Building a great society doesn’t just happen. It takes leaders everywhere.” - Lyndon Johnson*

*Question: “Which of the Presidential candidates should be our next president? Answer. “None!” - Robert Gates, former Secretary of Defense*

*“The \$70 billion leadership development industry has failed. We need leaders, not just MBA’s.” - Jeffrey Pfeffer, Stanford*

Dear Governor Nikki,

I would like to introduce myself. My name is Robert Hargrove. Earlier this week, I wrote you a letter week about the project I am co-leading with Greg Goff, CEO of Tesoro, a Fortune 100 company about the development of America’s Future Leaders (young people).

The goal of the project is to build a leadership center that will develop every day young people into the **leaders who will do extraordinary things to change the world in the next 50 years.**

Chances are this letter about this worthiest of projects was intercepted by a sincere and well-intended Chief of Staff, PA, or secretary without your ever seeing it, who wrote saying you were too busy, or who didn’t respond. As a CEO or very prominent leader, I can’t imagine how busy you are and the incredible number of demands you have coming at you.

However, now I am being provocative: Are you really so busy that you can’t spend one hour talking to us about the best way to develop America’s future leaders, given all the turmoil in our society – from global warming to a falling stock market, from dysfunctional government to healthcare, from immigration to gun violence and so on.

As you know, the world is full of leadership programs, but leadership often comes up in short supply. Our first mission is to find a way to develop young leaders that represents a 10X advantage (or step change) over those programs that have come before this. We fervently believe that there is a yet undiscovered, better way.

**A cornerstone of our project is to interview up to 100 leaders (each an extraordinary person in their own**

**way) acknowledged for their Leadership, Integrity, Accomplishments, and Contributions to society at large. We see you as one of these people.**

Some leaders on our potential interview list include Henry Kissinger, Richard Branson, Michelle Obama, Clayton Christensen, Sheryl Sandberg, Yannick Nézet-Séguin, Colin Powell, Neil deGrasse Tyson, Nick Saban, Malala Yousafzai.

We hope through these interview to discover “secrets” about leadership by asking people to reflect on their own experiences as a young leader that will perhaps provide important and far-reaching direction to this project. Findings will be put into a book called *Letter to a Young Leader* and developed into the leadership program.

**The focus of the ~60-minute interview with you would be to draw out key insights, stories, or experiences that both reflect who you are as a leader today, as well as what catalyzed your development as a young aspiring person.**

If you agree to the interview, I will email you in advance a list of questions to reflect upon. Please suggest a time and place that would be most convenient for you to meet with me or to set up a phone conversation. I will accommodate your schedule.

Sincerely,  
Robert Hargrove