

Sodexo: Future Generations Say Quality of Life is Number One Driver of Performance

May 7 2015, New York, NY – Arianna Huffington, president and editor-in-chief of the Huffington Post, and a panel of global future leaders headlined sessions on the concluding day of the first international Quality of Life Conference, hosted by Sodexo on Tuesday, May 5, and Wednesday, May 6, in New York, N.Y.

Dr. Jon Kabat-Zinn, Professor of Medicine Emeritus at the University of Massachusetts Medical School, led attendees in a collective mindfulness session on the evening of the first day. Day two began with a panel discussion between generations -- up and coming leaders from the millennial generation alongside leaders in today's business world. Young panelists evoked their generation's commitment to service, flexibility and freedom and posited that the organizations that will thrive tomorrow and attract millennial talent are those that listen to and value employees.

During the session, Sodexo revealed the results of a study of 1,000 students in five countries carried out by Sodexo and Harris Interactive. Sixty-nine percent of high potential millennials totally agree that improving quality of life will have an important impact on the performance of their future organization, versus 57 percent of current leaders. Next generation leaders ranked quality of life as the number one driver of performance for organizations, while current leaders ranked it fifth.

Huffington then led a forward-thinking panel discussion about ways to transform the way we live and work, challenging a definition of success that is based solely on money and power. The session probed the way quality of life plays out for the employer and the employee and how it is perceived differently in various sectors and businesses.

Renowned economist Jeremy Rifkin concluded the conference speaking about the shift to a world where social capital is more important than financial capital. He urged the audience to be open to a world beyond markets where we must learn to live together in an increasingly independent sharing economy.

"Sodexo has been committed to improving quality of life for 50 years and this conference validates the key role it will play in the future," said Michel Landel, Sodexo CEO. "There have been many inspiring discussions over these last two days, among the wide variety of researchers, corporate, defense, education, healthcare and community authorities who were present. The learnings and human connections we have all made at this Conference motivates us to drive forward organizational and societal progress."

For more information please visit: qualityoflifeconference.com
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About Sodexo

Founded in 1966 in Marseille by Pierre Bellon, Sodexo is the global leader in services that improve Quality of Life, an essential factor in individual and organizational performance. Operating in 80 countries, Sodexo serves 75 million customers each day through its unique combination of On-Site Services, Benefits and Rewards Services and Personal and Home Services. Through its more than 100 services, Sodexo provides clients with an integrated offer developed over nearly 50 years of experience: from reception, maintenance and cleaning, to foodservices and facilities and equipment management; from Meal Pass, Gift Pass and Mobility Pass benefits for employees to in-home assistance and concierge services. Sodexo's success and performance are founded on its independence, its sustainable business model and its ability to continuously develop and engage its 420,000 employees throughout the world.