

Who Does That? Who Is Willing to Approve Another Predatory College in Milwaukee? Really?

Why would wise, compassionate, forward-thinking individuals approve the placement of another for-profit college in Milwaukee? The Arizona College of Nursing (AZCN) is eager to move here. Milwaukee's past experiences with pop-up, for-profit colleges highlight how destructive and problematic predatory colleges can be. As a community stakeholder, I voice grave concerns about allowing the Arizona School of Nursing to operate a site in Milwaukee. Aren't you all wondering why they think Milwaukee is a good fit? Hmmm.

In the recent past, after quickly establishing a brick-and-mortar presence (allow my comparison to trap-houses), predatory colleges started hooking students by engaging in targeted high-volume advertising and in person hyping of programs. Recruiters made promises that sounded like hope and a future. Recruiters easily lured aspiring students to enroll and saddled them with exorbitantly high interest rate loans. Students soon discovered job placement rates were false and that credit transfer capabilities and clinical practice placement resources were misrepresented by predatory practices as well. After knowingly trashing student hopes and dreams, predatory college executives sat back, got rich and prepared for ensuing litigation. They will do that again.

The Arizona College of Nursing is eager to infiltrate Milwaukee's nursing education arena like a wrecking ball. If allowed, broken dreams and broken people will follow. Additionally, the number of skilled nursing care providers will decrease instead of increasing when a storage is apparent. Predatory colleges exist to enrich their executives and stockholders. The negative

precedents set by prior predatory nursing programs allowed to enter Milwaukee are frightening. Good people had their lives interrupted; when they were earnestly trying to move forward, and their futures impoverished. Have decision makers forgotten the blatant crude treatment and destructive losses suffered by predatory college students in the past?

Now is the time for City officials to provide citizens with protection from predatory colleges and inherent predatory educational loan abuse.

The power of now gives glaring reasons why AZSN is an outlier. Right now, Milwaukee is at a pivotal and hopeful time braced by legitimate educational institutions, city government, citizens, nonprofit groups, corporations, and healthcare systems eager to fix what is broken in the education and health of people living in Milwaukee. Achieving measurable, sustainable advancements in the health and wellbeing of Milwaukee's medically underserved residents and other at-risk populations is a front runner collaborative goal.

If AZSN is approved and allowed to operate in Milwaukee, City officials will be complicit predators. Who wants to wear that badge? Milwaukee and its residents, nursing schools, prospective nursing students, other healthcare team members and healthcare systems deserve better.

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