



# LEADERSHIP

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M c L E A N C O U N T Y

# *Overview of Leadership McLean County*

- Established in 1993 by the McLean County Chamber of Commerce
- More than 420 alumni
- This is a program of the McLean County Chamber of Commerce with a dedicated program committee within the Chamber organization



# *Mission*

Develop community leaders by cultivating skills, awareness, and engagement through intentional learning experiences for the continual betterment of McLean County.



# *Purpose*

**The program identifies emerging community leaders and is designed to protect the tradition of strong leadership for our community on a continuing basis by:**

- 1. Developing informed, skilled and vigorous civic leaders who are capable of understanding community problems, interpreting facts related to them and influencing decisions based upon these facts;**
- 2. Preparing a number of committed citizens to assume responsible voluntary positions with non-profit, civic and citizen organizations within the community; and**
- 3. Providing participants with a broad understanding of public issues, workings of state and local government, civic challenges facing all of us and the role the community plays in problem solving.**

# *Benefit for the Participant*

- Gain knowledge about our community
- Gain access to Key Decision Makers
- Gain valuable personal/professional contacts
- Participate in leadership training activities
- Gain knowledge about volunteer opportunities in our community



# *Benefit for the Employer*

- Employees are exposed to Leadership training, team building activities, and the opportunity to evaluate their own leadership styles as they relate to others
- Employees are exposed to community issues, leaders, and resources that supply them with the tools to get the job done
- Employees are exposed to many personal, corporate, cultural perspectives and leadership styles
- Organizations gain marketing exposure to class participants & alumni
- Reflects organizations' commitment to personal & professional development



# *Overview of Class Topics*

- Agriculture
- Community Development/Regional Planning
- Social Services
- Criminal Justice
- Diversity
- Healthcare
- Education
- State and Local Government
- Small Business



# *Who has participated in the Leadership McLean County Program in the Past?*

- Union Members
- Politicians
- Banking Professionals
- Realtors
- Educators
- Healthcare Professionals
- Law Enforcement
- Manufacturing
- Insurance
- Small Business Owners



# *Expected Commitment From Participants*

Participating in Leadership McLean County will require a significant time commitment. In addition to attending bi-weekly classes on Fridays between September and March, participants are expected to:

- Complete an in-depth group project and presentation
- Devote personal time towards community service activities
- Complete additional class assignments as assigned



# *Application Timeline*

- July 6 - Applications Due
- July 23 - Interviews Start
- August 10 – All Applicants Notified of their Status

*Applications can be obtained by:*

- Downloading application from website at [www.leadershipmcleancounty.org](http://www.leadershipmcleancounty.org)
- Contacting Brian Davis at the McLean County Chamber of Commerce at (309) 829-6344



# *Quotes from Former LMC Graduates*

**I've enjoyed each of the days spent learning about our community through Leadership McLean County tremendously. It has opened up many doors of understanding that have not only been interesting, but provided motivation for me to become more involved in community efforts and how to go about doing so. The friendships and contacts we have built will no doubt be long-lasting. I feel honored to have been given the privilege to be part of the class of 2007.**

**-Joann Schuster, Class of 2007, State Farm Insurance Companies**

**LMC has given me a greater insight to the background and needs of McLean County. I plan to use this experience to become a more important and contributing member of the community.**

**Eric Minster, Class of 1999, COUNTRY Insurance & Financial Services**

# *Quotes from Former LMC Graduates*

**LMC opened my eyes and mind to a variety of different issues and perspectives in McLean County. The experience has inspired me to move forward both professionally and personally by becoming more engaged in community happenings.**  
Geoff Fruin, Class of 2007, Town of Normal

**Leadership taught me about the local community and the many organizations that work towards its beautification. It taught me that one person can make a positive difference within the community.**

Kristin Medveskas, Class of 2001, COUNTRY Insurance & Financial Services]

**In the past, key traits I often recognized in leaders were integrity, courage, conviction, vision, and humility. What really spoke to me throughout this leadership program was that in addition to those key traits, some of the most successful leaders are also unwavering in putting others first, choosing enthusiasm, being motivated by making a difference, and daring to "dream big".**

Amy O'Connor, Class of 2007, State Farm Insurance Companies