

OUR MISSION

The Chester County Leadership Connection strengthens future nonprofit boards by developing leaders who will focus on creating a vibrant, safe and inclusive community

Advisory Board

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Chester County Chamber of Business & Industry

Timothy S. Walsh
President
Financial Synergies Management, Inc.

For information about applying to CCLC, please contact Mary Anne Feeley at 610-429-9400 or maryanne.feeley@unitedwaychestercounty.org. Your company or firm may wish to subsidize the participant fee, which is due prior to the first session.

The Chester County Leadership Connection is a partnership between United Way of Chester County, Chester County Chamber of Business and Industry and West Chester University. To learn more about the other programs of these organizations, contact United Way of Chester County at 610-429-9400, 2 West Market Street, West Chester, PA 19382 or Chester County Chamber of Business and Industry at 610-725-9100, 1600 Paoli Pike, Malvern PA 19355.



CCLC

Chester County Leadership Connection

Chester County Leadership Connection Class of 2009 Alumni Directory





TONY ABUNASSAR Director, Global Brand Mgmt.; Siemens Healthcare
Board & Volunteer Experience American Marketing Association, Special Olympics Volunteer, Soccer Coach
Professional Expertise Strategic Planning, Strategic Marketing, Business Development, and Nonprofit Trade Association Campaign Leadership
Community Service Interests Youth Sports, At-Risk Youth, State & Local Economic Development Initiatives
CCLC Program Value Reflection CCLC has helped me realize that the leadership skills utilized in business can greatly benefit the County's nonprofit organizations, and ultimately its citizens. CCLC has inspired me to serve.



TOM ANDERSON VP, Software Operations; Bentley Systems, Inc.
Board & Volunteer Experience Chester County Young Life, Church, Good Works, Youth Sports
Professional Expertise Registered Architect, Strategic Planning, Product Management, Agile Project Management, Software Licensing
Community Service Interests Evangelical Initiatives, Youth, Sustainable Living, Board Governance
CCLC Program Value Reflection CCLC provides great insight into the needs of nonprofits. We are each gifted with unique resources - our communities are a reflection of whether we invest or squander what we've been given.



ZALENE C. COREY Executive Director; Camphill Soltane
Board & Volunteer Experience Board of Directors at Camphill Soltane; 20 years with the Camphill Movement as a Full-Time Volunteer.
Professional Expertise Administration, Household Living & Management, Program Development, Teaching
Community Service Interests Special Needs Populations, Education, Homelessness, Environmental Issues
CCLC Program Value Reflection The project was valuable and enlightening. It also directed my thinking to other project ideas along similar lines. I will recommend this experience to colleagues and encourage them to invest the time!



LAURA M. ERICKSON Director, US Business Development & Licensing Finance; AstraZeneca
Board & Volunteer Experience Adult Literacy, The Arts in Philadelphia
Professional Expertise Finance, Asset / Portfolio Valuation, Strategy & Planning, Treasury & Risk Mgmt., Capital Project Mgmt., Business Process Redesign
Community Service Interests Arts, Education and Healthcare
CCLC Program Value Reflection This program provided a broad perspective on Chester County community needs as well as the comprehensive training which will enable me to help address these needs as a volunteer.



JOE FILIAGGI Director of Vendor Management; CTDI
Board and Volunteer Experience Ride for Kids, UWCC Days of Caring, Knights of Columbus, United Way Campaign; Church
Professional Expertise Problem Solving, Personnel Management, Technology, Profit & Loss
Community Service Interests Hunger, Home Building & Repair
CCLC Program Value Reflection The program opens your eyes to the community needs and services that help people.



KATE HERRON Manager, Acct. Development; United Way of Chester County
Board & Volunteer Experience Habitat for Humanity, Appalachian Service Project, Los Ninos, St. Mary's Mission, MS Society
Professional Expertise Fundraising, Prospecting, Relationship Development, Community Initiatives, Account Management, Training
Community Service Interests Youth, Education, Arts
CCLC Program Value Reflection By learning more about personal work style and personality traits, and by developing leadership skills and group dynamics, this program not only helps individuals in Board placement, but also strengthens their professional proficiency.



KEVIN PARSONS Director, Sprint Programs; CTDI
Professional Expertise Program/Project Management, Operations, P&L
Community Service Interests Community Development, Sports & Recreation, Child Learning & Development
CCLC Program Value Reflection CCLC raised my awareness of the many needs and opportunities that exist in Chester County to help and support our community members and the critical role that non-profits share in making our community a better place to live and raise a family. CCLC highlighted the importance of good Board stewardship so these organizations can maximize their community impact for all stakeholders involved.



RUTH PASSO Deputy Director; Food Export USA - Northeast
Board & Volunteer Experience United Way of Chester County Community Impact Team, Volunteer English Program, Greenbriar at Thornbury Treasurer
Professional Expertise Financial Services, Nonprofit COO, Spanish Fluency
Community Service Interests International, Literacy, Spanish Fluency
CCLC Program Value Reflection My participation in this program is reflective of my desire to contribute to the community.



MICHELLE L. PATRICK Interim Associate Dean, Professor of Marketing; West Chester University
Board & Volunteer Experience Special Olympics, Chester County Bar Association, Past President of HOA
Professional Expertise Marketing Research, Strategic Marketing & Sales
Community Service Interests Economic Development, Youth Development
CCLC Program Value Reflection This process has allowed me the opportunity to enhance my skills related to nonprofit board participation.



CARLA CROWDER Underwriter Senior Associate; CIGNA
Board & Volunteer Experience Nurses and Kids, Founder of Making A Difference, Inc - a student enrichment program for lower income youth
Professional Expertise Finance
Community Service Interests Childhood Education & Socialization
CCLC Program Value Reflection This program has reinforced for me the importance of balance, strong decision making and team work.



JONATHAN IANNAZONE Student Support Specialist; CCIU Migrant Education Program
Board and Volunteer Experience Former Advisory Board Member Lincoln University Office of Minority Male Health
Professional Expertise Education, career exploration, technology education, college enrollment for Latino & Migrant students
Community Service Interests Immigrant Issues, Education, Bridging the Digital Divide, Mentoring
CCLC Program Value Reflection The program was a great behind-the-scenes look at what it takes to be on an effective nonprofit board.



WILLIAM W. RONAYNE Vice President; Rotary Club of WC
Board & Volunteer Experience President Elect WCASC, VP BOD Rotary Club of WC, ACCA, PAL of WC, 35 Years as Volunteer Fire Fighter, Affiliate member of BLUER, Assistant Fire Chief for 5 years
Professional Expertise 34 Years in Heating & Air Conditioning, President of Brandywine Valley Heating & AC
Community Service Interests Youth, Community Safety & Development
CCLC Program Value Reflection This program has given me an in depth well rounded knowledge base. Now I am better suited to help serve a nonprofit organization.



GARY W. CUSTIS Site Services Facilitator; AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals
Board & Volunteer Experience Board of Deacons NLPC, American Cancer Society Relay for Life, Delaware Breast Cancer Coalition, Habitat for Humanity
Professional Expertise Certified Black Belt Six Sigma & Lean principles, Engineering & Project Management, Business Administration, Contract Management & Negotiation.
Community Service Interests Politics, Healthcare, Cancer Research & Support Programs, Education, Mentoring
CCLC Program Value Reflection I now have the skills necessary to serve the people of our community as an effective, productive nonprofit board member.



JOHN G. KANE Sr. Investment Representative; Citadel Federal Credit Union
Board & Volunteer Experience Kennett High School Financial Literacy Program
Professional Expertise Creating Wealth, Protecting & Preserving Wealth, Distributing Wealth, Retirement Planning & Estate Distribution
Community Service Interests Habitat for Humanity, Good Works, Education
CCLC Program Value Reflection The research and coursework brought to light many things I was unfamiliar with in Chester County; a county with a common perception of being 'high net worth' still has many needs in terms of non-profit leadership and volunteerism.



ALFRED G. RUNDLE Director, Global Colleague Communications; Bentley Systems, Inc.
Board & Volunteer Experience Vestry representative, Senior Warden & Stewardship Chair for Episcopal Church
Professional Expertise Marketing & Communications
Community Service Interests Mentoring, Community & Workforce Development
CCLC Program Value Reflection The CCLC course material, staff & presenters provide the kind of knowledge, enthusiasm and experience to help identify appropriate board opportunities and to focus on meaningful board work much faster than would otherwise have been possible.



KRISTIANNA DEL GRANDE Public Relations & Communications Specialist; Citadel Federal Credit Union
Board and Volunteer Experience Good Works, Chester County SPCA, Political Campaigns
Professional Expertise Public Relations, Communications, Design, Copywriting
Community Service Interests Education, Public Policy, Arts, Animal Cruelty Prevention
CCLC Program Value Reflection By taking part in such a dynamic and educational program I feel that I am better prepared to step into the world of community service and board leadership.



STEPHEN R. MCDONNELL Partner; Gawthrop Greenwood, PC
Board and Volunteer Experience Pro Bono Attorney, Church
Professional Expertise Corporate/Contractual Issues, Environmental Litigation, Premises Liability, Products Liability, Personal Injury
Community Service Interests Mentoring, Economic Development, Environmental Issues
CCLC Program Value Reflection The CCLC program has provided a broad overview of the function of the board in relation to a nonprofit. It has provided valuable insight into the needs of the non profit and the board's role in relation to strategic planning, fiscal management and leadership.



STEPHEN J. SHAPIRO Partner; Schnader Harrison Segal & Lewis LLP
Board & Volunteer Experience Pro Bono Legal Representation, Election Board Volunteer, Judge of Elections
Professional Expertise Defense Litigation for Financial Services & Professional Service Providers, Conduct, Fiduciary Duty, Malpractice, Trademark infringement, Communications & Media Law, News Photography
Community Service Interests Education, Open Space Preservation, Literacy.
CCLC Program Value Reflection The CCLC program ensures that its graduates can hit the ground running when they join a Board.



LINDA G. ELSER Acct. Manager, Integrated Supply Chain; AstraZeneca
Board & Volunteer Experience Special Olympics, National Ovarian Cancer Coalition, St. John's Adopt-a-Family program
Professional Expertise Project Mgmt., Customer Service, Strategic Planning, Leadership, Procurement, Supplier Mgmt., Risk Assessment, Business Development
Community Service Interests Women & Children, Education, Health & Wellness, Special Needs Populations
CCLC Program Value Reflection The CCLC Program has helped broaden my business perspective. I have a greater appreciation for the value that these nonprofit agencies bring to the community and the challenges they face.



J. DEAN O'BANION IT Project Manager; First National Bank of Chester County
Board & Volunteer Experience The Hickman Board
Professional Expertise IT Communications, Administration, Database Administration, Data Security
Community Service Interests Senior Housing
CCLC Program Value Reflection CCLC provides all the necessary tools to recognize an effective non-profit board.



RANDELL H. SPACKMAN President; Thornbury Services Inc.
Board and Volunteer Experience Quarry Swimming Association President, Vice President of The Concept School
Professional Expertise founder Thornbury Services Construction, Trade Shows, Marketing & PR, Seminar Curriculum
Community Service Interests Organic Farming, SCUBA Safety, Historical Preservation, Community Development
CCLC Program Value Reflection This experience was well rounded and tied so many loose ends together in the world to see the bigger picture of our community and available resources to bring resources together.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

• NONPROFIT MANAGEMENT & OVERSIGHT •

Board Governance An introduction to board structure, roles and responsibilities, relationship to staff and community, and how board oversight best guides positive organizational development

Board Development Determine how to maintain a diverse, dynamic board that remains dedicated to organizational mission while relevant to the current economic, political and social climate.

Nonprofit Fiscal Management Review nonprofit financial policies and procedures, agency budgets and audits to learn how to ensure comprehensive fiscal oversight for a healthy nonprofit business.

Investing for Nonprofits Overview by wealth management advisors of the financial industry provides guidance on making investment decisions that best fit the specialized needs of a nonprofit institution.

Strategic Planning Learn how to develop measurable goals to realize the objectives of a compelling vision and plan for a viable future for nonprofit organizations.

Board Fiduciary Responsibility A recognized expert in nonprofit law discusses essential differences from the business sector, liability issues for nonprofit operations and the legal responsibilities of boards.

Influencing Public Policy Explore the role of board members as advocates, and develop insight into how public policy impacts nonprofit funding and affects provision of services for low-income and special populations.

Fundraising/Philanthropy 101 Comprehensive understanding of donor culture, fundraising methodology and how to create successful development plans for nonprofits from an accredited fundraising professional.

• PROFESSIONAL LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT •

Interpersonal Skills Recognize various personal styles in group interaction and receive an individualized professional assessment. Learn how board members from different perspectives can effectively contribute to a multi-talented team for proactive organizational leadership.

Balancing Commitments Benefit from a coach's recommendations to discern priorities in community service and develop the capacity to balance board membership with other commitments.

Principle-Centered Leadership Analyze various leadership styles, critical elements of successful problem solving and how to build strong ethical foundations within board cultures, for visionary leadership.

• CHESTER COUNTY SPECIFIC •

"Chester County 101" Tour Guided bus tour of several Chester County agencies orients the class to the local nonprofit social service sector. Learn the wide range of services provided, and the challenges faced by these organizations to meet the needs of county residents from diverse socio-economic backgrounds.

Nonprofit Challenge Project Interactive project involves independent and group research on an issue faced by nonprofits. Acting as would effective board leaders throughout the course year, participants add their business and professional expertise to a growing understanding of nonprofits and develop strategies to find solutions. The class presents results to the nonprofit sector in the spring.

Board Leaders' Best Practices Panel of nonprofit board leaders and staff relate experiences with various challenging situations, and describe boards' best practices to sustain the growth and development of their agencies.

Nonprofit Perspective Chester County nonprofit social service organizations present their agencies' contributions to the network of services in our community and join the class in a session on current economic issues.

Graduation Gala Reception for class, celebrating their graduation in a recognition and networking event with alumni, corporate sponsors, nonprofit and community leaders.

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