



LEADERSHIP
CHESTER COUNTY

Alumni
Directory

2020

2019-2020 SESSION TOPICS

“Chester County 101” Tour | Michael Givler, Ed.D.

Board Governance | Pamela Leland, Ph.D., Consultant

Strategic Planning | Mark Davis, Ph.D., Assistant Professor,
Public Policy & Administration, West Chester University

Nonprofit Challenge Presentation | Phoebe Kitson, Director of
Agency & Community Partnerships, Chester County Food Bank;
Barbara Reisenwitz, Director, Services Operations, Bentley
Systems, Inc., Chester County Food Bank Board Governance
Chair, LCC Class of 2011

Board Fiduciary Responsibility | Donald Kramer, Esq., Chair,
Nonprofit Law Group, Montgomery, McCracken, Walker &
Rhoads, LLP

Poverty Simulation | Samantha Brannen, MSW, Workforce
Coordinator, Chester County Department of Community
Development

Social Entrepreneurship | Matthew Shea, Ph.D., Associate
Professor, Management, West Chester University

Strategic Discussions, Informed Decisions | Elizabeth Guman,
Partner, Strategy Arts, LLC

Nonprofit Fiscal Management | Celeste Barr, CPA, Owner,
Clarus Consulting

Leadership for Sustainability | Steven Wray, Vice President
and Director, Econsult Solutions

Fundraising/Philanthropy 101 | Roberta Healey, ACFRE,
Aurora Philanthropic Consulting, VP Philanthropy, Simpson
Senior Services

Dialogues in Diversity & Inclusion | Michael L. Curry, CISA,
CBCP, Retired Principal, Vanguard Group, Inc.

Board Development | Jane Mack, President and CEO, Friends
Services Alliance

Advocacy | M. Christopher Tabakin, President & CEO, iHi
International, Inc. and Jeanne Meikrantz, Executive Director,
The Arc of Chester County

Collaborating for Greater Impact | Jason D. Alexander,
Principal, Capacity for Change, LLC

Nonprofit Perspectives | Chaya Scott, Chief Aspiration Officer,
Chaya Scott Consulting LLC

Intentional Communications | Robert Madonna, Managing
Partner, Diversified Services LLC

Ethics in Nonprofit Leadership | Matt Pierlott, Ph.D., Associate
Professor & Chair, Department of Philosophy, West Chester
University

Board Placement Service is provided throughout the year and
after graduation.

2019-2020 PROJECT



www.chestercountyfoodbank.org

The Chester County Food Bank was formed in 2009 to address the escalating hunger problems in Chester County. The goal then was, and still is today, to have a viable, sustainable organization that secures, manages, and distributes food to those in need. The organization now has over 30 full-time and part-time employees, with a 36,000 square foot facility centrally located in Exton, PA. They support more than 120 partner agencies in Chester County, distributing over 3.2 million pounds (2018-2019) of food to neighbors in need through a network of food cupboards, shelters, and other social service organizations. They also work to address the root causes of food insecurity in the county, through the Fresh2You Mobile Market, Raised Bed Gardens, EatFresh & EatFresh Kids, FRESHstart Kitchen™, BestChoices pantries, summer produce programs with youth and children, Seed to Supper and much more.

Project Focus: Social Entrepreneurship

LCC was asked to develop a business plan for a “café” in Coatesville within a food distribution center to better serve a high-demand area. The café would be staffed by students in CCFB’s FRESHstart Kitchen™ program, which prepares underemployed individuals for work in the food service industry. Locally sourced food would be served, with the cost of a meal based on one’s ability to pay. LCC began in small groups to study similar models, CCFB’s operations, strategic goals, and board engagement while exploring the potential impact of such a project for CCFB and those it serves.

Deliverable: With the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic in March, Chester County Food Bank’s leadership focus shifted to the immediate needs of the community. LCC Class of 2020 forged ahead to aggregate the significant body of research completed, apply the course lessons, engage expertise of LCC presenters, and develop a meaningful set of recommendations for future implementation.

INTRODUCING THE Class of 2020



Christine Parsons Bendinelli

Sponsored by **COMMUNICATIONS TEST DESIGN, INC.**

EXPERTISE Corporate and nonprofit boards, developing and implementing patient services programs, leading and coordinating fundraising events

VOLUNTEERING SHiNE, Blessings in a Backpack, Chester County Hospital Foundation Board, Partners in Outreach

ATTRIBUTES Identifying community needs, facilitating activities/ events to address those needs

SERVICE INTERESTS Education/Early Childhood Literacy, Food Insecurity/Poverty, Health

“The program expanded my understanding of the value and responsibility of Board members in organizational governance. It developed skills to strengthen my role as a board member, and introduced compelling ways in which boards can remain relevant, collaborative and effective.”



James Carr, P.E.

Civil Engineer | **CEDARVILLE ENGINEERING GROUP**

Sponsored by **BENTLEY SYSTEMS, INC.**

EXPERTISE Engineering Project Management, Environmental Permitting and Sales

VOLUNTEERING Volunteering in the community on weekends

ATTRIBUTES Community outreach; collaboration with local municipalities; skills in cost estimation and project management

SERVICE INTERESTS Education, Financial Independence, Health

“LCC has taught me about the value a strong board can bring to a nonprofit and the skills and attributes of effective board leadership.”



Stephanie D'Amico

Executive Director | **KENNETT AREA SENIOR CENTER**

EXPERTISE Nonprofit Sector Administration

VOLUNTEERING Kennett Square Resale Book Shoppe, local school initiatives, online community groups

ATTRIBUTES Over 25 years of work in nonprofit sector, experience in high level teams, training skills

SERVICE INTERESTS Education

“The LCC experience has given me the opportunity to meet others interested in helping nonprofits achieve their missions. The comprehensive curriculum has enabled me to be a more effective executive director and future board member.”



Matt Davis

Branch Leader | **BB&T, NOW TRUIST FINANCIAL**

EXPERTISE Consumer and Small Business Banking

VOLUNTEERING Planning Committee, Plein Air Brandywine Valley

ATTRIBUTES Background in both banking and architecture/planning, concerned with community and local economic focus

SERVICE INTERESTS Financial Independence, Health

“We learned that while nonprofits have many aspects and challenges that are unique to their sector, they are not insurmountably different from other models that are more familiar to business/professional communities.”



Sara Dickens-Trillo

Bilingual Program Director | **MIGHTY WRITERS**

Sponsored by **LA COMUNIDAD HISPANA, LCH HEALTH AND COMMUNITY SERVICES**

EXPERTISE Helping kids to write and read with clarity in English and Spanish

VOLUNTEERING President of Casa Guanajuato, a nonprofit organization focused on Mexican culture, a board member of LCH and working with Mighty Writers

ATTRIBUTES Providing resources to be able to help the Latinx communities

SERVICE INTERESTS Education, Health, Cultural

“The LCC was very beneficial and I learned a lot from other nonprofits in the area of West Chester. My experience was wonderful and I recommend this program to any one looking to help their community.”



Tony Hicks

Director of Collections | **CITADEL FEDERAL CREDIT UNION**

EXPERTISE Accounting and Finance, Team Building

VOLUNTEERING Knights of Columbus

ATTRIBUTES Insight, guidance, effectiveness

SERVICE INTERESTS Education, Health

“The introduction to the board experience-the requirements and tools-has been fantastic.”

“Leadership Chester County has provided the knowledge on how to be a valuable and productive board member to any organization.”

Jerome Holub

Vice President, Commercial Banking | **FULTON BANK**

EXPERTISE Commercial Lending, Banking

VOLUNTEERING Western Chester County Chamber of Commerce, Southern Chester County Chamber of Commerce

ATTRIBUTES Years of experience in finance and lending, and many connections within Montgomery and Chester Counties

SERVICE INTERESTS Education, Health



“Extremely informative, not just for the nonprofit sector but for every day business as well.”

Jared Jackson

Controller | **KRAPF BUS COMPANY**

EXPERTISE Accounting and Finance

ATTRIBUTES Professional expertise and insight

SERVICE INTERESTS Education, Financial Independence, Health



“This program opened my eyes to the vibrant nonprofit community in Chester County, while simultaneously teaching me all that goes into being a productive board member on a healthy board.”

Chad Maloney, Esq.

Trial Lawyer | **GOLDBERG, GOLDBERG & MALONEY**

EXPERTISE Litigation-Personal Injury

VOLUNTEERING Volunteer and charitable donations for/to the Crime Victims' Center of Chester County and Oak Lane Day Care

ATTRIBUTES Legal knowledge, strong leadership experience, active participant

SERVICE INTERESTS Education





Terry Marran

Board President and Tutor | **VOLUNTEER ENGLISH PROGRAM IN CHESTER COUNTY**

Self-sponsored

EXPERTISE Product Management, Financial Services

VOLUNTEERING Volunteer English Program Tutor since 2017; Board member and Treasurer, 2018-19; President, 2019-

ATTRIBUTES Experience with English as a Second Language/ ELL programs for adults

SERVICE INTERESTS Education

“Leadership Chester County is the ‘graduate school’ of board service; it’s the program I wish I’d known about two years ago.”



Carla Masciocchi Messikomer, Ph.D.

Consultant | **SELF-EMPLOYED**

Sponsored by **CHESTER COUNTY FAMILY ACADEMY**

EXPERTISE Grants, Board Governance, Program and Project Management, Research, Global volunteer management

VOLUNTEERING Board Secretary - Chester County Family Academy; Volunteer - St. Agnes Day Room

ATTRIBUTES Heart, Hands, and Head

SERVICE INTERESTS Education, Health

“LCC teaches us to think critically about and act responsibly on the myriad issues with which boards are confronted. The program is a critical touchstone for board actions and superb vehicle for peer-to-peer learning/ collaboration.”



Kristen Matthews, Esq.

Attorney | **MACELREE HARVEY, LTD.**

EXPERTISE Elder Law, Estate & Trust Planning and Administration

VOLUNTEERING Beaver Creek Elementary School parent

ATTRIBUTES As a lifelong resident of Downingtown, I want to be involved with a local board so I can give back

SERVICE INTERESTS Education, Health

“Leadership Chester County has prepared me to bring more than inspiration and energy to a board. I can now contribute the knowledge I’ve gained to guide the board in a meaningful, valuable, goals-driven way.”

“The opportunity to network and collaborate with other like-minded individuals has been wonderful; however, the exposure to so many intelligent, passionate, and seasoned nonprofit experts is of the greatest value.”

Jess Mauras

HR Manager, US & Canada | **BENTLEY SYSTEMS, INC.**

EXPERTISE Human Resources

VOLUNTEERING Kiwanis Club

ATTRIBUTES New ideas and the knowledge to build an engaging culture

SERVICE INTERESTS Education



“I have learned from the bottom up how a nonprofit organization should run to be successful. There are so many more nonprofit organizations than I was aware of and LCC gave me exposure to the pursuits of those organizations.”

Noelle McConnell

Corporate Account Manager | **BENTLEY SYSTEMS, INC.**

EXPERTISE Sales, Marketing, Event Planning

VOLUNTEERING Big Brothers Big Sisters, United Way of Chester County, American Diabetes Association

ATTRIBUTES Passion and dedication to a number of causes including autism awareness and diabetes awareness

SERVICE INTERESTS Health



“LCC has increased my awareness and provided me with great insight into the needs of many. It has provided me with so much valuable information I have applied personally and professionally. I’m looking forward to better serving a nonprofit.”

Danielle Mortimer

Marketing Manager | **SERVPRO OF WEST CHESTER/ SOUTHERN DELAWARE COUNTY**

Sponsored by **WEST CHESTER ROTARY CLUB**

EXPERTISE Marketing & Sales, Project Management, Networking, Emergency Response & Disaster Recovery

VOLUNTEERING Past experience as a volunteer in fundraising, committee work, community service projects; current West Chester Rotarian; recent COVID-19 efforts

ATTRIBUTES Community connections; service before self

SERVICE INTERESTS Education, Financial Independence, Health





Joel Necowitz

Retired Financial Executive

Sponsored by **THE HICKMAN FRIENDS SENIOR COMMUNITY**

EXPERTISE Finance, Health and Benefit Administration

VOLUNTEERING The Hickman, Board Member

ATTRIBUTES Financial planning and strategy, process improvement, excellent analytical skills

SERVICE INTERESTS Education, Financial Independence, Health

“LCC has enhanced my knowledge and understanding of nonprofit leadership. I gained a great appreciation of the needs of many in the nonprofit sector in Chester County. The speakers and topics were invaluable.”



Nicole O'Hara, Esq.

Attorney

Sponsored by **SAUL EWING ARNSTEIN AND LEHR, LLP**

EXPERTISE Intellectual property and business law

VOLUNTEERING Board member of LifePath Foundation (Bethlehem) and The Neighborhood Center of Allentown

ATTRIBUTES Advocacy and fundraising through use of board members' existing networks

SERVICE INTERESTS Education

“LCC offers a way to systematically learn and think critically about leadership. LCC grads, armed with these insights and best practices, will be more effective and impactful board members, employees, and leaders.”



Christine M. Parsons

Sponsored by **COMMUNICATIONS TEST DESIGN, INC.**

EXPERTISE Nursing

VOLUNTEERING West Chester YMCA Advisory Board, Saints Peter and Paul Church

ATTRIBUTES A high level of dedication and passion to improve

SERVICE INTERESTS Education, Health, Children, Family

“LCC gave me the opportunity to meet and learn from many leaders in our community. Our classes were informative and the presentations were exceptional. The information has given me a better understanding of how to be a more effective leader as I continue to support nonprofit organizations in our community.”

“An excellent preparation program to develop my skills to be an active and effective board member!”

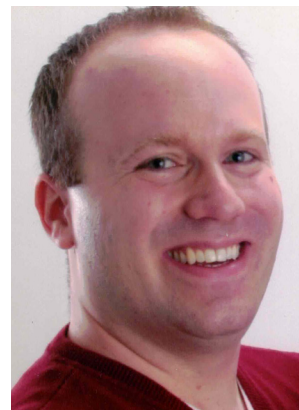
Special Education Supervisor | **CHESTER COUNTY INTERMEDIATE UNIT**

EXPERTISE Special Education

VOLUNTEERING CCRES

ATTRIBUTES A dedicated effort of my skills to improve the lives of others

SERVICE INTERESTS Education



“LCC does a great job of preparing community members for both not-for-profit service and overall community leadership development.”

Commercial Banking Officer | **TRUIST FINANCIAL CORPORATION**

EXPERTISE Finance, Banking, Sales

VOLUNTEERING Coatesville Youth Initiative Board Member/Volunteer

ATTRIBUTES Financial and nonprofit knowledge; leverage my connections

SERVICE INTERESTS Education, Financial Independence, Health



“LCC provided the education to gain the skills to be a productive member of a board. This knowledge will help my future endeavors in the nonprofit community.”

Service Administrator | **BRANDYWINE VALLEY HEATING AND AIR CONDITIONING, INC.**

EXPERTISE Project Management, Operational Leadership, Customer Service

VOLUNTEERING Volunteer Firefighter, past volunteer with Boy Scouts of America

ATTRIBUTES Leadership qualities, dedication to completing projects

SERVICE INTERESTS Education, Financial Independence





Jennifer Saverio

AVP Commercial Portfolio Manager | **MERIDIAN BANK**

EXPERTISE Portfolio Management, Lending and Credit

VOLUNTEERING ALS Association Philadelphia Chapter

ATTRIBUTES Professional expertise and work ethic to help with the financial side of an organization

SERVICE INTERESTS Education, Financial Independence, Health

“LCC provided me with a better idea of challenges that may come with being on a board. We learned valuable lessons and skill-sets and how to use them to contribute to the nonprofit to continually make it a better organization.”



Gregory J. Shaffer, MBA, MBI

Global Business Consultant | **SELF-EMPLOYED**

Sponsored by **CHESTER COUNTY FAMILY ACADEMY**

EXPERTISE Global Product, Program, Portfolio, and Process Management, Global Marketing and Sales Operations

VOLUNTEERING Board President - Chester County Family Academy

ATTRIBUTES Board Governance and Leadership; Critical Thinking; Policy Development; Business Acumen; Technology

SERVICE INTERESTS Education, Health

“LCC was the sanity check needed that our board is headed in the right direction and a great place to meet and learn from passionate professionals who want to ‘do-and-spread good’ across the community at large.”



Darshana Shyamsunder

Director, Community Impact Initiatives | **UNITED WAY OF CHESTER COUNTY**

EXPERTISE Community Impact

ATTRIBUTES Experience having worked in corporate philanthropy as well as nonprofits

SERVICE INTERESTS Education, Financial Independence

“The LCC program gave me the tools I need to serve as an effective board member.”

“Leadership Chester County provides a great foundation for board leadership. I found the experience to beneficial and applicable to things outside of board leadership as well.”

Joshua Snyder, MBA, MAFM, CHFP
Controller | **PENN MEDICINE CHESTER COUNTY HOSPITAL**

EXPERTISE Accounting and Finance

VOLUNTEERING Finance Committee Member, Greater West Chester Chamber of Commerce

ATTRIBUTES Financial expertise to complement operational and strategic decision making for the organization

SERVICE INTERESTS Education, Financial Independence, Health



“Leadership Chester County provided valuable insight into the needs of Chester County and how we can give back to support our community.”

Lisa Stash
Supervisor of Special Education | **CHESTER COUNTY INTERMEDIATE UNIT**

EXPERTISE Educational services, Grant writing and Administration

VOLUNTEERING Volunteers of America; Aid for Friends

ATTRIBUTES Professional network of connections in education; dedication to children and families

SERVICE INTERESTS Education



“The value of the Leadership Chester County experience is immeasurable. The contacts I’ve met, the presentations that have been shared and the insight I’ve learned about my community is incredible. I’m so happy I did this!”

Cate Stoner
Director, Marketing Campaigns & Promotions | **ACCESSLEX INSTITUTE**

EXPERTISE Marketing, Communications, Advertising

ATTRIBUTES Professional expertise, connections, dedication and time

SERVICE INTERESTS Education, Health



THANK YOU 2020 SPONSORS:

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St. Paul's Baptist Church

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