

ALUMNI DIRECTORY | 2024



**LEADERSHIP
CHESTER COUNTY**

Leadership Chester County is a program of United Way of Chester County, in partnership with Chester County Chamber of Business & Industry and West Chester University.

2023-2024 SESSION TOPICS

Chester County 101 - Nonprofit Panel | Mary Ann Hughes, A Haven, Mark Mintzer, Youth Mentoring Partnership, Kelly Raggazino, Open Hearth, Inc., Margaret Rybinski, Cerebral Palsy Assoc. of Chester County, Kathy Sullivan, West Chester Area Senior Center

Poverty Simulation – Westminster Presbyterian Church | Chester County Partnership to End Homelessness, Chesco Bridges Coalition

Board Governance | Pamela Leland, PhD

Styles of Influence | Elizabeth Guman, Managing Partner at Strategy Arts

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

Chester County's Economic Landscape | Gary Smith, President & CEO, Chester County Economic Development Council (CCEDC)

Collaborating for Greater Impact | Jason Alexander, Principal and Co-Founder, Capacity for Change, LLC

Board Fiduciary Responsibility | Don Kramer, Attorney at Montgomery, McCracken, Walker & Rhoads, LLP and Editor, Nonprofit Issues

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

Advocacy | Caitlin Ganley, Board Chair, Chester County Chamber of Business and Industry, Sr. Director of Government & Regulatory Affairs, Comcast Cable

Fundraising / Philanthropy 101 | Robbe Healey, Founding Member, Aurora Philanthropic Consulting

Social Entrepreneurship | Pattie Diggin, Director, Cottrell Entrepreneurship Center, West Chester University

Becoming Leaders in Innovation | Aaron Proietti, Founder, Today's Innovator

Ethics in Nonprofit Leadership | Matthew Pierlott, Associate Professor of Philosophy, West Chester University

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

Strategic Planning | Mark Davis, PhD, Assistant Professor, Public Policy and Public Administration, West Chester University

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

2023-2024 PROJECT



FIORENZA'S FOOD FOR FRIENDS (F4)

F4SERVICE.ORG

F4's purpose is to eradicate world hunger by connecting sources of food to recipients in need. F4 serves as an unpaid broker who establishes sustainable partnerships and coordinates the logistics of food donations on behalf of other nonprofits feeding the hungry.

Derek Fiorenza, Founder and President
Brenda Russell, CEO

PROJECT OVERVIEW

F4 welcomed Leadership Chester County Class of 2024 to evaluate and assess its organization and make strategic recommendations. F4 wished to address aspects of the organization impacting overall effectiveness and growth. Recommendations were sought to enhance program direction, streamline operations, and ensure the overall sustainability and impact of the nonprofit within the community.

LCC participants worked in teams to research and address F4's board engagement, volunteer management, staffing, operational efficiency, fundraising, and programs.

Insights included:

- Optimal organizational structures
- Effective volunteer engagement strategies
- Approaches to expand the workforce
- Innovative fundraising and marketing methods

INTRODUCING THE *CLASS OF 2024*

"I am grateful for the opportunity to have participated in Leadership Chester County. This class provided a unique environment to learn about the many challenges nonprofits face. I plan to use this rewarding experience to participate in the betterment of my community."

STEPHANIE AFFATATO

Marketing Manager | Meridian Bank

EXPERTISE & ATTRIBUTES: Marketing, communications, event planning, collaboration and team spirit

VOLUNTEERING: A Haven, Still Strong Foundation

SERVICE INTERESTS: Mental health support, health and wellness, food security and nutrition



"Leadership Chester County has been a great experience for me. I learned so much about board experience and the nonprofit sector and I loved the opportunity to network with other like-minded people. I would highly recommend this program to anyone who is wanting to know more about boards and the nonprofit sector."

ABBIE BENTLEY

Engagement Coordinator | Bentley Systems

EXPERTISE & ATTRIBUTES: Event planning and organization, time management, problem solving and creativity

SERVICE INTERESTS: Health and wellness, environmental conservation and sustainability, animal welfare, disaster relief and humanitarian aid, disabilities support and advocacy



"Leadership Chester County has been an enlightening and valuable experience, providing us with the knowledge and the resources to be more impactful board members. The work we have done over the past year has helped me to have a better understanding of the needs of the local communities we serve and how I can more effectively support them."

KRISTIN BRACA

Executive Director, Foundation for Catholic Education | CTDI

EXPERTISE & ATTRIBUTES: Leadership, strategic planning, financial management, event planning, fundraising

VOLUNTEERING: CTDI CARES, Executive Board of Elementary Education, various workplace events, fundraising

SERVICE INTERESTS: Health and wellness, mental health support, housing and homelessness, youth development and empowerment



"Leadership Chester County has been an enlightening education. I've enjoyed every minute! We've been so fortunate to engage with dynamic, experienced mentors providing real insight into the nonprofit world. LCC has provided a fundamental education to broaden our perspectives about various needs in our community. I look forward to making a difference."

SHERRI CAIRNS

CRE R/A Manager | Meridian Bank

EXPERTISE & ATTRIBUTES: Financial literacy, event planning

VOLUNTEERING: Chester County Food Bank

SERVICE INTERESTS: Food Insecurity, education, women & children advocacy and financial education





PAUL DOUGHERTY

VP, Commercial Relationship Manager | **Univest**

EXPERTISE & ATTRIBUTES: Finance, management and banking

VOLUNTEERING: Current board member of the West Chester Area Education Foundation and the Southern Chester County Chamber of Commerce

SERVICE INTERESTS: Education and literacy, health and wellness, poverty alleviation, youth development and empowerment, food security and nutrition

"Leadership Chester County has provided me with all the tools I need to be an effective board member. They brought in industry experts and provided us with a wealth of knowledge about the nonprofit world. Living in Chester County, we sometimes tend to overlook the problems right here at home, from food insecurity to affordable housing. The program did an excellent job of opening my eyes and broadening my network. I would recommend this class to everyone."



JESSICA FINLEY

Branch Sales & Service Manager | **Meridian Bank**

EXPERTISE & ATTRIBUTES: Leadership, banking, team building, willingness to learn

SERVICE INTERESTS: Women's rights and empowerment, mental health support, youth development and empowerment

"Leadership Chester County has been an amazing program that has given me the tools and resources to become a better leader and board member. Going through this program has opened my eyes to the needs within my community and how I can make impactful changes by serving on one of our many nonprofit boards in Chester County."



GREG HERRMANN

AVP Treasury Payment Solutions | **Meridian Bank**

EXPERTISE & ATTRIBUTES: Banking and technology, exercise science and psychology, organizational and analytical skills

VOLUNTEERING: Board member, Chester County Chamber of Business & Industry

SERVICE INTERESTS: Education and literacy, health and wellness, environmental conservation and sustainability, animal welfare, mental health support, disaster relief and humanitarian aid, food security and nutrition, women's rights and empowerment

"It was an absolute honor to be a part of this year's class of Leadership Chester County. This is such an important stepping stone in truly learning and understanding what it means to be a leader in the community, no matter your level of experience and influence. You not only learn about the community that you may call your home, but learn more about yourself throughout this course."



MATT KARDISH

Manager | **Stephano Slack LLC**

EXPERTISE & ATTRIBUTES: Event planning and execution, finance, governance

VOLUNTEERING: Board Member and Treasurer: Folds of Honor – Eastern PA/NJ Chapter; Board Member and Treasurer: Bournelyf Special Camp; Board Member and Treasurer: The Clock Tower Schools

SERVICE INTERESTS: Disabilities support and advocacy, mental health support, care for Veterans

"I am grateful to have been part of the Leadership Chester County Class of 2024. LCC has helped me to become a better and more active board member as each class has had engaging content on all the issues that nonprofits face in their operations today. LCC has taught me that sometimes in order to make progress, you've got to address issues head on and be willing to have tough conversations. I've also really enjoyed connecting with my classmates."

"Leadership Chester County has provided me with the background to understand nonprofit board membership and the tools to contribute to my community through board service. This experience has prepared me to be an effective leader in both the nonprofit sector and my career."

MARY LAWRENCE

Criminal Defense Attorney | MacElree Harvey, Ltd.

EXPERTISE & ATTRIBUTES: Litigation attorney, interested in program development

SERVICE INTERESTS: Youth development and empowerment, human rights and social justice



"Networking is a long-term commitment, not a short-term goal. Be committed to building long-term relationships, improving your own networking strategies, and surrounding yourself with other positive, fun-loving people."

–Steven Smolinsky, author of Conversation on Networking (Per Bob Madonna's session on Business and Social Networking).

JONETTE MARCUS

Chief Empathy Officer | The Equity Firm

EXPERTISE & ATTRIBUTES: Leadership training and development in the education and nonprofit sectors including DEI transformation, programming, strategic partnerships, and professional development

VOLUNTEERING: Community Impact Council Member (UWCC); Board Member (AHHAH); Children's Church Teacher (Christian Faith Fellowship); Volunteer (Black Women of Chester County in Action)

SERVICE INTERESTS: Education and literacy, health and wellness, human rights and social justice, community development, youth development and empowerment, women's rights and empowerment, economic development and job training, civic engagement and advocacy



"Leadership Chester County has been a valuable experience in learning attributes on what makes an effective and engaged board. The variety of each session draws on the vast experience and knowledge of the presenter who shared their own perspective on effective leadership. LCC highlights a number of amazing organizations doing impactful work that we are fortunate to have right here in Chester County."

DAVID MORRIS

VP, Digital Banking Ops Manager | Meridian Bank

EXPERTISE & ATTRIBUTES: Banking, with specific interest in Digital engagement and strategy with a focus on how it leads to growth

VOLUNTEERING: First West Chester Fire Company

SERVICE INTERESTS: Environmental conservation and sustainability



"Leadership Chester County has been an eye-opening experience on how to effectively and efficiently run a nonprofit. Thank you to the United Way team for helping pull this experience together!"

JOHN O'BRIEN

Executive Director | Downtown West Chester

EXPERTISE & ATTRIBUTES: Budget management, fundraising, event planning

VOLUNTEERING: First West Chester Fire Company

SERVICE INTERESTS: Community development, mental health support, disaster relief and humanitarian aid, food security and nutrition, economic development and job training, civic engagement and advocacy





DR. CHASITY RIDDICK

Assistant Professor of Instruction | Temple University

EXPERTISE & ATTRIBUTES: Health equity, health literacy, accessibility, professional development, education

VOLUNTEERING: The Fund for Women & Girls – Vice Chair of Board; Sigma Gamma Rho, Alpha Nu Sigma Chapter – Scholarship Chair

SERVICE INTERESTS: Education and literacy, health and wellness, poverty alleviation, women's rights and empowerment, civic engagement and advocacy

"Leadership Chester County has been a phenomenal experience. The program has provided valuable workshops that will help me better serve my community. As a board member going into the program, I was unsure how much I would learn but to my surprise, I have gained so much knowledge and learned a new skill set that I will use while serving on future boards. I highly recommend this program to current and future board leaders."



ELYSE RUBIN

Senior Talent Development and Learning Program Manager | Bentley Systems

EXPERTISE & ATTRIBUTES: Leadership development, communications and marketing, networking and building relationships, event planning

VOLUNTEERING: Chester County Hospital, Harmonies in Healing Harpist

SERVICE INTERESTS: Arts and culture, women's rights and empowerment, health and wellness, environmental conservation and sustainability

"Leadership Chester County has opened my eyes to the many challenges Chester County faces and the critical impact nonprofits have on a community. I am grateful for this exposure and knowledge gained to one day serve on a nonprofit board to better our community."



LINDSAY SALING

Consumer Sales Manager | Fulton Bank

EXPERTISE & ATTRIBUTES: Education, financial services

VOLUNTEERING: West Chester Education Foundation Board

SERVICE INTERESTS: Education and literacy, mental health support, youth development and empowerment, substance abuse prevention and rehabilitation

"Being a part of the Leadership Chester County experience has had a tremendous impact on me. Being able to better understand the scope of some of the concerns here in Chester County has been an eye-opening experience and learning what an impact nonprofit organizations can have on the community has sparked a passion within me. Being able to interact with members of different nonprofits has helped educate me better on the different needs within the nonprofit sector."



SARAH SAVELKOUL

Director | CTDI

EXPERTISE & ATTRIBUTES: Supply chain expertise, analytical thinking and decision-making, developing an organization

SERVICE INTERESTS: Education and literacy, arts and culture, disaster relief and humanitarian aid, youth development and empowerment, women's rights and empowerment

"This was a fantastic opportunity to learn about the community I relocated to and the ways I can give back. It was also a great opportunity to not only learn how to best contribute to a nonprofit board but to continue to round out my leadership skills."

"The inspiration and passion behind Leadership Chester County are things that I will always carry with me. It was an eye-opening experience to see all that happens in the nonprofit world through the lenses of so many great presenters throughout the 2024 program. Couple that with being able to network with so many great classmates and future community leaders; it's not hard to see why this program has become so successful."

"Leadership Chester County took me on an educational journey that will enhance my personal and professional life for the remainder of my time on this earth. I learned, I laughed, I cried. This program helped me to develop the skills I need to go out into the nonprofit community and offer my time in areas that I am passionate about and areas that have a need for my set of abilities. I highly recommend this program to anyone who is passionate about seeing their communities and fellow humans thrive within their environments and want to offer their time help to obtain the resources needed to achieve goals. Thank you to LCC!"

"Leadership Chester County has opened my eyes to the vast amounts of nonprofits in our area while providing a deep perspective into the issues we face in our community. This experience provides the insight and knowledge needed to be a board member."

BUDDY SLOAD

Vice President | Krapf Transportation

EXPERTISE & ATTRIBUTES: Transportation and maintenance logistics, staff development

VOLUNTEERING: Board member, Transportation Management Association of Chester County

SERVICE INTERESTS: Poverty alleviation, animal welfare, community development, disaster relief and humanitarian aid, housing and homelessness, youth development and empowerment



STEPHANIE TERRY

Manager, Subscription Renewal Team | Bentley Systems

EXPERTISE & ATTRIBUTES: Sentiment and problem solving, advocacy for women and children abuse victims

SERVICE INTERESTS: Health and wellness, human rights and social justice, mental health support, youth development and empowerment, women's rights and empowerment



JOSH WEINER

Project Manager | Warfel Construction Company

EXPERTISE & ATTRIBUTES: Project management, scheduling and coordination, construction network, problem solving

SERVICE INTERESTS: Health and wellness, animal welfare, community development, youth development and empowerment



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