



LEADERSHIP
CHESTER COUNTY

ALUMNI DIRECTORY | 2025

2024-2025 SESSION TOPICS

Chester County 101 - Nonprofit Panel | Jessica Chappell, Safe Harbor of Chester County; Dan Koval, HC Opportunity Center; Tim Connor and Lex Bradley, Youth Mentoring Partnership; Chester County Food Bank

Who is ALICE? | United Way of Pennsylvania

Poverty Simulation | St. Christopher's Episcopal Church, Oxford

Role of the Nonprofit Board | Jane Mack, President & CEO, Friends Services Alliance

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

Advocacy at a Nonprofit: The Role of the Board | Nick Imbesi, Director of Community Relations, Chester County Food Bank; Laura Manion, President and CEO, Chester County Chamber of Business & Industry

Fundraising 101: Exploring, Understanding, and Embracing Fundraising | Robbe Healey, Founder, Aurora Philanthropic Consulting

Nonprofit Organization Financial Stewardship | Louise Schorn Smith, President, Countryside Consulting

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

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

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

Leveraging Dialogue to Improve Interactions and Outcomes | Michael L. Curry, CISA, CBCP, Retired Principal, Vanguard Group

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

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

How to Lead a Nonprofit Through Disruption, Resistance, and Uncertainty | Aaron Proietti, Founder, Today's Innovator

Leveraging Technology for Nonprofit Success | Kelly Cockshaw, Director of Leadership & Innovation, Chester County United Way

Nonprofit Storytelling | Janis Fratomico, Vice President, Marketing, DXC Technology

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

2024-2025 PROJECT



FRIENDS ASSOCIATION

[FRIENDSASSOC.ORG](https://friendsassoc.org)

Joyce Chester, CEO

Friends Association (FA) welcomed the Leadership Chester County Class of 2025 to support its mission of preventing homelessness and promoting family stability through the development of a targeted marketing plan. This plan aimed to raise awareness of the impact of homelessness on children in Chester County, elevate the visibility of Friends Association, and position the organization as a leader in family homelessness prevention.

LCC participants collaborated with FA to align marketing efforts with the organization's new strategic plan, ensuring the messaging reflects its evolved mission, expanded programs, and commitment to long-term sustainability.

Insights included:

- Branding and messaging aligned with strategic goals
- Community awareness strategies focused on family homelessness
- Supportive marketing approaches for expanded programming
- Collaborative input on new mission and vision statements

Special thanks to Tamara Fox, LCC Project Mentor for Friends Association.

INTRODUCING THE *CLASS OF 2025*

“Leadership Chester County was an invaluable experience that deepened my understanding of community challenges and strengthened my leadership skills. The opportunity to collaborate with my classmates has broadened my perspective. The connections I made and the insights I gained continue to shape how I approach leadership and community service.”

“As someone from outside Chester County, LCC has shown me there is a strong network of individuals and nonprofits dedicated to bettering this community and others like it. I look forward to using the knowledge and skills I have developed through LCC to take part in helping this community I now call home.”

“LCC has opened up my eyes to a whole new world that I didn’t know existed within our community. Every session was eye-opening, and each presenter was extremely knowledgeable and engaging. Not only did we get to hear some of the issues our nonprofits are dealing with, but we also got to go out and visit some organizations and see firsthand the impact they are having. I am excited to use the tools LCC has given me, including some wonderful new connections to get out there and do my part for my community.”

Amanda Blevins

Director, Community Impact Initiatives
Chester County United Way

Expertise & Attributes: Communications, strategic planning, advocacy, governance, and event planning

Service Interests: Poverty alleviation, community development, mental health support



Krzysztof Bozentka

Attorney
Ice Miller LLP

Expertise & Attributes: Risk management, nonprofit operations, internal governing documents, marketing

Volunteering: Secretary of GWCC NextGen

Service Interests: Health and wellness, animal welfare, economic development and job training



Martyn Bradbury

Area General Manager
Krapf School Bus

Expertise & Attributes: Communication, collaboration, leadership, problem solving

Service Interests: Education and literacy, poverty alleviation, community development, youth development and empowerment, food security and nutrition





Dennis Cannon

Financial Center Manager

Fulton Bank N.A.

Expertise & Attributes: Food insecurity, financial literacy, fundraising, capital campaigns, LGBTQI+ advocacy, and reading for children/underserved communities

Volunteering: Philabundance, Friends of the Library - Aston Township; OurFest Philadelphia and PRIDE Philadelphia

Service Interests: Education and literacy, environmental conservation and sustainability, human rights and social justice, arts and culture, housing and homelessness, youth development and empowerment, food security and nutrition, LGBTQI+ rights and advocacy

“Leadership Chester County has been an enlightening journey. The class is a unique educational experience with interactive exercises and networking among multiple nonprofit board members in the Chester County region. Insight into the expectations of serving as a nonprofit board member, the challenges facing nonprofits and the impact individual members can contribute to better the communities in which you serve were all experienced in LCC. I am humbled and excited to begin another chapter in my personal and professional life.”



Kelsey Click

Enterprise Success Manager; Co-Chair Women at Bentley

Bentley Systems, Inc.

Expertise & Attributes: Strategic planning, storytelling, industry expertise (education, sports & entertainment), engineer, tech (SaaS), community outreach, marketing & PR, fundraising

Volunteering: Eagles Autism Foundation, KultureCity

Service Interests: Education and literacy, human rights and social justice, community development, mental health support, youth development and empowerment, disabilities support and advocacy, women’s rights and empowerment, civic engagement and advocacy

“Participating in Leadership Chester County, was a ‘game-changer’ for me. This program opened my eyes to the intricate workings of local nonprofits and the diverse needs within our community. It equipped me with the tools and confidence to serve effectively on nonprofit boards, emphasizing strategic leadership and meaningful community involvement. This experience has truly ignited my passion to drive positive change right here in Chester County.”



Leigh Craig

Project Manager

Chester County Economic Development Council

Expertise & Attributes: Community engagement, youth development, coaching, mentorship, event planning, community relations, organizing career exploration programs, developing youth initiatives, leading sports teams, strategic planning, leadership development, and program management.

Volunteering: The JT Dorsey Foundation, Aidan’s Heart Foundation, Coatesville Youth Aid Panel

Service Interests: Education and literacy, health and wellness, community development, youth development and empowerment, civic engagement and advocacy

“Leadership Chester County has been an invaluable experience, providing me with the tools, connections, and confidence to make a greater impact in my community. The program has expanded my network, strengthened my leadership abilities, and deepened my understanding of how to drive meaningful change. I’ve gained a deeper understanding of nonprofit leadership and how to drive meaningful change in Chester County.”

“Leadership Chester County has been an inspirational, educational and eye-opening experience. LCC provided a holistic program that has prepared me for nonprofit board service. I am so grateful to have been a part of this course that values community service, personal development and relationships.”

Meg Donadio

Senior Director

Nike

Expertise & Attributes: Strategy, innovation, organizational design, operations, coaching and development

Service Interests: Education and literacy, health and wellness, community development, youth development and empowerment, women’s rights and empowerment



“Leadership Chester County has been an incredibly valuable experience. It has deepened my understanding of the challenges local nonprofits face and the important responsibilities board members carry. It has also connected me with a network of passionate, community-minded leaders who are committed to making a difference. I’m grateful for the insights and relationships I’ve gained through LCC.”

Jeff Dye

Senior Advisor

Legacy Planning Partners

Expertise & Attributes: Financial operations, strategic planning, creative problem solving

Service Interests: Poverty alleviation, community development, disaster relief and humanitarian aid, housing and homelessness, youth development and empowerment, economic development and job training



“Leadership Chester County was an enlightening and rewarding experience. It gave me new perspectives, practical tools for board service, and a deeper understanding of how I can make a difference in Chester County. I am grateful for the passionate leaders and mentors who shared their expertise. The workshops were valuable, the presenters inspiring and the connections - priceless. I look forward to using my knowledge and network to serve the right board and our community.”

Laura Ellis

Director of Member Engagement

Chester County Chamber of Business & Industry

Expertise & Attributes: Building relationships and networking, communications, event planning, creative insight, empathy

Volunteering: Breakthrough T1D (formerly JDRF)

Service Interests: Animal welfare, arts and culture, community development, mental health support, youth development and empowerment, women’s rights and empowerment, economic development and job training





Bethanie Emery

Project Manager

Chester County Economic Development Council

Expertise & Attributes: Volunteer coordination, event planning, strategic planning, communication

Volunteering: Board Member - SALT Performing Arts and Aidan's Heart Foundation

Service Interests: Poverty alleviation, community development, mental health support, youth development and empowerment

"Leadership Chester County was truly eye-opening, revealing the pressing needs of our county and the vital role every skill set plays in strengthening nonprofit boards. It is clear that collaboration and diverse expertise are essential to creating lasting impact in our community. I am extremely grateful for the opportunity to be a part of the LCC program, and I look forward to using this knowledge to impact our local community and beyond."



Alison Filson

Chief of Staff

CTDI

Expertise & Attributes: Project management, communications, culture, marketing, event planning, administration and corporate strategy

Volunteering: CTDI CARES, United Way, various workplace events, local community events

Service Interests: Poverty alleviation, animal welfare, mental health support, elderly care and support, youth development and empowerment

"Leadership Chester County has been a great learning experience and has provided me with a very unique perspective along with the tools I will need to become a successful board member and volunteer in the community. LCC had a great curriculum that covered a variety of aspects of being a part of a board and the amount of work that goes into running a nonprofit. I enjoyed the opportunity that the class provided me to network and engage with other nonprofits in Chester County. I am grateful to have been a part of such an impactful program."



Kayla Kratzinger

Executive Assistant to the CEO

Hankin Group

Expertise & Attributes: Communications, marketing, critical thinking, organizational skills, and event planning

Volunteering: Chester County Food Bank, HC Opportunity Center

Service Interests: Poverty alleviation, animal welfare, housing and homelessness, food security and nutrition

"I am deeply passionate about the nonprofit sector and have gained invaluable insight into what it takes to be an effective board member. This experience has been eye-opening and incredibly rewarding. I feel so fortunate, and I look forward to applying my knowledge and making a meaningful impact in the community that I care so much about."

“My experience with LCC has deepened my understanding of community leadership and the importance of driving social change. Through this program, I’ve had the opportunity to connect with diverse peers in my community, engage in meaningful discussions about nonprofit leadership, and develop actionable solutions for local challenges, all while strengthening my leadership skills and commitment to making a positive impact in the community.”

“LCC has been invaluable for my personal and professional growth. There is a rich, vibrant nonprofit world that, regrettably, far too few people know about. LCC has helped open my eyes to the wonderful things that these organizations do on a daily basis. I’ve also met dozens of leaders from all over the county. For anyone on the fence about applying for LCC...do it! I cannot recommend LCC enough.”

“The curriculum of LCC has been both inspiring and uplifting to me. I am grateful to all of the diverse individuals I have met along the way, each with their own unique story and perspective. Their openness to confide their experiences have enriched my journey and helped me grow as a person and as a leader.”

Rebecca Lagravinese

Director, Organizational Development

Bracco



Expertise & Attributes: Driving long-term initiatives that align with organizational goals and values, ensuring sustainable growth and impact, change management, learning, and leadership development, community involvement and mentorship

Volunteering: Current Chair, Women Influencing Business Committee (WIB) with CCCBI. Board member, Aidan’s Heart Foundation

Service Interests: Education and literacy, health and wellness, environmental conservation and sustainability, community development, youth development and empowerment, economic development and job training

Joseph Mulholland

Licensed Client Service Associate

JP Morgan Private Bank



Expertise & Attributes: Finance and banking, problem solving, technical communication, investment acumen, public policy and civic engagement, local politics

Volunteering: Board Member of the Kennett Township Planning Commission. Previous volunteer EMT

Service Interests: Community development, economic development and job training, civic engagement and advocacy, political engagement

Emily Oakes

Branch Operations Manager

Meridian Bank



Expertise & Attributes: Leading with empathy, integrity, and purpose. Operations, customer service and personal relationships

Service Interests: Education and literacy, environmental conservation and sustainability, human rights and social justice, mental health support, disaster relief and humanitarian aid, housing and homelessness, disabilities support and advocacy, economic development and job training, substance abuse prevention and rehabilitation



Gayle O'Brien

Senior Director, Governance, Risk & Compliance

Bentley Systems, Inc.

Expertise & Attributes: Leadership, strategic planning, governance, risk management, compliance, problem solving and change agent

Volunteering: Member, Chester County Women's Commission, Chester County Food Bank, Natural Lands

Service Interests: Education and literacy, health and wellness, environmental conservation and sustainability, animal welfare, arts and culture, community development, elderly care and support, youth development and empowerment, women's rights and empowerment, economic development and job training, civic engagement and advocacy

"Leadership Chester County is an excellent program providing a collaborative experience networking with industry leaders and professionals committed to nonprofit services contributing to enhancing the human experience.

This extremely valuable opportunity fully prepared me to be an effective leader in both the nonprofit sector and my professional career.

LCC highlights the diverse challenges and amazing organizations doing impactful work that we are fortunate to have access to in Chester County."



James Pray

AVP, Helpdesk Manager

Meridian Bank

Expertise & Attributes: IT, organizational and analytical skills, willingness to learn

Service Interests: Education and literacy, housing and homelessness, food security and nutrition

"Leadership Chester County has open my eyes to the nonprofit sector. The sessions and site visits have really shown me a whole new side to nonprofits. This program has not only enhanced my leadership skills but also shown the importance of not being afraid of being the first follower to a new endeavor.

Thank you to the Chester County United Way team for giving us this opportunity."



Melissa A. Rheinstadter

Attorney

Lamb McErlane PC

Expertise & Attributes: Municipal, zoning, land use and environmental law

Volunteering: Ronald McDonald House (Kitchen Volunteer)

Service Interests: Environmental conservation and sustainability, animal welfare, food security and nutrition, women's rights and empowerment

"Leadership Chester County has provided a wonderful environment to learn about the skills and knowledge necessary to become a successful board member. I am grateful for the exposure to unfamiliar and challenging topics concerning Chester County. I look forward to instituting this knowledge in the near future when joining the board of a nonprofit."

“This course has been a great experience for me. I have learned so much more about the communities in Chester County, which was most important to me being newer to the area. I also expanded my knowledge of what nonprofits really do for our communities, and their impact. I have changed a lot of my previous perspectives on this area of PA as well and wasn't aware of all the people that need help here. From the talented speakers, to getting to know everyone in the class, I would recommend this class to anyone.”

“The opportunity to participate in the LCC program has been tremendous! The leadership, quality of content and experiences were remarkable. The camaraderie of the class has been exceptional - affording us the ability to gain new friendships and relationships while working as a team on our project. A game changer for the nonprofit world!”

“Leadership Chester County was everything I've been searching for. Throughout the course I discovered so many ways to transform my dreams of serving others into reality. The experience has been nothing short of amazing, from the knowledge gained to connections made, and I'm beyond thankful for the opportunity!”

Ty Rohrbach

Producer

EHD

Expertise & Attributes: Energy, collaboration skills, business/insurance acumen

Service Interests: Health and wellness, community development, mental health support, housing and homelessness, youth development and empowerment, food security and nutrition, disabilities support and advocacy, economic development and job training



Sharon Sharpe

Assistant Vice President of Business Development

First Resource Bank

Expertise & Attributes: Banking, extensive knowledge of real estate and construction, team building, events and event planning

Volunteering: Board member/Treasurer - Wayne Art Center, Board member/VP - Uwchlan Ambulance Corps

Service Interests: Health and wellness, poverty alleviation, arts and culture, community development, housing and homelessness, youth development and empowerment, food security and nutrition, economic development and job training



Megan Tighe

Product Marketing Manager

Bentley Systems, Inc.

Expertise & Attributes: Building strategy, developing marketing plans, managing budgets, coordinating events, creating community connections

Volunteering: Operation Warm Lead Community Impact Volunteer, FLY:FWD Volunteer

Service Interests: Health and wellness, poverty alleviation, human rights and social justice, community development, mental health support, disaster relief and humanitarian aid, housing and homelessness, youth development and empowerment, food security and nutrition, disabilities support and advocacy, women's rights and empowerment, LGBTQ+ rights and advocacy, economic development and job training





Javonna Wylie

President & Chief Executive Officer

Chester County OIC

Expertise & Attributes: Marketing, community connector/development, staff leadership & development, client engagement, program development, workforce development, economic development, at-risk populations, cultural diversity awareness, mentorship

Volunteering: Serving as the Girls Advisory Board facilitator for 5 years at The Fund for Women & Girls, Member of the CC Workforce Development Board (Adult Education Chair), Former member Community Service Block Grant, Vice Chair and President Elect of CCHRA, (SHRM Affiliate), Board member for the Coatesville Area Public Library

Service Interests: Human rights and social justice, arts and culture, elderly care and support, youth development and empowerment, women's rights and empowerment, civic engagement and advocacy

"I have absolutely loved my time in LCC. On a personal level, it has bonded me with people that I may have never crossed paths with if not for being in the 2025 cohort. On a professional level and a longtime leader in the nonprofit sector, it is great to see that some of the vendors and community partners I work with on a regular basis are involved in LCC presentations and bring so much knowledge.

I hope that I am able to educate our business community and many sectors as Millennials emerge as tomorrow's leaders. Understanding fellow LCC's knowledge level of the nonprofit sector and board participation while also learning clear differences in our industry is information I plan to use to better inform my own board, those I supervise and boards I lead on.

Lastly, I've picked up a trick or two about board engagement and development as well as ways to better connect with corporate sponsors and to leverage support for the great and vital work of NPOs. Thanks, Chester County United Way!"

SPECIAL THANKS TO...

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Elizabeth Guman
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Aaron Proietti
West Chester University

PROGRAM CONTACT:

Kelly Cockshaw
Director of Leadership & Innovation
Chester County United Way
610.429.9400
kcockshaw@uwchestercounty.org

LEARN MORE:



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





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