

"I have lived in Topeka for the past 24 years and thought I had a pretty good grasp on what our community is all about. Think again!!! This program has broadened my knowledge of the community on the whole and the many worthwhile organizations that serve the citizens of Topeka. Most importantly, I have developed new friendships/relationships with a very diverse group of professionals." – Class of 2017

IMPORTANT DATES FOR THE 2018 APPLICATION PROCESS

Nomination Deadline:
September 29, 2017

Application Deadline:
October 13, 2017

Conversations with Alumni:
November 6 & 7, 2017

Selection Announcement:
December 8, 2017

LGT 2018 SESSION DATES

Orientation: **Thurs. Jan 4**

Retreat: **Thurs. & Fri. Jan 11 & 12**

Session 1: **Fri. Jan 19**

Session 2: **Fri. Feb 2**

Session 3: **Fri. Feb 16**

Session 4: **Fri. March 2**

Session 5: **Fri. March 16**

Session 6: **Thurs. March 29**

Session 7: **Fri. April 13**

Session 8: **Fri. April 27**

Graduation: **Wed. May 2**

Nomination and application forms are available online at LeadershipTopeka.org.



SELECTION PROCESS

Greetings Fellow LGT Alumni,

I am thrilled to be leading this year's Selection Committee for Leadership Greater Topeka, and am looking forward to seeing a broad cross-section of community members nominated for this important opportunity.

As a reminder, the selection process starts with an appeal to the general public to recommend people who they believe have demonstrated leadership potential. Individuals are also encouraged to nominate themselves. All nominees will be sent an application that must be completed and returned to the Chamber of Commerce office by 4:30 p.m. Friday, Oct. 13, 2017. Each applicant will be asked to visit with two LGT alumni in an informal setting.

This conversation is intended to acquaint applicants with the scope of the program and allow alumni the opportunity to visit with applicants about their goals and vision for the Greater Topeka area. The Selection Committee, comprised of program alumni, will select a class that is representative of the entire community.

Applicants should demonstrate an increasing level of responsibility and evidence of personal growth, along with a willingness to address issues in the Greater Topeka community. Work experience, scope of personal interests and community involvement will have a significant impact on the selection process.

Because diversity in age, gender, ethnicity, occupation, religion, education, residential ZIP code and volunteer involvement is the goal of the selection process, some applicants who might otherwise meet the Selection Committee's criteria may not be selected. Applicants not selected are encouraged to apply for the program in subsequent years. Many graduates of Leadership Greater Topeka applied more than once.

In addition to the individuals selected in the formal selection process, up to 10 individuals may be designated by sponsoring firms. The class will have approximately 36 participants, with a maximum of two participants from any one firm or organization.

I encourage you to think of deserving individuals in your workplace, civic organizations, and elsewhere, and nominate them to be a member of this year's class. I look forward to your nominations!

Sincerely,

Angel Romero, Class of 2010
Selection Committee Chair

TUITION & SCHOLARSHIPS

The tuition is \$875 per participant and includes all program materials, meals, tours and transportation. Scholarships are available for applicants who may see the tuition as a deterrent to applying for the program.



THE PROGRAM

Leadership Greater Topeka brings together a broad cross section of both acknowledged and emerging leaders from every corner of the community. For the Greater Topeka area to grow and prosper, we need leaders from all backgrounds and vocations who will help make progress on challenges we care about. The goals of the Leadership Greater Topeka program are to challenge and motivate traditional and non-traditional leaders to address these challenges in new ways.

The leadership competencies advocated by the Kansas Leadership Center influence the core curriculum. The class explores in depth the competencies of: Diagnose the Situation, Manage Self, Intervene Skillfully and Energize Others.

Leadership Greater Topeka gives participants the opportunity to develop a deep understanding of the issues at hand, to increase their ability to influence decision making on those and other concerns, to set ambitious goals for renewal and to harness the many resources of the community.

In place since 1984, Leadership Greater Topeka has nearly 1,000 graduates with about 70 percent actively involved in the Topeka community. Leadership Greater Topeka alumni are challenged to apply their talents throughout the community in volunteer, appointed and elected positions.



WHO SHOULD PARTICIPATE?

Any adult interested in making a difference in the community can apply. Ideally, every class reflects a cross section of the Greater Topeka area, including representatives from business, labor, education, health, human services, government, elected officials, nonprofit agencies, community volunteers and neighborhood and religious groups.

Leadership is an activity, not a role or a position. The program is open to anyone wanting to move the needle on tough challenges in the civic arena.

PROGRAM STRUCTURE

The program consists of a two-day retreat, eight full-day sessions between January and April and a graduation luncheon in May. Sessions focus on leadership competencies through training, discussions, interactive presentations, tours and speakers. The sessions cover key community challenges in such areas as quality of life, government, crime, economic development, community services, education and health care. Participants graduate from the program with a greater understanding of how to create change and get results from their community involvement.

Woven throughout the program are concepts of:

21st Century Leadership Skills – Harvard Business adaptive/technical leadership skills, Gallup StrengthsFinder, collaboration, consensus-building, facilitation, visioning and steps toward a performing community.

Community Trusteeship – working for the common good of the whole community.

Impact of Leadership Greater Topeka

Community
Develops committed, knowledgeable men and women prepared to accept key positions in the community.
Encourages creative partnerships and initiatives between the public and private sectors.

Participants
Provides broad general knowledge and sensitivity about people, systems, assets and problems of the community.
Teaches leadership capacities and competencies that will help transform our community.
Builds friendships and working relationships with diverse members of the community.

Employers
Develops employees with increased organizational, leadership and problem-solving skills.
Gives companies and employees new insights into the community.
Expedites employees' development.