

Heart of Wisconsin 
Community Leadership Program

2006 Class



If I accept you as you are, I will make you worse; However, if I treat you as though you are what you are capable of becoming, I help you become that.

~ Johann Wolfgang van Goethe

“Leading for the Future” Sponsoring Partner



Introduction

The Community Leadership Program is an eight month course running from September to April. The class is made up of one 1 1/2 day retreat, seven 1 day sessions, and a community service project.

The Heart of Wisconsin Community Leadership Program mission is to be an aggressive and dynamic program, which develops and coordinates creative leadership to help solve community problems and initiate community action.

The Alliance is proud to present the 05-06 graduates of the Community Leadership Program, the future leaders for the Heart of Wisconsin area.

Program Sponsors

Solarus

Paper City Savings

Harmon Financial Group

Marshfield Clinic ~ Rapids Center

Renaissance Learning

River Cities Bank

Stora Enso

Wipfli LLP

Scholarship support

Community Foundation of South Wood County
Members Advantage Credit Union



JOANNE KEYZER, CHAIRPERSON

We applaud you as leaders; your commitment continues the progress for everyone that lives here and those that will consider joining our community in the future. Eight months is a great deal of time to commit; “Thank you for your time and effort.” Employers and families, you also are thanked, without your support for the participants, the program would not be as effective, you are also showing a commitment to the community. In each session you attended over the last eight months, you were given the opportunity to learn about what helps keep this town together and growing stronger. I would guess, some of the information about the community was new to you and some a reminder of different organizations or events that have been planned in the past or going to take place in the future. Now, one of your jobs is to share that information, build on it, and encourage others to participate.

Sine 1989, more than 300 participants have graduated from the leadership program and completed 70 projects. These projects are not only part of a history, but have added so much to the quality of life in our community.

Along with graduation comes responsibility. Progress does not appear from no where or happen on it’s own, the people in the leadership program are part of “*making it happen.*”

“*By being here tonight, you are shaping the future of the community*” Thank You! To the Heart of Wisconsin Staff, the leadership advisory committee, presenters, instructors, and 2005/2006 participating Leadership Class.

CLASS OF 2006



Pam Anderson
Assistant Vice President - Retail Banking
WoodTrust Bank
2651 8th Street South, P.O. Box 8000
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495

Pam graduated from Lincoln High School and went on to attend the University of Wisconsin - LaCrosse. She continues to attend classes whenever and wherever she can.

The measure of a leader - is found in the enthusiasm and dedication of the people in the organization. Attitude reflects leadership.

The moment I remember most - the first weekend at the environmental station, getting to know everyone's personality and experiencing the enthusiasm of David Beurle.

In 5 years, I see myself - involved in one or more community organizations as a volunteer, working together with other community members to shape Wisconsin Rapids into a thriving, diversified city that promotes a healthy economy through its' business and entrepreneurship enterprises.

Leadership means to me - the process of influencing people to accomplish an objective, while working in a cohesive manner.

My leadership goal - to be an active, contributing member of the Wisconsin Rapids community for many years.

I want to see our community - continue to be a safe, healthy place to raise a family and enjoy life!

The difference between a good leader and a great leader is - the way they interact with the people they lead. The two most important things for effective leadership are the confidence of the organization in the leader and the ability of the leader to communicate a vision to the organization.



Brian Ashbeck
Business Banking Representative
River Cities Bank
1601 Lincoln Street, P.O. Box 907
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495

Brian has a Business Administration Degree and is also a graduate of the Wisconsin Bankers Association's Commercial Lending School.

The measure of a leader - is what someone does to guide or inspire others. A leader gets results.

The moment I remember most - is the leadership retreat. Most notably, meeting the other people in the program, discussing community issues, and possible outcomes/resolutions.

In 5 years, I see myself - as an active member of the local community.

Leadership means to me - doing something for others.

My leadership goals - are to help others and give something back to my community.

I want to see our community - continue to grow and prosper.



Michelle J. Balla
Administrative Assistant
North Central Wisconsin Workforce Development
Board
1121 W. Grand Ave
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495

Michelle graduated from Mid-State Technical College with an Associate Degree in Business Administration - Human Resources.

The measure of a leader - is how that person can be respected by everyone.

In 5 years, I see myself - becoming more vocal in my stance of creating more economic and social opportunities and support for the working poor population.

Leadership means to me - being able to help someone succeed in what they do or what they want to accomplish, not doing the work for them.

My leadership goal - is to advocate support of the "working poor" in Wisconsin Rapids as well as the entire state of Wisconsin.

I want to see our community - embrace much needed change in order to allow Wisconsin Rapids to grow and be a prosperous city which will allow for a much greater quality of life for everyone.

The difference between a good leader and a great leader is - a great leader is someone who can influence much needed change for the better good of everyone. A great leader is someone who is trusting, down to

earth, approachable, and leads by example.



Jay Bemke
City of Wisconsin Rapids
444 West Grand Ave
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495



Sharon Bergsholm
Inpatient Director of Nursing
Riverview Hospital
410 Dewey Street, P.O. Box 8080
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495

Sharon holds a Bachelor's of Science in Nursing from Mankato State University and has credits towards her Master's Degree from College of St.

Catherine.

The measure of a leader - did their leadership make a difference in the world, in people's lives?

In 5 years, I see myself - integrated into the Wisconsin Rapids community.

Leadership means to me - working within your passions, making a difference, helping others meet their goals, maintaining the vision.

My leadership goal - is to improve the quality of healthcare in our region.

The difference between a good leader and a great leader is - how well they know themselves, and the depth of their integrity. Leadership is displayed in every action, toward every individual and under every circumstance. Some people are public leaders - probably good leaders - but consider their leadership responsibilities pertinent over a particular audience. But great leaders lead children, the downhearted, their friends, even folks they don't like at all. They are leaders by virtue of who they are, not what they do.



Sherry L. Berry
Mortgage Servicer
Bull's Eye Credit Union
1930 8th Street South, P.O. Box 1087
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495

Sherry is a local graduate, graduating from Nekoosa High School.

The measure of a leader - is how you are viewed

by others. If you treat people with respect, you will be respected in return. You also need to be a good listener.

The moment I remember most - meeting everyone at the retreat.

In 5 years, I see myself - doing what I am now...raising a family, working, and helping others.

Leadership means to me - encouraging others to become more involved and being a team player.

I want to see our community - grow stronger. The more people that become involved, the stronger we will become.

The difference between a good leader and a great leader is - A good leader is one who has ideas and may or may not put them in place. A great leader is one who listens to others, and encourages others to participate. Every person has some kind of leadership strength in them. It takes a great leader to help some find their strength.



Margie Dorshorst
Principal
Mead Elementary School
241 17th Ave South
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495

Margie holds a Bachelor's of Arts in Communicative Disorders from UW-Eau Claire, a Master's of Science in Speech/Language Pathology from UW-Stevens Point, and a Master's of Education in Educational Administration from UW-Superior.

The measure of a leader - is when the leadership is universal within a system so that all members have leadership capacity in order to continue the vision.

In 5 years, I see myself - Older...and wiser - both as a leader and a parent. I see myself loving every minute of leading Mead School and having three teenagers in my house (YIKES!)

Leadership means to me - being committed to a vision and working collaboratively with others to reach that vision.

My leadership goals - to look beyond the obvious to find the creative solutions to situations and to work with others to implement those ideas/solutions.

I want to see our community - thrive and grow as a wonderful home for our children.

The difference between a good leader and a great leader is - the great leader has that mix of drive and personality. Something about that great leader makes them so compelling to work with that you find yourself moving beyond your comfort level. A great leader works toward a vision and gets everyone moving together in that direction.



Kristopher S. Gasch
Customer Service Representative
Fey Publishing
P.O. Box 8051
910 29th Avenue N
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495

Kristopher has a Bachelor's of Science - Music from Edgewood College.

The measure of a leader - is putting aside your own personal agenda and addressing the greater need.

The moment I remember most - first realizing how different our backgrounds are. I'm pleased that I've had the opportunity to work with such a diverse group where the common goal is always community leadership and involvement.

In 5 years, I see myself - being highly involved and active in whatever environment surrounds me.

Leadership means to me - inspiring participation.

My leadership goals - I think all leaders should be inspiring. I want to be a leader that can inspire activity and participation in even the most skeptical people. There are few things more exciting than finding yourself unexpectedly inspired and ready to participate.

I want to see our community - fulfill the vision statement that has been set in place by the Community Progress Initiative. I look forward to Wisconsin Rapids accepting diversity and being home to a hip, cosmopolitan downtown. I think the vision statement sums it all up perfectly. *The difference between a good leader and a great leader is* - a good leader organizes, directs, and accomplishes. A great leader does those things as well as:

- Inspires participation, even from those who may be doubtful
- Coordinates and participates in all aspects
- Uses a group's diversity to his or her advantage, drawing on the unique perspectives that only diversity can provide
- Ensures that the group's goal is not only accomplished in a timely manner, but also that each member feels as though he or she was a significant part of the group's success.



Paula Golke
Branch Manager
Paper City Savings
4200 8th Street, P.O. Box 339
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495

Paula holds a Bachelor's of Science from UW-Stevens Point.

The measure of a leader - is someone who is open minded to all ideas and works well with a group of diverse individuals towards a common goal.

The moment I remember most - the retreat. It was a great ice breaker and a wonderful introduction to communities and their functions. One of the many thoughts that I took away from the retreat was that "change is created by groups of diverse committed individuals working together towards a common goal."

In 5 years, I see myself - becoming more involved within the community and encouraging others to learn more about their communities.

Leadership means to me - organizing a group of individuals to work towards the same end result.

My leadership goal - is to continue learning more about various communities and to be involved within my community.

I want to see our community - concentrate on the positives that our area

has to offer and keep looking and moving forward toward the visions that have been established for our area.

The difference between a good leader and a great leader is - a great leader strives to find individuals who want to become involved in their community and encourages them to learn more. They are strong team players who are dedicated to the community and its' vision.



Michelle Hartness
First Call 2-1-1 Program Director
AFL-CIO Community Services Liaison
United Way of South Wood County
351 Oak Street
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494

Michelle has an Associate Degree in Accounting and a Bachelor's of Arts in Business Administration and Economics.

The measure of a leader - "The measure of a leader is done with a ruler of patience." Unknown Author

The moment I remember most - the Waupaca Tour was insightful.

In 5 years, I see myself - having completed my MBA.

Leadership means to me - Leadership, to me, is a relationship between leader and the led that can energize an organization, a group, or an entire community.

My leadership goal - is to be a community leader in which my children and our community youth wish to emulate.

I want to see our community - continue to grow and flourish for our future generations.

The difference between a good leader and a great leader is - A good leader gets the job done. A great leader is one who will be able to talk with people, infect them with the optimism to succeed and gently guide them to resounding accomplishments.



Joe Helmuth
IBEW Local 1147
220 Johnson Street
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494



Brian Hennessy
Director of Human Resources
Solarus
440 East Grand Ave, P.O. Box 8045
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495

Brian has a Master's of Arts in Organizational Communication and a Bachelor's of Arts in Public Relations/Business, both from Purdue University. He also is a certified facilitator for Covey 7 Habits of Highly Effective People, and a certified facilitator for developing executives, benchmarks 360 instrument from Center for Creative Leadership.

The measure of a leader - achieving a vision through the successful commitment of those around him/her.

The moment I remember most - shooting the tazer at Mid-State and working with our project team. They were a great group from diverse backgrounds but gelled on our project to produce a great outcome.

In 5 years, I see myself - helping my current employer to achieve great things through our people while growing. I also want to have been involved in multiple opportunities within the community. This week alone I have been approached about a board opportunity with one group, helping United Way, and applied for yet another board. I also have visions for future projects for our local youth - can we say snowboard park...

Leadership means to me - successful growth through our people at Solarus. Community success through board participation and project work. Hopefully leaving something for the youth of tomorrow as we did with the skatepark.

I want to see our community - be safe, well educated, and offer a balance of economic growth and old fashioned small town living. I do not see all growth as good, but do not want to shun progress either. Wisconsin Rapids is a great small town and I would never want to lose that feel.

The difference between a good leader and a great leader - The magnitude of their vision matching the magnitude of their people's success. A great leader doesn't shoot for the easily attainable to play it safe. To be a great leader you either go big or go home. It doesn't take visionary leadership to go for mediocre results. It doesn't take a great leader to be a hero while others watch. Greatness is the greatness one creates...in others.



Frank Hofer
Paper Machine Operator
Stora Enso - Biron Mill
P.O. Box 8050
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495

Frank is a Lincoln High School, Mid-State Technical College, and UW-Platteville graduate.



Randy Jahns
Deputy Chief
Wisconsin Rapids Police Department
444 West Grand Ave
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495

Randy has a Bachelor's of Science from UW-Eau Claire and a Master's in Management and Organizational Behavior from Silver Lake College.

The measure of a leader - is not measured by the degrees you have but rather by how you treat those that can do nothing for you and what you are able to accomplish for the good of the whole.

The moment I remember most - was the retreat, the very first session of the program, and how David Beurle was able to rally us and really got us thinking how we can be an integral part of the community to bring about positive change.

In 5 years, I see myself - still involved with local community organizations and working to bring positive change to Wisconsin Rapids.

Leadership means to me - the ability to motivate others to work for the betterment of all.

My leadership goal - is to be an active person in the community and to work for positive change, in both my role as a citizen of this community and my position with the Wisconsin Rapids Police Department. I want to see our community be a place where our children are proud to be from and where they have the opportunity to stay, live, and work because of a strong, diverse economy.

The difference between a good leader and a great leader - while both can get things done, a great leader can take a group or an organization to a new level. A great leader is never satisfied with maintaining the status

quo and is not afraid of change. A great leader is always looking to maintain an edge to provide the best product possible.



Michael G. Kumm
Directory of Ancillary Services
Nekoosa Academy Principal
School District of Nekoosa
600 South Section Street
Nekoosa, WI 54457

Mike is a graduate of Nekoosa High School, holds a Bachelor's of Science in Broadfield Physical Education from UW-Stevens Point, and a Master's in Education Administration - PK-12 Principal - from UW-Superior.

The measure of a leader - is having the ability to change people, the heart of all organizations, by nurturing them, challenging them, and helping them in such a way that the entire organization can grow and prosper.

The moment I remember most - is not necessarily a brief period of time, but the time from our initial retreat until now that has lead to all the professional relationships that I have established as a result of the Leadership class.

In 5 years, I see myself - doing what I can to continue to make the Nekoosa School District one of the great Districts of Central Wisconsin. At the same time, I see myself helping people from all walks of life to recognize that there is more to the Wisconsin Rapids Area than just Wisconsin Rapids.

Leadership means to me - having the courage to initiate change within an organization by changing the way stakeholders of the organization function. At the same time it means being willing to listen and be willing to not only "talk-the-talk", but "walk-the-walk."

My leadership goal - to continue to create collaborative opportunities for our School District and Community with people from within these organizations as well as other communities and districts. Schools, businesses, and communities must rely on each other to be successful. By bringing the people of these organizations together, all will become stronger organizations.

The difference between a good leader and a great leader is - Good

leaders change organizations. Great leaders change the people that are the heart and soul of organizations.



Eunice Lafler
Inside Sales Representative
Stora Enso
510 High Street, P.O. Box 8050
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495

Eunice is currently attending Lakeland College for a degree in Business Administration.

tion.

The measure of a leader - is decisive, action oriented, seeking opportunities with the challenge of adversity and issues while becoming aware of others' various viewpoints.

The moment I remember most - the trip to Waupaca. A lot of our communities are facing economic challenges and our guided tour through Waupaca also showed some of the same issues our community faces. We were able to share some of our ideas with community leaders and at the same time learn more about their community. It was a great experience.

In 5 years, I see myself - getting more involved in the community by volunteering in organizations that beautify our area or assist with needs at our schools.

Leadership means to me - one who can influence others to get involved and demonstrate their talents, share knowledge to achieve success, goals, and aspirations.

My leadership goal - to influence others to participate in this program and get involved within the community. The community has a lot of talented, motivated people and with our involvement we can continue to accomplish successes for a growing, prosperous community.

The difference between a good leader and a great leader is - a good leader may be happy with resting on their past successes where as a great leader is willing to take on more risks for a good end result. A great leader is always looking ahead (a visionary), and is able to change with the times - always flexible.



Melissa Loken
Small Business Development Specialist
Heart of Wisconsin Business & Economic Alliance
1120 Lincoln Street
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494

Melissa attended UW-Stevens Point and holds an Associate Degree in Business Administration/Human Resources from Mid-State Technical College.

The measure of a leader - is the ability to involve others in the process so all participants feel they personally made a difference.

The moment I remember most - the enthusiastic introduction to the world of Corrections Science at Mid-State Technical College.

In 5 years, I see myself - living, working, and enjoying our Heart of Wisconsin community.

Leadership means to me - inspiring others to achieve their maximum potential.

My leadership goal - to give others the encouragement to participate in our community.

I want to see our community - continue to grow, beautify itself and be supportive of entrepreneurial endeavors.

The difference between a good leader and a great leader is - a good leader formulates a plan of action and implements it. A great leader plants the seed and then lets the stakeholders nurture the growth and reap the rewards. Collaboration and teamwork are the keys to being a great leader.



Karin Mast
Executive Director
Wisconsin Rapids Area Convention & Visitors Bureau
2507 8th Street South
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494

Karin holds a Bachelor's of Arts in Communication Arts from UW-Madison.

The measure of a leader - a person's ability

to look beyond themselves at the bigger picture. Empathy, understanding, listening, and their ability to influence others will all factor into their success.

In 5 years, I see myself - actively engaged and making a difference in the various communities important to me (family, friends, work, location, etc).

My leadership goals - to better understand and empathize with different struggles in our community; to seek new solutions to age-old problems; to build trust between our communities and organizations.

I want to see our community - better prepared to face the challenges of tomorrow and searching outside the “norm” to find solutions for today.



Shannon Matott
Associate Principal
West Junior High
1921 27th Ave S
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495

Shannon holds a Bachelor's of Science from Marquette University, a Master's of Arts/ Education from Viterbo and Master's of Education Administration from Marion College.

The measure of a leader - lead by example.

The moment I remember most - the retreat - a fun, positive, very enriching experience.

In 5 years, I see myself - continuing my career in Educational Leadership.

Leadership means to me - being a person that others look to for a variety of reasons.

My leadership goal - to try other roles in administration.

I want to see our community - continue to grow and prosper.

The difference between a good leader and a great leader is - never being satisfied with “good enough” and continually looking for ways to improve both themselves and the organization they represent.



Diane O'Connor
Director of Ministry Development
Christian Life Fellowship
600 7th Street
Port Edwards, WI 54469

Diane has a Bachelor's of Fine Arts from UW-Milwaukee.

The measure of a leader - is his or her depth of influence. We may think we're leading, but if no one is eagerly following - we're just taking a walk!

The moment I remember most - was a visit I made to Mead school one evening. Margie Dorshorst, principal at Mead, was on my project team and invited me to an open house. I remember walking in and realizing that I had driven past that school for 30 years and had never once set foot inside! Suddenly, it became more than just another school building; it was a wonderfully active, caring place where faculty, students and families were encouraged to come together to make a difference! It made me realize that there were most likely hundreds - thousands - of others working quietly in their own spheres of influence to make their corner of our community a better place!

In 5 years, I see myself - continuing to work on leaving a legacy by investing in next-generation leaders.

Leadership means to me - leadership is influence and leaders are 'change agents.' They look ahead, recognizing obstacles, and reacting with strategies that enable their team to adapt or overcome the obstacle. They cast a compelling vision, enabling and energizing people to join them in moving forward.

My leadership goals - to help nurture a “leadership culture” in my own organization, creating an environment where leaders grow and develop naturally. To encourage emerging leaders to look past our organization to the community it serves, seeking ways to make a positive impact in our tri-city area.

I want to see our community - continue to invest in leaders and expand the current sense of teamwork among leaders representing a wide diversity of interests. I would also like to see the general public become intentional about referring to our community in a positive light to each other, as well as to outsiders.

The difference between a good leader and a great leader - a good leader is one who experiences a measure of success as he works with a team to plan strategies and reach goals. A great leader is one who serves and does not need to be in a position of power. He is able to influence others from anywhere in an organization, leading “up” and “across” as well as down. He is intentional about adding value to others in all directions.



P.M. Teed Pagel
Employment Specialist
Opportunity Development Center
1191 Huntington Ave
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494

Teed attended Western Wisconsin Technical College in La Crosse, has extensive training with LD/ED individuals, and has worked 10+ years in Employment for ODC as an Employment Specialist.

The measure of a leader - is a person I can see has changed bad to good in a community to make it safe, strong and a desirable place that families are drawn to - having a strong tax-base with employment options.

The moment I remember most - meeting the new leadership participants at Amherst, leadership class training at Mid-State - shooting a 45 cal with the police science instructor, schools and the history of them by Dean Ryerson.

Leadership means to me - having the motivation and ability to move forward in the community, being involved with city government and other community projects. Being a person friends respect and look up to.

I want to see our community - bring in new industry.

The difference between a good leader and a great leader - A good leader makes things happen. A great leader moves people to make things happen.

As a component of the Leadership Program, participants are asked to complete a community project. The following are the projects of the 2006 class.

Bike Trail Enhancements

This group is adding two shelters along the bike trail, which runs through Wisconsin Rapids, Port Edwards, and Nekoosa. We have a great trail in our community, and we thought it was important to make it as user-friendly as possible. The shelters will be completed by June 2006. *Group members include: Michelle Balla, Sherry Berry, Michelle Hartness, Frank Hofer, Mike Kumm, and Teed Pagel.*

Community Information Trailer

Any of you with children in sports in this community or those of you who attend local craft fairs have seen the hundreds to thousands of visitors that these events draw. We chose a project to help keep those visitors in our community and encourage them to plan a future visit. This summer, thanks to the generous donations from our gold sponsors - Rainbow Casino, Solarus, Hotel Mead, Paper City Savings, and the Wisconsin Rapids Area Convention & Visitors Bureau, as well as our bronze sponsors American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees 1075 and DNL Recreation, we will have a community information trailer at major events in the Heart of Wisconsin Area. We also thank the Community Foundation of South Wood County for their support of our project. This trailer will provide information about local events, businesses, maps, and be staffed with community ambassadors to welcome people and provide directions. Please stop by and visit our community information trailer.

Group members include: Jay Bemke, Sharon Bergsholm, Paula Golke, Brian Hennessy, and Melissa Loken.

Love Where You Live

Our leadership group has put together a campaign to highlight at least “52 reasons to love where you live.” The campaign includes a print brochure, website, a weekly article in the Daily Tribune, and slides with each reason running on Public Access. Brochures will be distributed at major employers, the Heart of Wisconsin, and the Convention & Visitors Bureau. A campaign about the area that highlights things to do for families, seniors, and students alike will help contribute to a positive self-esteem about the area for our community members. *Group members include: Brian Ashbeck, Margie Dorshorst, Joe Helmuth, Karin Mast, and Diane O’Connor.*

Cinema under the Stars

Downtown Wisconsin Rapids once boasted a beautiful Art Deco movie theater, and although the building is gone, we're bringing the excitement back to the West Side this summer with "Classic Cinema under the stars." Thursday, June 15, 2006 will see the return of the "silver screen" to the downtown area. Moviegoers are encouraged to bring a picnic meal to enjoy with their families and food vendors will also be available on site. There will be entertainment for children and adults alike as we await the showtime at dusk. We may not have the theater anymore, but that won't stop us from bringing everyone together for a movie night. Gather up your families, friends and picnic blankets and join us for a movie under the stars. *Group members include: Pam Anderson, Kristopher Gasch, Randy Jahns, Eunice Lafler, and Shannon Matott.*

Community Leadership Advisory Board

Deb Edwards*

Paper City Savings, term expires April 2006

Pam Ross*

Opportunity Development Center, term expires April 2006

Jane Jauquet*

Wisconsin Rapids Public Schools, term expires April 2006

Kelly Lucas*

Community Foundation of South Wood County, term expires April 2006

Lisa Mayne*

WeEnergies, term expires April 2006

Sheldon Ferkey

Rapids Mall, term expires April 2007

Mary Gustin*

Stora Enso, term expires April 2007

Joanne Keyzer*, Chair

Domtar, term expires April 2007

Peter Manley

Wood County Extension office, term expires April 2007

Leif Street*

Solarus, term expires April 2007

Dawn Desorcy*

City of Wisconsin Rapids, term expires April 2008

Terry Dolan*

Stora Enso, term expires April 2008

Jason Grueneberg*

Wood County Planning & Zoning, term expires April 2008

Joanne Harmon*

Harmon Financial Group, term expires April 2008

Eric Norton*

McMillan Memorial Library, term expires April 2008

Debbie Steltenpohl*

River Cities Bank, term expires April 2008

Sessions and Session Chairs

September 16 - 17, 2005

Leadership Retreat

Central Wisconsin Environmental Station

David Beurle, Innovative Leadership

Australia

Connie Loden, Heart of Wisconsin

Business & Economic Alliance

October 20, 2005

Where's Our Economic Future

Sheldon Ferkey, Rapids Mall

Pam Ross*, Opportunity Development

Center

	<i>Community Services</i> Kurt Heuer, Wisconsin Rapids Police Department Kelly Lucas*, Community Foundation of South Wood County	<u>Session Speakers</u>
November 17, 2005	<i>Government Systems</i> Wendy Haske*, Heart of Wisconsin Business & Economic Alliance Joanne Harmon*, Harmon Financial Group Eric Norton*, McMillan Memorial Library	C. Y. Allen, UW-Stevens Point Jerry Bach, Immediate Past Mayor - City of Wisconsin Rapids Timm Bean, Tropical Smoothie David Beurle, Innovative Leadership Australia Jackie Bredl-Dietrich*, Whole Life Visions Vern Borth, City of Wisconsin Rapids Kyli Brown, Wood County Extension office Dr. Linda Buchs-Hammond, Meta Associates Sue Budjac, Mid-State Technical College Marge Bunce, representative from Senator Kohl's office
December 15, 2005	<i>Education & Workforce Development</i> Dean Ryerson*, Wisconsin Rapids Public Schools Sue Budjac, Mid-State Technical College	Dr. John Clark, Mid-State Technical College Renee Daniels, representative from Representative Feingold's office Matt Dix*, M&I Bank Andy Dewitt, Wisconsin Rapids Public Schools Liaison officer Edie Felts-Podoll, Adams County Extension office
January 12, 2006	<i>Conflict Resolution & Diversity</i> Peter Manley, Wood County Extension Office	Sheldon Ferkey, Rapids Mall owner Karen Graf, representative from Representative Feingold's office Joanne Harmon*, Harmon Financial Group Michelle Hartness*, United Way of South Wood County Wendy Haske*, Heart of Wisconsin Business & Economic Alliance
February 16, 2006	<i>A Community Visit - Waupaca</i> Debbie Steltenpohl*, River Cities Bank Jason Grueneberg*, Wood County Planning & Zoning Office	Rich Heinz*, City of Wisconsin Rapids Kurt Heuer, Wisconsin Rapids Police Chief Arline Hillestadt, Family Center Dr. Bob Johnson, retired Melina Kolhbeck, Marshfield Clinic Bob Kryshak, attorney at Nash, Podvin Law Offices
March 16, 2006	<i>Influencing Change</i> Joanne Keyzer*, Domtar Mary Gustin*, Stora Enso	Dr. Richard Kyte, Viterbo University Tim Laatsch, Stora Enso Connie Loden, Heart of Wisconsin Business & Economic Alliance Kelly Lucas*, Community Foundation of South Wood County
April 20, 2006	<i>Graduation Ceremony</i> The Ridges Golf Course & Supper Club Dawn Desorcy*, City of Wisconsin Rapids	Peter Manley, Wood County Extension office Karin Mast*, Wisconsin Rapids Area Convention & Visitors Bureau Sargeant Matthews, Wood County Police Department Denise Orr*, Community Volunteer Tim Radtke, Wisconsin Department of Transportation Pat Raulin, The UPS Store
April 26, 2006		

Darlene Rause, Volunteer Center of South Wood County
Lonnie Reetz*, River Cities Bank
Pam Ross*, Opportunity Development Center
Dean Ryerson*, Wisconsin Rapids Public Schools
Fred Siemers*, River Cities Bank
Nan Taylor, Heart of Wisconsin Business & Economic Alliance
Joe Terry, Village of Port Edwards
Tom Thibodeau, Viterbo University
Craig Timm*, Domtar
Bruce Trimble, United Way of South Wood County
Pat Trochlell, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
Dawn Vruwink*, Community Foundation of South Wood County
Zach Vruwink, Zach's Computers
Eldean Walling, Mid-State Technical College
Waupaca Community members
Connie Willfahrt, Mid-State Technical College
Mary Wirtz*, Community Foundation of South Wood County
Jean Young, Wisconsin Rapids Common Council member
Honorable Edward Zappen, Jr., Wood County Circuit Court Judge
Branch 3
Sue Zirnheld, Lincoln High School Volunteer Center

* Denotes Community Leadership Program Alumni



JILL CAVANAUGH, COORDINATOR

John Quincy Adams once said, “If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader.” During the last eight months, you have all gained the skills to inspire others, to become a leader yourself. You have all learned something – about yourselves and about the Heart of Wisconsin Area. Some things

might be tangible – the flyers, brochures, and handouts you’ve received at each session and the contact you’ve made with each other and the community. Some things might be intangible – the increased awareness you now have for programs, organizations, and businesses in the Heart of Wisconsin community, the growth and ability to work out of your comfort zone that doing a community project has brought on, and many other things relevant to each of you separately. By design, certain aspects of the program come with little staff guidance. This allows you to apply what you’ve learned in class, stretch that comfort level, and make mistakes. Mistakes are lessons that make us better leaders...if we never made any, we would never grow into a better leader.

Now, as you graduate from the leadership program, you are charged with the last component of the leadership program – responsibility. You now have the responsibility to nurture, grow, and share what you have seen and learned through the program. After all, this is NOT individual leadership, but community leadership. While what you have learned to benefit yourself is important, what you’ve learned to benefit the community is of greater importance. It is now your responsibility to serve in the community in a way you might not have before – sit on a board, join a committee, volunteer at a school – become involved!! Do this, not because it might make you look good, but because it will help our community strengthen and develop, growing new leaders along the way.