Attendance Policy

Attendance at all sessions including the opening retreat is compulsory. Participants may miss no more than one session to graduate; however, the organizations retreat is mandatory.

Dress Policy

Business casual is the suggested dress for all sessions.

Tuition

If accepted in the Leadership Columbus program, you or your employer/sponsor will be invoiced for $250 for Chamber members, $300 for non-members. This fee covers costs for the retreat, classroom sessions, lunches, and graduation. No refunds will be provided for participants who drop out of the program or do not fulfill the required curriculum.

A limited number of scholarships may be available. For members who are interested in the program but are unable to participate due to financial constraints, please call Jennifer Holcomb at the Chamber, 910-642-3171.

To Apply

Applications are available on the Chamber's website, www.TheColumbusChamber.com. Applications are due by November 18, 2016. For questions, please call the Chamber, 910-642-3171.

What Community Alumni are saying

"My participation in Leadership Columbus offered a great return on investment for me. Through the program, I was able to make connections and network throughout the County and that alone has been invaluable. Also, having the opportunity to learn about the companies and organizations in Columbus County was a wonderful resource as well. If you want to get involved in your community and truly make a difference I highly recommend Leadership Columbus as your starting point!"

~Dianne Ward, Promotions Director, Town of Tabor City

"The Leadership Columbus program was a great opportunity to network with other professionals in the area. It provided the opportunity to learn about other industries in the county and region."

~Sherry L Shepard MSN, RN, Director of Emergency Services, Columbus Regional Healthcare System

"You should send your employees (or yourself) if you care about developing them into leaders within your organization and leaders within the community. They will come out of this program better informed about all facets of our local economy, including education, industry and government. They will also build a strong network with their classmates that will last for yours to come. I thoroughly enjoyed my experience in the program and highly recommend it."

~Jonathan Medford, Partner / Co-Founder, Inspire Creative Studios

"Leadership Columbus was such a great experience! Being from Columbus County, I thought I knew just about everything there was to know about it. However, I was way wrong! Leadership Columbus introduced me to places I had never been before and to thriving businesses I didn't know existed! From participating in this program, I gained knowledge and friends I would not have had otherwise."

~Stephanie Miller, Physician Outreach Coordinator, Columbus Regional Healthcare System

LEADERSHIP COLUMBUS
ACCEPTING THE CHALLENGE

NORTH CAROLINA Museum of Natural Sciences AT WHITEVILLE

"The greatest wealth of a community lies not in the amount of its treasure, but in the quality of its leadership."

Sponsored by:
Southeastern Community College
Columbus Chamber of Commerce and Tourism

NOTE: Class size is limited. All applications received by the deadline will be reviewed and final participants for the Leadership Columbus class will be contacted on December 2, 2016. However, all applicants will be notified of the status of their application in writing.

Mission:

Leadership Columbus is a program designed to develop a corps of informed, committed and qualified citizens capable of providing dynamic leadership for Columbus County, recognizing that volunteer leadership is one of the most valuable assets of a community.

Objectives:

• Develop informed, trained and committed leaders who understand the issues and needs of our community;

• Create the opportunity for leaders to meet, establish rapport, and maintain ongoing professional relationships;

• Ensure that participants involve themselves in greater roles in our community through volunteerism in service and civic organizations, serving on appointed boards and in running for elected offices;

• Create the opportunity for future leaders to continue to identify and study local issues;

• Enhance the skills necessary to become effective leaders of the community;

• Communicate the benefits of Leadership Columbus to the community.

Program Overview

Leadership Columbus is a leadership certification program combining a series of meetings and assignments designed to increase the professional and personal effectiveness of the participants. Conveniently scheduled over a five month period, this program will provide participants with the opportunities to:

✓ Enhance interpersonal communications
✓ Build and demonstrate leadership skills
✓ Increase team building effectiveness
✓ Improve results of working on community projects
✓ Establish ongoing dialogues with experienced community leaders

2017 Schedule:
January 12
Organizational Retreat & Dinner
(Attendance Mandatory)

1:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
• Introductions
• Team Building
• Motivation
• Leadership Styles
• Social Hour/Dinner

January 26
Business & Industry Day

8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.
• Panal discussion with leading business and industry representatives
• Lunch and tour of Yogi Bear's Jellystone Park at Tabor City
• Discussion of group project

February 16
Education Day

8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.
• Tour of selected programs at SCC
• Panel discussion with local educators
• Lunch at Columbus Career and College Academy
• Tour of CCCA campus

March 9
Communications Day

8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.
• Interpersonal communications seminar
• SCC Presents interview
• Group project planning

March 30
Government Day

8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.
• Overview of state/federal government
• Overview of city/county government
• Tour of courthouse
• Judicial presentations
• Tour of jail and Sheriff's Department presentation

May 4
Health & Wellness Day

8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.
• Tour of Lower Cape Fear Hospice
• Tour of Wound Healing Center
• Tour of Donayre Cancer Care Center
• Virtual medicine tutorial
• Roundtable with healthcare professionals

May 18
Graduation Ceremony and Luncheon

11:30 a.m.
• Participants are encouraged to invite their employer/supervisor/mentor/special guest (x2)
• Group Project Presentation