

## The Community Leadership Program is a dynamic and interactive leadership development experience designed to:

Empower participants to be catalysts for positive change by providing a deeper understanding of our community through sharing practical tools for effective community leadership.

# Provide a deeper understanding of our community.

Each month, participants are given a closer look at the opportunities and challenges in our community through the eyes of a wide variety of leaders from every sector of our community, including education, community services, government systems, and economic development.

# Share practical tools for effective community leadership.

Participants will be introduced to practical, effective tools to help them better understand themselves and their personal roles in influencing community change. participants will also learn key elements of community leadership, including conflict resolution, working on teams, influencing change, and networking. We cover one habit each month from the book: *7 Habits for Highly Effective People.*

# Empower participants to be catalysts for positive change.

Participants will develop strong relationships by networking throughout the eight- month program. They will also work with a small group to share creative ideas and develop a group project in an area of their choice to impact the community.



**Community Leadership Program 2024/2025 Schedule (Tentative)**

* **Session 1:** Thursday and Friday October 10th & 11th
	+ Leadership Retreat - Thursday 12:30pm – Friday 1:30pm
* **Session 2:** Thursday November 14th
	+ Community Service
	+ 8:00am – 5:00pm
* **Session 3:** Thursday December 12th
	+ Diversity & Inclusion
	+ 8:00am – 5:00pm
* **Session 4:** Thursday January 9th
	+ Education & Workforce Development
	+ 8:00am – 5:00pm
* **Session 5:** Thursday February 13th
	+ Government Service
	+ 8:00am – 5:00pm
* **Session 6:** Thursday March 13th
	+ Economic Development
	+ 8:00am – 5:00pm
* **Session 7:** Thursday April 10th
	+ Community Visit
	+ 7:30am – 5:00pm
* **Session 8:** Thursday May 8th
	+ Tying It All Together
	+ 8:00am – 5:00pm
* **Celebration:** Thursday May 29th
	+ 5:00pm – 7:00pm



## 2024/25 Community Leadership Program Application

Anyone who is interested in community involvement or enhancing their understanding of leadership is invited to participate. Applicants may apply on their own or be nominated by an individual or organization.

**Application Due September 3, 2024**

Name Home Address

City Zip

Cell Phone Work Phone Email

Are you being sponsored by a business or organization? Yes No

If yes, name of sponsor: Sponsor Mailing Address City Zip Phone Contact Person Title

*Please attach extra pages if needed.*

Briefly describe your current job responsibilities:

Provide a brief background on yourself, including any involvement in volunteer activities:

What do you consider your most important achievement to date?

What do you consider your best skills (Examples: planning, organization, communication, etc.)?

In your opinion, what are three problems facing the Heart of Wisconsin area today? Explain these problems, then give recommendations for approaching a possible resolution.

What do you expect to gain from your participation in the Community Leadership Program?

### I understand this is an eight-month course and I fully agree to the following:

* **Attend every full-day session including the celebration.**
* Attend our one and a half day (overnight) retreat in October
* Be an open-minded participant as well as fully engaged in my own learning.
* Attend community project meetings as needed!
* If you cannot make a session, you must contact the Workforce & Community Development Director

**\*\***Session Make-up Activity: In the event of a class absence, participants are strongly encouraged to connect with a fellow leadership participant to determine what they missed from the session.

Participant Signature

The fee for the Community Leadership Program is **$800.00 for members and $960.00 for non-members**, payable at the time your application is accepted, or installments may be arranged.

***\* You may also contact the HOW Chamber of Commerce for possible Scholarship Opportunities. \****

***\* Member's priority will be given in the admission process of this program. \****

### Make checks payable to: Heart of Wisconsin

*The additional costs for participants are covered by community support and sponsorship.*

*Return your completed application and supervisor consent form if applicable by September 3, 2024.*

Please return to:

Heart of Wisconsin 1120 Lincoln Street

Wisconsin Rapids WI 54494

### EMPLOYEE CONSENT FORM

Dear Supervisor,

Your employee has chosen to participate in the Heart of Wisconsin Chamber of Commerce Community Leadership Program! We are excited about their involvement. Review the program and tuition requirements, as well as expectations and commitments found in the application. Please discuss them with your employee(s) to minimize schedule conflicts and maximize their opportunities in the program.

Leadership Participant Name:

Employer:

Supervisor Name:

Supervisor Phone Number:

Supervisor Email:

1. Why do you think your employee will be a good candidate for participation in the program?
2. As an employer, what are your short – and long-term expectations of sending your employee through this program?

### Consent

I understand the purpose of the Community Leadership Program and that attendance, participation, and willingness to experience new activities are key to successful completion. I agree to support the above-named employee by letting them devote the time and resources necessary to complete all components of the program. I realize that if the employee misses more than two of the sessions, they may be asked to withdraw from the program without reimbursement.

### I understand the above commitments and agree to be bound by them by signing this application.

Employer’s Signature: Date: