



## SEV Chamber Leadership Program

### L.E.A.D.

*LEADERSHIP/ EDUCATION/ ADVOCACY/ DEVELOPMENT*

L.E.A.D. SEV is a program of the Southeast Volusia Chamber of Commerce designed for our community's active leaders. The program equips graduates with the skills, knowledge, and contacts needed as they accept the challenge to become a more visible resource to our community. This ten-week journey is designed to develop high level leadership skills by introducing participants to community resources.

Participants will be engaged in challenging and motivating exercises to develop their leadership and professional skills.

- Interactive seminars
- Dedicated leadership coursework from certified trainers
- Meetings with key community leadership
- Field trips

**Class size is limited to 20 participants.**

The L.E.A.D. SEV Program is the opportunity to make an investment in yourself, your company, your community, and in your fellow classmates. Every session provides the chance to share your passion, your energy, and your unique skillset. You can be a driving force in building new friendships and discovering ways to collaborate so together everyone can achieve more. Allowing yourself to be immersed in every facet of the leadership experience brings you inspiration, empowerment and so much more.

If you're up for the challenge, please apply!

How to Apply: Applicants are asked to submit a Letter of Interest (LOI) that includes the following information: 1. Sponsor Endorsement Letter (not needed if you are the business owner) 2. Statement of Interest and Purpose 3. Contact information and additional professional and personal experience.

**Sponsor Endorsement Letter:** This is a message of support from your immediate key sponsor at your place of employment. The letter should include their support of your attending each class and include what they hope you will achieve in this class. They may be specific in area(s) that they feel you could benefit from, i.e., presentation skills, leadership, project management, community involvement, organizational development, board development and general business knowledge. Your Sponsor Endorsement Letter is a very critical component of your application.

*Selection will rely on the support and enthusiasm of the sponsor and the employer.*

**Statement of Interest and Purpose:** Tell us why you want to participate in the 2023 L.E.A.D SEV Program. Be very specific in what you hope to achieve both personally and professionally. Include how you envision taking a leadership role in the class. Include your unique personality traits that you feel will establish you as an integral member of the class.

*Like the Sponsor Endorsement Letter, the Statement of Interest and Purpose is what will distinguish you from the other candidates. This is where the applicant review will look for creativity, passion, detail, specificity, and inspiration.*

**Contact Information and Additional Professional & Personal Experience:**

- Your Contact information including email address office phone number, and cell phone.
- Employer information.
- A professional overview.
- A personal overview (personal interests and activities).
- Leadership experience (either professional, personal, volunteer, athletics, or faith-based).

- Volunteer experience.
- Board experience (none is necessary for consideration).
- Any additional enclosures you wish to include that you feel would help distinguish you from the other candidates. Feel free to be creative.

**How to submit your package:** All documents including sponsor endorsement letter, statement of interest and purpose, full contact information and additional professional and personal experience are required for consideration in the class and should be scanned and sent as one (1) PDF document.

Email your final packet to L.E.A.D. SEV Program to Stephanie Ford  
[sford@sevchamber.com](mailto:sford@sevchamber.com)

**Classes are scheduled for the following dates:**

\*Thursday, August 17th Leadership & Class Project Discussion Day- 8:00am – 1:00pm

Thursday, August 24th– Government Day- 8:00am – 1:00pm

Thursday, August 31<sup>st</sup> – Economic Development Day- 8:00 am – 1:00pm

Thursday, September 7th Law Enforcement & Public Safety Day- 8:00am –1:00pm

Thursday, September 14th– Education Day- 8:00am – 1:00pm

Thursday, September 21st– Environmental Impact Day- 8:00am –1:00pm

Thursday, September 28th – Health & Human Services Day- 8:00am –1:00pm

Thursday, October 5th– Volunteerism/ Non-Profit Day- 8:00am –1:00pm

\*Thursday, October 12th–Graduation Ceremony & Luncheon- 11:30am –1:00pm

\*Indicates Mandatory Class