Leadership Somerset Seeks Community Project Ideas

WE WANT TO HELP
The Class of 2018 wants to help you meet the needs of residents. Please submit a community project idea for consideration. Leadership Somerset is an adult leadership program that creates a network of informed, concerned citizens. Each year, we require our talented class members to coordinate and implement a project for the benefit of Somerset County residents.

COMMUNITY PROJECT IDEAS NEEDED
Our class members are excited by the prospect of giving back to the community, but they need ideas! You know what challenges residents are trying to overcome, so give us an opportunity to help. Submit a project idea to leadershipsomerset@co.somerset.nj.us

Deadline
for submission
April 30, 2018

Project ideas are sought from:
- nonprofit agencies
- local governments
- public educational institutions

that serve residents of Somerset County

www.leadershipsomerset.org
LeadershipSomerset@co.somerset.nj.us
Leadership Somerset class members have completed projects with:

- Samaritan Homeless Interim Program
- Adult Day Center of Somerset County
- Somerset Medical Center Blood Donor Room (now RWJUH Somerset)
- Alternatives, Inc.
- Volunteers of America—Agape House (two projects)
- Center for Great Expectations
- Foodbank Network of Somerset County
- Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) of Somerset, Hunterdon and Warren Counties
- Borough of Somerville Environmental Commission

Click here to see project descriptions

“CASA of Somerset, Hunterdon, and Warren Counties (CASA SHaW) collaborated with the 2014 Class of Leadership Somerset to increase the diversity of its volunteer pool to better reflect the children its advocates serve. The results included five new board members, two new advocates, and an enhanced partnership with the African American community in Somerset County. While more work needs to be done to address the issue of disproportionality of children of color in foster care, this partnership helped to start the dialogue and create action to make inroads into solving this issue.”

— Tracey Heisler, Executive Director, CASA SHaW

Guidelines for Community Project Idea Submissions

- Project ideas will be accepted from nonprofit agencies, local governments, and public educational institutions that serve Somerset County residents.
- Projects should be large enough in scope to utilize the skills of 6-25 people who come with different skills and experience.
- Projects do not have to benefit the entire county. A specific town, neighborhood, community or group of persons (i.e., children in foster care) is acceptable.
- We are not looking for projects that can be completed all in one day, or that are only tactical with little strategic thinking or problem solving.
- Projects may not be partisan, religious or discriminatory in nature and cannot have fundraising or advocacy as a primary focus, but class teams can help solicit funds/in-kind donations to complete the project.
- Project ideas should have the support of the proposal submitter’s governing body/board/etc.
- Ideas do not have to be completely fleshed out, but the project should have a definable goal that can be achieved by a small group of volunteers within a 4- to 5-month period between August and December.

**HOW TO SUBMIT A PROJECT IDEA**

- A proposal form is not required. Proposal submitters need only to email a paragraph or two (up to a maximum of one letter-size page) that describes the project idea and why it is a need.
- A single point of contact should be identified by the proposal submitter and included in the email.
- Email the proposal idea and contact information to LeadershipSomerset@co.somerset.nj.us by April 30.

Submissions will be reviewed for feasibility by Leadership Somerset staff before being presented to the class.
Proposal submitters may be invited to present an overview of their idea to, and answer questions from, class members on May 9 or June 13. More information about this will be provided to proposal submitters by Leadership Somerset staff no later than May 2.
Leadership Somerset is an 11-month adult community leadership program for adults who live or work in Somerset County. Class members come from diverse backgrounds and include representatives from large corporations, professional services, local government, nonprofit agencies, community leadership positions, small businesses, and academia.

Leadership Somerset encourages participants to make a positive impact in the community; learn about resources, services, challenges, and opportunities in Somerset County; enhance personal leadership skills; practice team and group process skills; and network and build partnerships with community leaders.

The program, which started in the year 2000, is supported by the Somerset County Board of Chosen Freeholders. Applications for Leadership Somerset are available annually in early fall. Learn more at www.leadershipsomerset.org

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