



For Immediate Release:

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The logo for Leadership Shenandoah County. It features the word "LEADERSHIP" in a large, blue, serif font, and "SHENANDOAH COUNTY" in a smaller, blue, serif font below it. A stylized graphic of a sun and waves is positioned behind the text.

LEADERSHIP SHENANDOAH COUNTY

It's Your Turn to Stand Out from the Crowd

The Shenandoah County Chamber of Commerce is pleased to announce Leadership Shenandoah County. Leadership Shenandoah County inspires, develops, engages and connects diverse leaders to one another, across sectors and experience. The Leadership program increases leaders' knowledge and perspectives on key local and regional issues, and provides an environment for challenging and strategic conversations.

“The Chamber saw the need for a Leadership program and Leadership Shenandoah County develops and fosters leadership development in our community. We all have a responsibility to examine our community and reflect on what we can do to make it a better place. I feel Leadership Shenandoah County is a good vehicle for being able to see a wider perspective, to gain a lot of different input from organizations and to also help educate people about what’s here,” shared Chris Boies, President Elect of the Chamber and Chair of the Leadership program.

Leadership Shenandoah County is a nine-month program with the objective to develop the skills of participants so they will be able to provide the leadership necessary to recognize and address community needs. Participants will gain understanding of the complex issues facing Shenandoah County through educational programs, exposure to community leaders and the structures within which they operate, and through discussions and examination of current issues facing the County. Topics

include Leadership, Agriculture/Tourism, Local Government, Education, Public Safety, Health Care, Business/Industry, Non-Profit/Media, and the final session involves group presentations from the cohort of participants. Sessions are led by a combination of community leaders, professional facilitators, and specialists in the respective fields.

Leadership Shenandoah County is led by a Board of Directors consisting of Boies, the Chamber President Elect; Mary Beth Price, Shenandoah County Administrator; Dr Mark Johnston, Shenandoah County Public Schools Superintendent; Greg Hoover, First Bank Senior Vice President; Niki Wilson, Valley Health Foundation's Director of Development; Mike Gochenour, NVDaily Publisher; Sheila Orndorff, Shenandoah Alliance for Shelter Executive Director; and Sharon Baroncelli, the Chamber's Executive Director.

Leadership Shenandoah County is made possible through the support of the Chamber's Annual Sponsors First Bank, Holtzman Oil & Propane, Shentel, Sprint, Northern Virginia Daily, Centennial Broadcasting, Sager Real Estate, Valley Health, DuPont Community Credit Union, and the Regulus Group.

Applications for the Leadership Shenandoah County class beginning in September, may be found at www.shenandoahcountychamber.com. **Applications are due** July 14. The tuition for the 2017-18 program is \$250. Limited scholarships may be available and are awarded based on need.

For more information or questions you may contact the Chamber at 540-459-2542 or director@shenandoahcountychamber.com

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