2019-2020 SESSION TOPICS

“Chester County 101” Tour | Michael Givler, Ed.D.
Board Governance | Pamela Leland, Ph.D., Consultant
Strategic Planning | Mark Davis, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Public Policy & Administration, West Chester University
Nonprofit Challenge Presentation | Phoebe Kitson, Director of Agency & Community Partnerships, Chester County Food Bank; Barbara Reisenwitz, Director, Services Operations, Bentley Systems, Inc., Chester County Food Bank Board Governance Chair, LCC Class of 2011
Board Fiduciary Responsibility | Donald Kramer, Esq., Chair, Nonprofit Law Group, Montgomery, McCracken, Walker & Rhoads, LLP
Poverty Simulation | Samantha Brannen, MSW, Workforce Coordinator, Chester County Department of Community Development
Social Entrepreneurship | Matthew Shea, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Management, West Chester University
Strategic Discussions, Informed Decisions | Elizabeth Guman, Partner, Strategy Arts, LLC
Nonprofit Fiscal Management | Celeste Barr, CPA, Owner, Clarus Consulting
Leadership for Sustainability | Steven Wray, Vice President and Director, Econsult Solutions
Fundraising/Philanthropy 101 | Roberta Healey, ACFRE, Aurora Philanthropic Consulting, VP Philanthropy, Simpson Senior Services
Dialogues in Diversity & Inclusion | Michael L. Curry, CISA, CBCP, Retired Principal, Vanguard Group, Inc.
Board Development | Jane Mack, President and CEO, Friends Services Alliance
Advocacy | M. Christopher Tabakin, President & CEO, iHi International, Inc. and Jeanne Meikrantz, Executive Director, The Arc of Chester County
Collaborating for Greater Impact | Jason D. Alexander, Principal, Capacity for Change, LLC
Nonprofit Perspectives | Chaya Scott, Chief Aspiration Officer, Chaya Scott Consulting LLC
Intentional Communications | Robert Madonna, Managing Partner, Diversified Services LLC
Ethics in Nonprofit Leadership | Matt Pierlott, Ph.D., Associate Professor & Chair, Department of Philosophy, West Chester University

Board Placement Service is provided throughout the year and after graduation.

2019-2020 PROJECT

The Chester County Food Bank was formed in 2009 to address the escalating hunger problems in Chester County. The goal then was, and still is today, to have a viable, sustainable organization that secures, manages, and distributes food to those in need. The organization now has over 30 full-time and part-time employees, with a 36,000 square foot facility centrally located in Exton, PA. They support more than 120 partner agencies in Chester County, distributing over 3.2 million pounds (2018-2019) of food to neighbors in need through a network of food cupboards, shelters, and other social service organizations. They also work to address the root causes of food insecurity in the county, through the Fresh2You Mobile Market, Raised Bed Gardens, EatFresh & EatFresh Kids, FRESHstart Kitchen™, BestChoices pantries, summer produce programs with youth and children, Seed to Supper and much more.

Project Focus: Social Entrepreneurship
LCC was asked to develop a business plan for a “café” in Coatesville within a food distribution center to better serve a high-demand area. The café would be staffed by students in CCFB’s FRESHstart Kitchen™ program, which prepares underemployed individuals for work in the food service industry. Locally sourced food would be served, with the cost of a meal based on one’s ability to pay. LCC began in small groups to study similar models, CCFB’s operations, strategic goals, and board engagement while exploring the potential impact of such a project for CCFB and those it serves.

Deliverable: With the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic in March, Chester County Food Bank’s leadership focus shifted to the immediate needs of the community. LCC Class of 2020 forged ahead to aggregate the significant body of research completed, apply the course lessons, engage expertise of LCC presenters, and develop a meaningful set of recommendations for future implementation.
Christine Parsons Bendinelli
Sponsored by COMMUNICATIONS TEST DESIGN, INC.

**EXPERTISE** Corporate and nonprofit boards, developing and implementing patient services programs, leading and coordinating fundraising events

**VOLUNTEERING** SHiNE, Blessings in a Backpack, Chester County Hospital Foundation Board, Partners in Outreach

**ATTRIBUTES** Identifying community needs, facilitating activities/events to address those needs

**SERVICE INTERESTS** Education/Early Childhood Literacy, Food Insecurity/Poverty, Health

“The program expanded my understanding of the value and responsibility of Board members in organizational governance. It developed skills to strengthen my role as a board member, and introduced compelling ways in which boards can remain relevant, collaborative and effective.”

James Carr, P.E.
Civil Engineer | CEDARVILLE ENGINEERING GROUP
Sponsored by BENTLEY SYSTEMS, INC.

**EXPERTISE** Engineering Project Management, Environmental Permitting and Sales

**VOLUNTEERING** Volunteering in the community on weekends

**ATTRIBUTES** Community outreach; collaboration with local municipalities; skills in cost estimation and project management

**SERVICE INTERESTS** Education, Financial Independence, Health

“LCC has taught me about the value a strong board can bring to a nonprofit and the skills and attributes of effective board leadership.”

Stephanie D’Amico
Executive Director | KENNETT AREA SENIOR CENTER

**EXPERTISE** Nonprofit Sector Administration

**VOLUNTEERING** Kennett Square Resale Book Shoppe, local school initiatives, online community groups

**ATTRIBUTES** Over 25 years of work in nonprofit sector, experience in high level teams, training skills

**SERVICE INTERESTS** Education

“The LCC experience has given me the opportunity to meet others interested in helping nonprofits achieve their missions. The comprehensive curriculum has enabled me to be a more effective executive director and future board member.”
Matt Davis
Branch Leader | BB&T, NOW TRUIST FINANCIAL

**EXPERTISE** Consumer and Small Business Banking

**VOLUNTEERING** Planning Committee, Plein Air Brandywine Valley

**ATTRIBUTES** Background in both banking and architecture/planning, concerned with community and local economic focus

**SERVICE INTERESTS** Financial Independence, Health

“We learned that while nonprofits have many aspects and challenges that are unique to their sector, they are not insurmountably different from other models that are more familiar to business/professional communities.”

Sara Dickens-Trillo
Bilingual Program Director | MIGHTY WRITERS

**Sponsored by** LA COMUNIDAD HISPANA, LCH HEALTH AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

**EXPERTISE** Helping kids to write and read with clarity in English and Spanish

**VOLUNTEERING** President of Casa Guanajuato, a nonprofit organization focused on Mexican culture, a board member of LCH and working with Mighty Writers

**ATTRIBUTES** Providing resources to be able to help the Latinx communities

**SERVICE INTERESTS** Education, Health, Cultural

“The LCC was very beneficial and I learned a lot from other nonprofits in the area of West Chester. My experience was wonderful and I recommend this program to any one looking to help their community.”

Tony Hicks
Director of Collections | CITADEL FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

**EXPERTISE** Accounting and Finance, Team Building

**VOLUNTEERING** Knights of Columbus

**ATTRIBUTES** Insight, guidance, effectiveness

**SERVICE INTERESTS** Education, Health

“The introduction to the board experience-the requirements and tools-has been fantastic.”
Jerome Holub  
Vice President, Commercial Banking  
**FULTON BANK**  
**EXPERTISE** Commercial Lending, Banking  
**VOLUNTEERING** Western Chester County Chamber of Commerce, Southern Chester County Chamber of Commerce  
**ATTRIBUTES** Years of experience in finance and lending, and many connections within Montgomery and Chester Counties  
**SERVICE INTERESTS** Education, Health

“Leadership Chester County has provided the knowledge on how to be a valuable and productive board member to any organization.”

Jared Jackson  
Controller  
**KRAPF BUS COMPANY**  
**EXPERTISE** Accounting and Finance  
**ATTRIBUTES** Professional expertise and insight  
**SERVICE INTERESTS** Education, Financial Independence, Health

“Extremely informative, not just for the nonprofit sector but for every day business as well.”

Chad Maloney, Esq.  
Trial Lawyer  
**GOLDBERG, GOLDBERG & MALONEY**  
**EXPERTISE** Litigation-Personal Injury  
**VOLUNTEERING** Volunteer and charitable donations for/to the Crime Victims’ Center of Chester County and Oak Lane Day Care  
**ATTRIBUTES** Legal knowledge, strong leadership experience, active participant  
**SERVICE INTERESTS** Education

“This program opened my eyes to the vibrant nonprofit community in Chester County, while simultaneously teaching me all that goes into being a productive board member on a healthy board.”
Terry Marran  
**Board President and Tutor** | **VOLUNTEER ENGLISH PROGRAM IN CHESTER COUNTY**
Self-sponsored

**EXPERTISE** Product Management, Financial Services

**VOLUNTEERING** Volunteer English Program Tutor since 2017; Board member and Treasurer, 2018-19; President, 2019-

**ATTRIBUTES** Experience with English as a Second Language/ELL programs for adults

**SERVICE INTERESTS** Education


Carla Masciocchi Messikomer, Ph.D.  
**Consultant** | **SELF-EMPLOYED**
Sponsored by **CHESTER COUNTY FAMILY ACADEMY**

**EXPERTISE** Grants, Board Governance, Program and Project Management, Research, Global volunteer management

**VOLUNTEERING** Board Secretary - Chester County Family Academy; Volunteer - St. Agnes Day Room

**ATTRIBUTES** Heart, Hands, and Head

**SERVICE INTERESTS** Education, Health


Kristen Matthews, Esq.  
**Attorney** | **MACELREE HARVEY, LTD.**

**EXPERTISE** Elder Law, Estate & Trust Planning and Administration

**VOLUNTEERING** Beaver Creek Elementary School parent

**ATTRIBUTES** As a lifelong resident of Downingtown, I want to be involved with a local board so I can give back

**SERVICE INTERESTS** Education, Health


“Leadership Chester County is the ‘graduate school’ of board service; it’s the program I wish I’d known about two years ago.”

“LCC teaches us to think critically about and act responsibly on the myriad issues with which boards are confronted. The program is a critical touchstone for board actions and superb vehicle for peer-to-peer learning/collaboration.”

“Leadership Chester County has prepared me to bring more than inspiration and energy to a board. I can now contribute the knowledge I’ve gained to guide the board in a meaningful, valuable, goals-driven way.”
**Jess Mauras**  
**HR Manager, US & Canada | Bentley Systems, Inc.**  
**EXPERTISE** Human Resources  
**VOLUNTEERING** Kiwanis Club  
**ATTRIBUTES** New ideas and the knowledge to build an engaging culture  
**SERVICE INTERESTS** Education  

“The opportunity to network and collaborate with other like-minded individuals has been wonderful; however, the exposure to so many intelligent, passionate, and seasoned nonprofit experts is of the greatest value.”

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**Noelle McConnell**  
**Corporate Account Manager | Bentley Systems, Inc.**  
**EXPERTISE** Sales, Marketing, Event Planning  
**VOLUNTEERING** Big Brothers Big Sisters, United Way of Chester County, American Diabetes Association  
**ATTRIBUTES** Passion and dedication to a number of causes including autism awareness and diabetes awareness  
**SERVICE INTERESTS** Health  

“I have learned from the bottom up how a nonprofit organization should run to be successful. There are so many more nonprofit organizations than I was aware of and LCC gave me exposure to the pursuits of those organizations.”

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**Danielle Mortimer**  
**Marketing Manager | Servpro of West Chester/Southern Delaware County**  
**Sponsored by West Chester Rotary Club**  
**EXPERTISE** Marketing & Sales, Project Management, Networking, Emergency Response & Disaster Recovery  
**VOLUNTEERING** Past experience as a volunteer in fundraising, committee work, community service projects; current West Chester Rotarian; recent COVID-19 efforts  
**ATTRIBUTES** Community connections; service before self  
**SERVICE INTERESTS** Education, Financial Independence, Health  

“LCC has increased my awareness and provided me with great insight into the needs of many. It has provided me with so much valuable information I have applied personally and professionally. I’m looking forward to better serving a nonprofit.”
Joel Necowitz
Retired Financial Executive
Sponsored by THE HICKMAN FRIENDS SENIOR COMMUNITY

**EXPERTISE** Finance, Health and Benefit Administration

**VOLUNTEERING** The Hickman, Board Member

**ATTRIBUTES** Financial planning and strategy, process improvement, excellent analytical skills

**SERVICE INTERESTS** Education, Financial Independence, Health

“LCC has enhanced my knowledge and understanding of nonprofit leadership. I gained a great appreciation of the needs of many in the nonprofit sector in Chester County. The speakers and topics were invaluable.”

Nicole O’Hara, Esq.
Attorney
Sponsored by SAUL EWING ARNSTEIN AND LEHR, LLP

**EXPERTISE** Intellectual property and business law

**VOLUNTEERING** Board member of LifePath Foundation (Bethlehem) and The Neighborhood Center of Allentown

**ATTRIBUTES** Advocacy and fundraising through use of board members’ existing networks

**SERVICE INTERESTS** Education

“LCC offers a way to systematically learn and think critically about leadership. LCC grads, armed with these insights and best practices, will be more effective and impactful board members, employees, and leaders.”

Christine M. Parsons
Sponsored by COMMUNICATIONS TEST DESIGN, INC.

**EXPERTISE** Nursing

**VOLUNTEERING** West Chester YMCA Advisory Board, Saints Peter and Paul Church

**ATTRIBUTES** A high level of dedication and passion to improve

**SERVICE INTERESTS** Education, Health, Children, Family

“LCC gave me the opportunity to meet and learn from many leaders in our community. Our classes were informative and the presentations were exceptional. The information has given me a better understanding of how to be a more effective leader as I continue to support nonprofit organizations in our community.”
“An excellent preparation program to develop my skills to be an active and effective board member!”

Dustin Polis, Ph.D.
Special Education Supervisor | CHESTER COUNTY INTERMEDIATE UNIT

EXPERTISE Special Education
VOLUNTEERING CCRES

ATTRIBUTES A dedicated effort of my skills to improve the lives of others

SERVICE INTERESTS Education

“LCC does a great job of preparing community members for both not-for-profit service and overall community leadership development.”

Collin Raysor
Commercial Banking Officer | TRUIST FINANCIAL CORPORATION

EXPERTISE Finance, Banking, Sales
VOLUNTEERING Coatesville Youth Initiative Board Member/Volunteer

ATTRIBUTES Financial and nonprofit knowledge; leverage my connections

SERVICE INTERESTS Education, Financial Independence, Health

“LCC provided the education to gain the skills to be a productive member of a board. This knowledge will help my future endeavors in the nonprofit community.”

William J. Ronayne
Service Administrator | BRANDYWINE VALLEY HEATING AND AIR CONDITIONING, INC.

EXPERTISE Project Management, Operational Leadership, Customer Service
VOLUNTEERING Volunteer Firefighter, past volunteer with Boy Scouts of America

ATTRIBUTES Leadership qualities, dedication to completing projects

SERVICE INTERESTS Education, Financial Independence
Jennifer Saverio
AVP Commercial Portfolio Manager | MERIDIAN BANK

**EXPERTISE** Portfolio Management, Lending and Credit

**VOLUNTEERING** ALS Association Philadelphia Chapter

**ATTRIBUTES** Professional expertise and work ethic to help with the financial side of an organization

**SERVICE INTERESTS** Education, Financial Independence, Health

“LCC provided me with a better idea of challenges that may come with being on a board. We learned valuable lessons and skill-sets and how to use them to contribute to the nonprofit to continually make it a better organization.”

Gregory J. Shaffer, MBA, MBI
Global Business Consultant | SELF-EMPLOYED
Sponsored by CHESTER COUNTY FAMILY ACADEMY

**EXPERTISE** Global Product, Program, Portfolio, and Process Management, Global Marketing and Sales Operations

**VOLUNTEERING** Board President - Chester County Family Academy

**ATTRIBUTES** Board Governance and Leadership; Critical Thinking; Policy Development; Business Acumen; Technology

**SERVICE INTERESTS** Education, Health

“LCC was the sanity check needed that our board is headed in the right direction and a great place to meet and learn from passionate professionals who want to ‘do-and-spread good’ across the community at large.”

Darshana Shyamsunder
Director, Community Impact Initiatives | UNITED WAY OF CHESTER COUNTY

**EXPERTISE** Community Impact

**ATTRIBUTES** Experience having worked in corporate philanthropy as well as nonprofits

**SERVICE INTERESTS** Education, Financial Independence

“The LCC program gave me the tools I need to serve as an effective board member.”
Joshua Snyder, MBA, MAFM, CHFP  
Controller | PENN MEDICINE CHESTER COUNTY HOSPITAL  
EXPERTISE Accounting and Finance  
VOLUNTEERING Finance Committee Member, Greater West Chester Chamber of Commerce  
ATTRIBUTES Financial expertise to complement operational and strategic decision making for the organization  
SERVICE INTERESTS Education, Financial Independence, Health

Lisa Stash  
Supervisor of Special Education | CHESTER COUNTY INTERMEDIATE UNIT  
EXPERTISE Educational services, Grant writing and Administration  
VOLUNTEERING Volunteers of America; Aid for Friends  
ATTRIBUTES Professional network of connections in education; dedication to children and families  
SERVICE INTERESTS Education

Cate Stoner  
Director, Marketing Campaigns & Promotions | ACCESSLEX INSTITUTE  
EXPERTISE Marketing, Communications, Advertising  
ATTRIBUTES Professional expertise, connections, dedication and time  
SERVICE INTERESTS Education, Health

“Leadership Chester County provides a great foundation for board leadership. I found the experience to beneficial and applicable to things outside of board leadership as well.”

“Leadership Chester County provided valuable insight into the needs of Chester County and how we can give back to support our community.”

“The value of the Leadership Chester County experience is immeasurable. The contacts I’ve met, the presentations that have been shared and the insight I’ve learned about my community is incredible. I’m so happy I did this!”
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