

For Immediate Release



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Leadership Hartsville Applications Now Available

The Greater Hartsville Chamber of Commerce Seeks Applicants and Program Sponsors

Hartsville, SC – The Greater Hartsville Chamber of Commerce is now accepting applications for the 2014-2015 Leadership Hartsville class, which begins September 25. This nine-month leadership development program is designed to identify and cultivate individuals with the interest and potential to serve in our community's many leadership roles.

In its third year, Leadership Hartsville provides participants with opportunities to engage in a comprehensive course in personal, professional and community exploration. The nuts and bolts of community engagement in Hartsville are explored from the experiences of local leaders in education, government, business and non-profit organizations.

Leadership Hartsville begins September 25 with a two-day retreat. Between October and May, the class meets for one full day a month with a second two-day retreat in February. The program covers seven themes of Legacy, Lifestyle, Livelihood, Learning, Leisure, Law and Leadership and culminates in a class project. Class participants collaborate to determine the project, and often spark creative ways to make a positive impact on Hartsville. The Class of 2014 will be installing park benches in downtown Hartsville. The Class of 2013 designed and developed the 'Tales on the Town' downtown scavenger hunt.

Area employers value this program as a way to develop leaders and encourage networking. Participants enjoy the immersive nature of each session, as well as the skill and relationship building that enhances both their resumes and their daily lives as Hartsville residents. Casey Copeland, director of Florence-Darlington Technical College's Hartsville Site is a graduate of the 2013 program. When asked why he felt the experience was so valuable, he replied, "Leadership Hartsville has been one of the most important and rewarding programs that I have been a part of. Learning about various aspects of Hartsville has helped me develop a broader understanding of our strengths and needs as a community. I developed valuable connections that have helped me professionally and have supported

me personally. Leadership Hartsville has helped me strengthen my perspective on the truly interdependent nature of a community."

Applications for the program can be found online at www.hartsvillechamber.org and are available at the Chamber office, 214 N. Fifth Street. Sponsorship opportunities for Chamber member businesses are also available. For more information about the program, please contact the Chamber at (843)332-6401 or admin@hartsvillechamber.org.

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