LEADERSHIP Albert Lea-Freeborn County

What is LEADERSHIP Albert Lea-Freeborn County?
LEADERSHIP Albert Lea-Freeborn County is a community leadership program which provides participants an intense look at business, agriculture, politics, education, quality of life, health care, human services, public safety and diversity of our community. The program is designed as an educational opportunity that enables participants to learn about this area's resources, values, strengths, weaknesses, and challenges. The intent is to motivate and encourage participants to assume individual leadership roles in community affairs. Participants create strong relationships to encourage their future involvement and collaboration in addressing the region's challenges.

Who should apply?
Ideal candidates for LEADERSHIP Albert Lea-Freeborn County are individuals who:

• Are motivated to serve their community and have a passion to make a difference
• Want to cultivate relationships with a network of other community leaders, for both personal and professional benefit
• Have demonstrated an interest in community involvement
• Represent various sectors of the community: business, industry, education, public and private agencies, civic groups and other facets of the community

What is the time commitment involved?
LEADERSHIP Albert Lea-Freeborn County consists of ten sessions the 3rd Tuesday of every month. Participants meet for a full day each month, meeting September through June. In addition, a three hour evening kickoff event is held in August. See specific dates online at: www.riverland.edu/communityleadership or www.albertlea.org. Participants missing more than one scheduled session may be asked to leave the program without a refund of tuition.

Selected applicants will be expected to meet the following commitments:

• Attend all program sessions
• Arrive on time and attend the entirety of each session
• Give a 10 minute presentation at graduation in June

Where will program sessions be held?
This localized program was designed by the Chamber of Commerce in cooperation with Riverland Community College Customized Training & Education. All sessions are facilitated locally and are held at a different location each month.

How do I apply for LEADERSHIP Albert Lea-Freeborn County?
Applications are available online or by contacting either the Chamber of Commerce at 507-373-3938, www.albertlea.org or www.riverland.edu/communityleadership

What is the tuition cost?
Tuition for LEADERSHIP Albert Lea-Freeborn County is $695.00. Tuition is payable at the time a participant is accepted to the program and must be received prior to the August Kickoff session. Scholarship opportunities are available.

Who will review the applications?
A selection committee will review the applications and select the participants for LEADERSHIP Albert Lea-Freeborn County.

When will I find out if I’ve been selected?
A notification letter will be mailed to all applicants in July.

A Community Based Leadership Program

Provided by the Albert Lea-Freeborn County Chamber of Commerce and Riverland Community College
PARTICIPANT TESTIMONIALS

DIANA LEWIS,
Mayo Clinic Health System-Albert Lea & Austin

"Being new to Albert Lea, Leadership allowed me to learn about a variety of programs, organizations, and businesses within Albert Lea. This opportunity provided an opportunity for me to learn more about my leadership style and how I can use my strengths within my day to day job embedded tasks. Many friendships were created to provide community connections. Albert Lea is an amazing place to live, work and play. Thanks AL Chamber of Commerce and Riverland Community College for the opportunity."

DIANE EDWARDS,
Albert Lea Area Schools

"Albert Lea Area Schools has been pleased to have had at least one participant in each of the LEADERSHIP Albert Lea-Freeborn County programs. We intend to continue that commitment to our community’s future by helping our teachers and leaders grow through this community leadership program sponsored by the ALFC Chamber and Riverland Community College. This program is a wonderful professional growth opportunity for both new residents and for life-long residents. It is valuable for those well-versed in leadership and for those emerging into management or leadership roles in our local businesses and industries. The program teaches participants about our great community’s programs, which they can immediately use in their work and in their personal life in town. The program encourages every participant to find a way to ‘pay it forward’ in ways that help our community grow into its best possible future. If we want our community to grow and prosper, we as leaders can do nothing better than to see it that each of our businesses or organizations is well represented every year in the LEADERSHIP Albert Lea-Freeborn County program. Doing so will help our children, families, and our communities grow into a better location for top businesses and people to choose to live their lives.”

JEFF WOODSIDE,
Albert Lea Select Foods

"Albert Lea select foods has had the opportunity to send several of our managers and team leaders through the leadership class. Each one has come away with a new perspective of our community and the opportunities that the city and county offer. The networking and insights they have learned have made a huge impact on their understanding of what it takes to be a leader not only at work but in our communities as well. I highly recommend participating in this Leadership Program.”