

The **Waseca Area Chamber of Commerce** is a federation of business firms, organizations and individuals, large and small, dedicated to the growth, economic development and preservation of a sound business and social climate in the Waseca area. The area's economic well-being is directly related to the caliber of work that is done by the chamber. This is why the Waseca Area Chamber of Commerce is responsive to the ever-changing needs of the community as expressed through their work.

Riverland Community College has partnered with area Chambers of Commerce for over 10 years to offer a Community Leadership program; assisting with the Leadership Greater Waseca's program teaching participants how to frame ideas, build relationships, and mobilize resources, and will relate the activity of the program to that of community engagement.

Founding supporters
Waseca Area Chamber of Commerce
Waseca County
Waseca School District #829:
City of Waseca
Mayo Clinic Health System

A COMMUNITY BASED Biennial LEADERSHIP ACADEMY 2018-2019



Provided by
Waseca Area Chamber of Commerce
Representing Business
Enhancing Community
Promoting Growth



LEADERSHIP Greater Waseca Academy

What: A leadership program designed to enable candidates to learn about Waseca area resources, values, strengths, weaknesses, and challenges. A learning experience geared toward providing an in-depth look at key elements of the community; agriculture, education, government, economic development, healthcare, public safety, quality of life/diversity. This program will provide opportunities for candidates to exchange ideas, build networks and begin the process of identifying and solving important community issues.

Who: A pool of candidates who are current or prospective leaders in the Waseca area community. Candidates are drawn from business, industry, education, public and private agencies, civic groups, and virtually all other facets of the professional community. Class size will be limited.

Program Development: A Waseca Area Chamber-designated "Leadership Advisory Committee" oversees the development of the LEADERSHIP Program. Riverland Community College and the Chamber will assist with individual seminar curriculum development. Curriculum was designed and provided to Riverland Community College by Jim Krile, retired Director of Community Leadership Programs for the Blandin Foundation. Jim served as administrator of the nationally recognized Blandin Community Leadership Program.

Where: This program was encouraged by **city, school, and county leaders** for the chamber to coordinate and design a leadership program. The chamber, in cooperation with Riverland Community College and its Training and Development Division will collaborate on the key elements. All sessions are facilitated locally and focus on topics directly affecting our community.

Why: To develop candidate knowledge and understanding of the community's assets, complexities and potential. To provide an opportunity for participants to meet and exchange ideas with each other and current community leaders. To develop leadership skills through classroom instruction, interactive exercises and small group discussion. The intent is to motivate and encourage participants to assume individual leadership roles in community affairs.

How: A series of leadership training and tours held over a nine month period and conducted by local and regional professionals. Area leaders volunteer their time to raise awareness to the assets and opportunities of the community by providing an in-depth, behind-the-scenes look at key elements. Speakers will nurture leadership development by leading discussions that integrate community information through dialogue, interactive exercise and small group discussion.

Cost: \$795 (non-refundable) – Tuition is payable at the time a participant is accepted to candidacy. Scholarship opportunities are available. Tuition covers all program costs including materials, meals & some transportation.

When: Monthly sessions run September – May, a full day each month, on the **second Wednesday** of the month. (Biennial program)

LEADERSHIP Greater Waseca requires a serious commitment of time and energy. Candidates meet **a full day each month. Attendance is imperative.** Class participants are expected to attend all sessions with the exception of an extreme emergency or illness. Class attendance is essential for graduation.

LEADERSHIP Greater Waseca APPLICATION

Full Name: _____
 Preferred Name: _____
 Company: _____
 Title: _____
 Company Address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
 Work Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____
 E-mail: _____
 Home Address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
 Cell Phone: _____ Is your organization current a member of the Chamber? Yes No

The selection committee will choose participants based on their responses to the following questions. Please answer them as completely as possible on a separate printed page. Attach or submit answers to your completed application form and submit application materials. **Applications lacking proper documentation will not be considered.**

State your professional and educational background or enclose a resume. (include social organization involvement).

2. Describe a professional or community leadership challenge you have undertaken.
3. What do you expect of the program?

In what ways do you think LEADERSHIP Greater Waseca can help you develop your leadership potential?

5. Identify and discuss an issue that you feel is critical to Waseca area.

Who will be paying your tuition?

- Me My Employer A Sponsoring Organization Scholarship Requested (please include letter)

References: List your supervisor and at least one other person who may be contacted by the selection committee

Name: _____ Name: _____

Company: _____ Company: _____

Title: _____ Title: _____

Phone: _____ Phone: _____

Signature of Applicant Date

Signature & Title of Applicant's Sponsor (if appropriate) Date

- How did you learn about LEADERSHIP Greater Waseca? Chamber Newsletter Board Member
 Website Professional colleague/associate Supervisor Other

2018-2019
CALENDAR
 2nd Wednesday

SEPTEMBER 12 – Opening Day
 Strengths & Community Leadership

OCTOBER 10 – Agricultural Day

NOVEMBER 14 – Education Day

DECEMBER 12 – Inspirational Business
 Speakers

JANUARY 9 – Public Safety

FEBRUARY 13 – Economic Development

MARCH 13 – Government Day

APRIL 10 – Health Care Day

MAY 8 – Quality of Life/Diversity &
 Graduation

Program Sponsors
 City of Waseca EDA
 Consolidated Communications
 Waseca County

Lunch Sponsor
 Waseca Public School
 (Education Day)

APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE ONLINE

www.wasecachamber.com

507-835-3260

TESTIMONIALS

When I submitted my Leadership application, for me... it was a way to learn about a community that I work in, and spend a lot of time in. I was hoping to make new connections in this great community. This was a great growth opportunity for me from forming new connections, friendships, and learning about the different areas of Waseca, and strengths... Ways to use my strengths and to recognize other people's strengths. It's been a great experience and I have truly enjoyed the last 9 months. I did make new connections, I did meet new friends, I did learn more about this great community. **Laurie Jensen**

The academy was a great opportunity to network with professionals from many different industries here in our community. Each month there was a focus on key areas to our community that showed how and why it was important. It gave me a different outlook on how the city itself works and that it works better when people get involved. The government day at the capitol gave me a better insight on what it takes to get things done on a larger scale such as the highway 14 project. After completing this course I believe that I am better prepared to help make a positive difference in the community. **Jedidiah Kallow**

Participating in the Leadership program expanded my network of contacts and helped me have a better understanding of the community. The presentations and exercises were interesting and challenging. You had to think and work with others to complete the assigned tasks. **Gary Sandholm**

The Leadership Greater Waseca program was an outstanding experience and opportunity. Being a lifelong resident of Waseca, it was so great to connect and learn about the great businesses and people that make Waseca such a strong community. I am very thankful for the people who organized all the wonderful experiences. **Ben O'Brien**