



Call for Candidates

Leadership Santa Maria Valley Preparing Tomorrow's Leaders Today

Leadership Santa Maria Valley is currently accepting applications for the Class of 2021. This will be our 26th year serving our Community and preparing future Community Leaders! To date, we have over 400 graduates from our program which began in 1995. Interviews will be held in June and July with our Candidate Orientation and Kick-Off Retreat scheduled for August 2020.

Why should you consider Leadership Santa Maria Valley? Are you looking for a way to get more involved in the community? Do you want to expand your circle of influence within the Santa Maria Valley? Would you like to be able to network/connect with the decision makers and key leaders in our area as well as further develop your leadership skills?

“LSMV has been a tremendous benefit for me, both personally and professionally. Learning about our community has been an eye-opening experience; we have many needs and benefits that I was not aware of. Being a class member has opened doors and provided me with new clients and life-long friends” Donna Polizzi, President, Keys to the Coast.

LSMV is an 11-month leadership program designed to foster and create future community leaders. The program allows participants to increase their understanding of local issues, challenges, and solutions while expanding their personal and professional networks and refining their leadership skills. Each Class gives back to the community with their own unique Legacy Project. Founded in 1995, LSMV has over 400 graduates serving in a variety of leadership roles in the government, service and business sectors today.

“LSMV has been an amazing eye-opener and a great wealth of information and an absolute joy to meet an entire group of great new friends! I cannot express the wonderful opportunity that this has been to learn so much more about my community and the services that we provide in our area. I HIGHLY recommend this class to other leaders in the community”. Karen Gridiron, Director of Sales, Radisson Hotel

Students engage and interact with community and civic leaders in areas of Military/Aerospace, Arts and Recreation, Public Safety and Justice, Youth and Education, Health and Human Services, Business and Economic Development, Government, Sustainability and Natural Resources, and Agriculture. The unique mix of monthly day-long seminars and small class atmosphere give participants an unprecedented opportunity to learn about the issues facing their community and to engage with civic leaders.

“LSMV not only allowed me to expand my network and gain new friendships, but also increased my knowledge of the history and offerings of our generous community. I’ve been able to recognize my strengths and weaknesses, while further developing my skills to become a leader with a vision that inspires and motivates people to achieve personal and professional success”. Lacy Litten, Class of 2018, Innovative Produce

Successful communities and businesses require strong leadership. If you are ready to be part of the solution and leadership of the community, please consider joining Leadership Santa Maria Valley.

"This Leadership program has been a great experience for me. I joined leadership to learn more about the Santa Maria Valley, which I did. I just never expected that I would get so much out of the tours and topic days. It is an amazing experience to see what makes our Santa Maria Valley tick and make some really good friends while going through it". Jeff Clarin, Waste Connections

"Definitely a 5-star program!" Hugh Rafferty, Chairman, Coast Hills Federal Credit Union Board of Directors

Applications for LSMV Class of 2021 are now available! Please contact Leadership Santa Maria Valley Program Director, Terri Oneschuck, at terrio@santamaria.com or at 805.925.2403 x824 to request an application.

We look forward to having you join our dynamic program!

Warm Regards,

Terri Oneschuck

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Program Director