



Washington County Leadership Program

“The Potential is Here! Let’s Develop IT!”
Making a difference within our community

PRESS RELEASE

2009-2010 LEADERSHIP I GRADUATING CLASS



The LEADERSHIP I; 2009-2010 Washington County program graduated 16 students April 20, 2010. From top left; Graduate Mick Schlosser, Board Members Sharon Gibson and Renée Godinez, Graduates Kristie Gray, Debbie Mull, Kelly Sexton, Gini Buchanan, Rob Luna, John Casey and Board Member TR Dudley. Front left; Graduates Krista Snyder, Mandy Kamper, Erin Rayfield, Adrienne Logsden, Board Members Joyce Portell and Jaclyn Rowe. Not pictured are Graduates Sherrie Cresswell, Tammy Finley, Tammy Juliette, John Reeves and Lindsey Thebeau.

These individuals dedicated themselves with their employers to attend an eight class program over an eight month period.

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Our proud sponsors included: Washington County and Potosi Industrial Development Authorities, Belgrade State Bank, Casey Farms/Casey Real Estate, DeClue Family Funeral Home, Farm Bureau Insurance - Joyce Portell, First State Community Bank, Gray Counseling Services LLC, Great Mines Health Center, Potosi Chamber of Commerce, Richards Cattle Farms, Robart Chiropractic Care Center, Sure Seal INC, Unlimited Auto Body, Unico Bank, Washington County Ambulance District, Washington County Community Partnership and the Washington County Memorial Hospital. Other contributors included: ALPS, Boo’s Market, Casey’s General Store, Sweet Memories Sandwich Shop, Town and Country Supermarket, YMCA of the Ozarks and music provided at Graduation by “The Gary Greenlee Project”.

2009 Board Directors: John Casey, President; Doris Coffman, Vice President; Tammy Finley, Secretary and Sherrie Brunk, Treasurer. Board Members: Sandy Allison, Debby Bust, TR Dudley, Sharon Gibson, Renée Godinez, Lynn Heins, Joyce Portell, Jaclyn Rowe, Connie Sayers, Krista Snyder, and Donald Thompson.

Overview of the Program

The LEADERSHIP I: 2009-2010 Washington County program held their First Annual kick off Reception at the YMCA Trout Lodge and Camp Lakewood in Potosi, Missouri September 29, 2009. The reception opened with dinner and followed with ice breaking activities led by Daniel Winning with the YMCA TEAMWorks Department, all of which was arranged by Renée Godinez, Director of Development and Alumni Relations at the YMCA.

The reception was a huge success fulfilling the purpose of bringing the participants and Board Members together for a networking experience and to meet and greet the next generation of potential leaders. The LEADERSHIP I: 2009-2010 Washington County program was established in June 2009 and placed on the fast track to coordinate dynamic speakers with expertise from both near and beyond our region. The presenters were chosen because of their unique abilities to communicate the leadership traits necessary for the 2009-2010 class to become successful leaders in the community. The students involved in the LEADERSHIP I: 2009-2010 Washington County program are county-based individuals who feel the need and passion to make a difference for the future of our children and to contribute to the long-term growth of our county.



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Throughout each session the class witnessed the *Mystery Guest Speakers* from right here in our community to share their experience and why they choose to reside in our county.

Dr. James Robart II grew up in Potosi and graduated Potosi High School, graduated from Logan College of Chiropractic University and brought his profession back to our community. Dr. Robart quoted, “Potosi and Washington County is a great place to live, raise children, own a company and invest in the county.” Dr. Robart and his wife Janie are very supportive of programs that show progress and he has offered his services in helping our Leadership cause with the city and local government. They have a vested interest in the community and are very thankful for small town hospitality, and it shows.

Mrs. Dorothy Lore shared her experiences personally and professionally as a Washington County Native. Mrs. Lore, known as Mrs. Dorothy, has lived in the area all her life. She has worked for the Washington County Library for 32 years and has been the Librarian for the past 11 years. Mrs. Dorothy shared her experience and has seen a lot happen in the community. One of the ways she gives back to the community is by holding story time weekly at the library for young children and conducts summer reading programs for the older children.



Jeannie Brown shared her story of overcoming a life changing experience and raising 8 children on her own. She spoke of the people of the county who came together and helped her to overcome obstacles, which allowed her to obtain a college education. Ms. Brown went back to school and earned her degree and is currently employed through the Washington County Drug Court as a DOC Probation Officer.

Jaclyn (Silvey) Rowe was more than a speaker. She was part of the program. Jaclyn demonstrated to the class, with class involvement, how to determine an individual’s personality traits and how to understand and “have patience” with someone who has a different personality type. One of the struggles we have in our society is coping with opinions, attitudes and personalities. Jaclyn’s program shed light on understanding how different personalities interact, and also helped the class form a stronger bond with each other. Another part of Jaclyn’s program also demonstrated proper etiquette to be performed when being involved with the community. She taught the class how to properly introduce yourself and which fork to use for your salad. Everyone learned something from this session.

Kathy Silvey shared her experiences and indicated the importance of being involved in your community. She gave strong merit to Jaclyn’s program and the success she has had.

Jerry Sansegraw, President of the Mine Au Breton Historical Society gave a brief overview of the county and its heritage. Jerry spoke about the history of the area and read literature from historic books and brought materials to show the class.



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On of the sessions included speakers from our county’s school district. It was a very informative. The first speaker of the morning was Randy Davis, Potosi R-3 Superintendent. Mr. Davis’ Topic was “The Value of a Higher Education”. He spoke about how education was key to his success. He spoke of educators who made a difference in his life as a young man and the college education needed to be a superintendent. He talked about what parts of the county are incorporated into the Potosi District, attendance rates, dropout rates, accreditation, and graduation rates and the struggles associated with being a smaller district.



Patricia Briseno, Director of Adult Education of the Kingston K-14/Community School began her opening statement about life experiences that helped her get to where she is today and the challenges starting and running the Kingston Community School. The Community School was started to help high school drop outs obtain a diploma not just a GED. According to Mrs. Briseno, many employers as well as the military now require a “Diploma”. The Community School offers flexible schedules, day and evening classes, and online programs to anyone ages 17-100. The cost of attending the Community School is just

\$5.00 per credit hour. The program started in 2002 with one student and now has more than 170 students.



Our next guest was Laurie Huff, Principal/Superintendent of the Richwoods School District. Ms. Huff spoke about her education and how she manages her dual roles as both Principal and Superintendent. She spoke of the many challenges of working and running a truly rural school district and why furthering education is so important. Ms. Huff indicated the District has adopted four categories of goals, which may be related to either formalized school experiences or individual attainment: Intellectual, Physical, Social and Career Development.



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Lindell Coleman represented Missouri Baptist University in the Mineral Area. Mr. Coleman was a former educator of the Potosi School District and now represents Missouri Baptist University. He spoke about the undergraduate and graduate programs that are offered at the new location in Leadington and maintaining Leadership is a key component. Mr. Colman shared a story with the class about perseverance and told the class to, “Never give up on our dreams!”



The students were able to witness first hand a City Council Workshop followed by a tour and the opportunity to meet our county officials at the County Court House. The City Council was very gracious in cooperating and gave a brief description of their roles as Aldermen and Alderwomen. The students experienced how the city government is run and how meetings are conducted. The class observed the reading of ordinances and was able to ask questions directly to the council.

The visit to the Court House was very informative also. Each department took time to meet with the class and speak to them about their job function and how they serve the community. The class had the opportunity to see the courtroom and how the judicial process works. They also had in-depth conversations with some of the officials, who stressed that involvement in the community is a must. The students were impressed and overwhelmed by the job duties of a public official.



The final class was a visit to the Missouri State Capitol. While at the capitol they had the opportunity to tour the capitol and some braved the climb to the top and experienced a breath taking view of Jefferson City. Representative Belinda Harris and her assistant were very helpful in coordinating the entire event. The class experienced going on the floor on the House of Representatives to watch debates, and had a one-on-one meeting with both Representatives Harris and Kuesner. Senator Engler met with the class while observing debates on the Senate floor and gave the class a personal tour of his office. While at the Capitol, the class had the bonus opportunity of seeing the Governor’s Chambers and catching a little history lesson.



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Throughout the entire program the students gained knowledge about how to get involved in our community, make their voices heard, and effect positive changes.

As a result of the class, graduates from the program implemented the project initiated by the Potosi Chamber of Commerce for the “Welcome to Potosi” Signs. With the students’ involvement, this project has moved forward with the first sign already erected at Highway 21 and Highway E Intersection. This proves that “Working together, **WE** can accomplish anything!”

Testimonials from the LEADERSHIP I: 2009-2010 class:

As quoted.....

“The leadership program gave me a “jump start” to become a more effective leader. It inspired me to speak up and write letters to our legislators on current issues. The program allowed me to build some good working relationships with other leaders in the community. The program also gave me knowledge of the variety of resources that are available to our community and how to utilize. I enjoyed each of the sessions we had each month. One of my favorite sessions was sitting in on the City Workshop and going to the Courthouse to learn all of the different job functions.”

~ Mandy Kamper

*“What the Leadership Program has taught me.....
I am a lifelong resident of Washington County. I have always wondered why the community did not have more to offer, or why downtown Potosi did not have street lamps, landscaping, or signs like other local cities, or why we did not have a community pool or designated walking, hiking and biking trails. After going thru the Leadership Program, I have discovered that “I am the community.” I can make a difference. I can become more involved.*

Working on the “Welcome to Potosi” sign project has been an eye-opening and learning experience for me. I have found that things do not happen overnight. Along the way, there has been some red tape, many phone calls, and many meetings regarding this project, as well as sacrifice of personal time. What seemed like a “simple project” to me, has entailed more than I would have imagined. I now have a newfound respect for projects that have made it to completion in our community. Our project group has also had to deal with naysayers regarding our sign project. One person personally commented to me that the City of Potosi had wanted to put “welcome signs” in place for 10 long years, so it was never going to happen. I was happy to inform them that it was happening, as plans had been drawn, material had been ordered, and permits had been granted.

Community involvement and community leadership is important to our local community’s advancement and survival.

I have been energized, enlightened, educated, and entertained during my leadership program training. This is training that I would recommend to everyone.”

~ Debbie Mull



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“Very informative training that taught me all levels of government from city to state. I gained knowledge and friendships with lots of other local leaders that I can now network with. I also learned how to get involved with projects to improve our community, such as, the new “Welcome to Potosi” signs.”

~ Lindsey Thebeau

“What I enjoyed most about my participation in the Washington County Leadership Program is the opportunity I had to network and share with other members of our community. I also learned a great deal about our local and state government and ways that I can communicate with our elected officials. I believe the time spent attending the presentations of this program were beneficial to me as a business owner and as a citizen.”

~ Mick Schlosser

“As a local entrepreneur, I gained great insight about the leaders of our community and what it takes to follow in their footsteps to help Washington County grow and prosper. I am looking forward to working with my fellow graduates on future projects to help better our community.”

~ Rob Luna



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We are pleased to announce the LEADERSHIP I: 2010-2011 Washington County Program

This program is designed to assist community individuals to understand the concept of what it takes to become a Leader. Learn how to overcome conflict with communication, deal with different personalities, how to negotiate and utilize the skills you may already have to develop Your Leadership Potential. Individuals looking for an opportunity to become involved in their community and make a difference should enroll. Learn how to grow with your community’s potential and reach common goals to make Washington County a place where families want to live and raise their children and boost our local economy.

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The objective of LEADERSHIP I: 2010-2011 Washington County program is to ensure the continuing vitality of our County Community by providing for a planned and continuing source of motivated leaders who are educated about the community and its issues and trained to accept future leadership roles in Washington County. Class sessions focus on leadership traits, challenges and opportunities for Washington County through comprehensive exposure to a variety of topics pertinent to our communities, county and state. Students will be introduced to the concepts of Servant Leadership and 21st Century Leadership Capacities. Individuals’ learning styles are identified. Diversity analyses that will assist leaders in the elements of facilitation and consensus building are emphasized.

The kickoff dinner is set for January 18, 2011 and the first class to begin on February 8, 2011. Each class will be held at the Washington County Library on the second Tuesday of each month and with graduation in August 2011. Each class will begin at 8:30 am and end at 3:30 pm with a workshop till 4:30 pm.

If you would like to participate in the program or inquire about the program please contact Krista Snyder at 573-438-6196 or ksnyder@washingtoncomo.com.