



*Building a network of informed, engaged
and connected leadership for Virginia*



The *LEAD VIRGINIA* program

- Incorporated in 2005 as a charitable and educational organization
- Statewide leadership organization focusing on proven leaders
- Non-partisan, non-profit, educational program
- Applications due January 15 each year
- April-November annual program
- Recruiting now for *LEAD VIRGINIA*'s fifth class year





Why a state leadership program?

- Raises level of understanding about challenges & opportunities within the state and among regions
- Creates opportunities for Virginia's leaders to learn from each other, exchange resources and build a statewide network of colleagues
- Provides a forum for leaders to discuss issues and broaden perspectives, creating visionary solutions and momentum for positive change
- Strengthens capacity of leaders to build trust and relationships across regions and the state (i.e. social capital)
- Prepares leaders to lend their expertise and serve at regional and statewide levels





What does it mean to build social capital?

- John Gardner: “The most expensive piece of real estate in this nation is common ground.”
- Social capital: an intangible resource that enables people to come together in an environment of trust to promote the common good
- Allows us to create a shared perspective – and work together to address issues that impact us all as Virginians





Class member testimonials

- *“LEAD VIRGINIA is one of the most impactful activities I have participated in during my professional life. In bringing together classmates from various regions of the state and visiting those regions, we are better equipped to focus on the critical issues that will benefit the Commonwealth as a whole. What I have learned is that the Commonwealth can only succeed if all of the regions are appropriately represented at the table.”*
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“It is impossible to describe the impact these sessions have made on my understanding of the challenges faced by, and the innovative solutions being deployed in Virginia. I felt that I grew as a person and as a professional through our interactions with not only the extremely diverse and capable speakers, but also through the time I spent with my incredible classmates.”



“From our sessions I have been able to either initiate or be invited to participate in several projects. While I need to reach all of Virginia, the focus of this work is Southwest and Southside And most recently includes an invitation to participate in a very large innovation grant the goal of which is to create a workforce talent pipeline in Southside Virginia.”



Who participates?

- Diverse group of thought leaders in their respective fields; approximately 40 senior-level executives from across Virginia representing:
 - Private sector: large and small businesses
 - Public sector: elected and appointed government officials
 - Nonprofit sector: educational institutions, nonprofit agencies, healthcare institutions





Curriculum

- Themes

- Economy
- Education
- Health

- Mediums

- Presentations
- Case studies and analyses
- Deliberative discussions
- On-site field studies





How do I apply?

- Application deadline for the 2009 class:
January 15, 2009
- Nominations
- Selection criteria
- Tuition
- Contact info:
 - Phone: 804-237-1461
 - E-mail: shorne@leadva.org





How can you help?

- Share *LEAD VIRGINIA*'s story to ensure that every region is well represented in each class
- Host a regional session or site visit
- Invest in *LEAD VIRGINIA* as a Sponsor
- For additional information, visit:
www.leadvirginia.org





The *LEAD VIRGINIA* Experience: Class Members' Perspectives

- *“Seeing the big picture.”*
- *“A powerful story.”*
- *“I came away with an entirely different view of the diversity and richness of the Commonwealth and was encouraged to approach local issues with this broader context in mind.”*





The *LEAD VIRGINIA* Experience: Class Members' Perspectives

- *“Understanding the economic transformation that will take place over the next generation with education, workforce development and economic opportunity at the core of that change. This is truly transformational leadership that will impact generations to come.”*





Questions?

www.leadvirginia.org

