

NEWS

VOLUNTEER CENTER OF BERGEN COUNTY, INC.

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For immediate release
February 22, 2011

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Repeat through March. 23, 2011

Civic Leadership Program Hosts Open Houses for Interested Candidates

North Jersey—Informational Open Houses are planned for March to introduce the community to Bergen LEADS, an innovative, 10-month civic leadership program for adults who live or work in Bergen County. Bergen LEADS is sponsored by the Volunteer Center of Bergen County.

Under the guidance of former Bergen County Executive William “Pat” Schuber, the LEADS Seminar Director, participants are immersed in a stimulating curriculum that not only introduces them to topical issues of local importance, but also enables them to explore their leadership styles, enhance their leadership capacity and become meaningfully engaged in helping to solve some of the challenges facing Bergen County.

Applications are now being accepted for the Bergen LEADS Class of 2012, which will begin meeting in September, 2011. The application form can be downloaded at www.bergenleads.org and is due by April 8. Each candidate must fill in a simple individual profile form and provide essay answers to specific questions.

Free Informational Open Houses for potential applicants will be held on the following dates:

- Wednesday, Mar. 9—Matisse Chocolatier, 260 Grand Ave., Englewood, 11:30 am -1:00pm

- Monday, March 21—Volunteer Center of Bergen County, 64 Passaic Street, Hackensack, 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm.
- Thursday, March 24 – Meadowlands Regional Chamber of Commerce, 201 Route 17 North, Rutherford, 8:30 – 10:00 am.

Those interested in attending an Open House must pre-register. To register, contact Amanda Missey at (201) 489-9454, x119 or email amissey@bergenvolunteers.org

”A persistent question facing leaders in every sector is where will the next generation of leaders come from?,” says Janet Sharma, the Center’s executive director. “Bergen LEADS will help provide the answer by preparing acknowledged and aspiring leaders to take the helm in the years ahead.”

“Diversity of participants is essential,” continues Mrs. Sharma. Applicants are encouraged from business, nonprofit, civic and faith-based organizations and government agencies as well as from the community at large. Bergen LEADS seeks representation from the broad array of ethnic, racial, religious and socio-economic groups within Bergen County.

Bergen LEADS also has an active alumni component – Alumni of Bergen LEADS (ABL) – which sponsors events, forums and other networking vehicles to keep LEADS alumni engaged and active in Bergen County.

For more information about Bergen LEADS, call 201-489-9454. x119, or email amissey@bergenvolunteers.org.

Founded by the Junior League in 1966, the mission of the Volunteer Center of Bergen County is to strengthen the community by connecting people with opportunities to serve, operating model volunteer programs, building capacity for effective volunteering, and participating in strategic partnerships that meet community needs.

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