

Develop • Connect • Impact

**BASTROP
ELGIN
SMITHVILLE
TEXAS**

BECOME A LEADER IN YOUR COMMUNITY AND BEYOND!

PARTICIPATE IN THE 2016-2017

B.E.S.T. LEADERSHIP PROGRAM!

The B.E.S.T Leadership Program was founded in 2004 as means to cultivate community and business leaders in Bastrop County. The program identifies and encourages current and potential leaders by acquainting them with local needs and building an understanding of how individual talents can work together to build a more successful community. Participants are given unique insights into city, county and state level organizations which allow them to build a more in-depth perspective of their own community's opportunities and challenges. Participants also receive training in the art of leadership itself, strengthening their ability to make a positive impact at home, work, and in the public forum. The eight session course will be led by Nicki Harle, a community development professional with more than 20 years of experience in development and enrichment of community-based organizations. Ms. Harle's guidance represents a fresh and expanded approach to what has already become an impactful program for Bastrop County. Participation is limited, so don't wait.

Submit your application to the B.E.S.T. Leadership Program today!



B.E.S.T. Leadership *(Bastrop*Elgin*Smithville*Texas)*

PURPOSE

The purpose of B.E.S.T. LEADERSHIP is to develop motivated, skilled and effective leaders who will contribute to the future growth and direction of Bastrop County.

OBJECTIVES

- Identify and select highly motivated new and emerging leaders to participate in a 9 month program.
- Motivate class participants to assume the responsibilities and opportunities inherent in the leadership program.
- Provide information to class participants on the key organizational structure within the County.
- Acquaint class participants with strengths, challenges, problems and needs of the County.

METHODS

- Eight sessions beginning in September 2016 and ending in May 2017 (no session in December).
- Sessions will be held the 4th Thursday of each month except for November when the class will meet the 3rd Thursday.
- The first session is mandatory to continue in the class. More than one absence in the remaining 7 sessions results in ineligibility to graduate from the B.E.S.T. Leadership Program in the current year. (Registration fee is non-refundable after Session 1)
- Each session will provide information on subjects relating to government, economic development, county asset mapping, civic affairs, and leadership and cooperative efforts within the County. County leaders and experts from state government will be presenters during the course.
- Sessions will be conducted in various locations throughout the County.
- Upon completion of the course, participants will be encouraged to seek and accept leadership roles in the County or in their respective community.

MORE DETAILS

All applicants for the B.E.S.T. Leadership program must be at least 18 years of age.

The registration fee for the B.E.S.T. Leadership class is \$500/person. The fee covers facilitation of sessions, instruction, meals, notebook, speaker cost and any miscellaneous expenses.

Each class will be given the opportunity to identify a project for their class to complete during the year.

Class participants may self-register or be registered by a family member, an associate or an employer. Applications will be accepted at the Bastrop Chamber office. If there are more than 18 applications, there will be a review/selection process conducted by the B.E.S.T. Leadership committee to insure the diversity of the group. If not selected for the current class, the applicant will be on a waiting list that will be maintained for future class opportunity.

CURRICULUM OUTLINE

SESSION 1 (9/22/2016) Know Yourself & Know Your Neighbor

Personality and temperament identification, class member background exchange, assignments to be completed during the course of the class, class picture

SESSION 2 (10/27/2016) Leadership Knowledge

Team building activity, presentations on conducting meetings, visioning, action plans, networking, servant leadership, resources for communities and community leaders

SESSION 3 (11/17/2016) State Government in Action

Visit State Capitol, overview of legislative process, insights from agency representatives, meet with elected officials

SESSION 4 (1/26/2017) Elements of a Strong Community

Team building activity, overview on quality of life elements, economic development basics, local economic drivers, taxing entities, diversity, working with volunteers and engaging citizens

SESSION 5 (2/23/2017) County Government in Action

Meet county officials; learn functions of county government, jury duty, incarceration, emergency management and more

SESSIONS 6, 7, 8 Spotlight on Elgin (3/23/2017), Smithville (4/27/2017), Bastrop (5/25/2017)

Spotlight on community: history highlights, insights to local challenges and success stories, and panel presentations on municipal government, energy & utilities, healthcare and education

2016/2017
B.E.S.T Leadership
*(Bastrop*Elgin*Smithville*Texas)*
Application

Name (last, first, middle)

Preferred name for badge

Date and place of birth

Home address (with zip code)

Name of Company/organization

Business Address (with zip code)

Title of Position held

Cell phone

Business phone

Email address

Preferred means of communication: Text Email Phone

Preferred mailing address: Home Business

If married, spouse's name: _____

Describe your primary occupation and duties, if applicable: _____

Provide previous employment history: _____

Describe your volunteer, civic, and community activities during the past five years, noting any special awards and citations:

B.E.S.T. Leadership Application, page 2

Provide information about your education, all levels: _____

What issues in our curriculum interest you the most? _____

Your opinion & expectations:

In your opinion what are two issues in the county or in your community that need to be addressed?

Why have you applied to participate in the leadership program?

What do you expect to gain from participation in the leadership program?

Attach one photograph and up to two letters of recommendation.

My organization is prepared to cover tuition if I am accepted. (\$500)

I will assume responsibility for the tuition if accepted. (\$500)

By submitting the application, I understand the required mandatory attendance for Session 1 and that more than one absence will disqualify me from graduating with the class this year.

Signature

Date

Print Name

Application deadline - August 12, 2016 - Your application cannot be considered until all requested information and attachments have been received. **Please make all checks payable to the Bastrop Chamber of Commerce.**

Send to: Bastrop Chamber of Commerce
927 Main Street
Bastrop, TX 78602
phone: (512) 303-0558 / email: info@bastropchamber.com

ALL QUESTIONS ON THIS APPLICATION ARE MEANT TO INSURE DIVERSITY, NOT TO LIMIT PARTICIPATION.