

NEWS

VOLUNTEER CENTER OF BERGEN COUNTY, INC.

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How Can Non-Profits Do More With Less?

Public Forum will explore funding and service provision in this challenging economy

North Jersey - The Great Recession--and slow recovery--have ushered in a "new normal" in the non-profit sector. In an era of diminishing resources and increasing need, Bergen County non-profits are scrambling to provide much needed services and fulfill their missions. This challenge will be the topic at the upcoming public forum presented by the graduating class of Bergen LEADS, the premier civic leadership program for adults sponsored by the Volunteer Center of Bergen County. The forum will be moderated by Nina Stack, president of the NJ Council of Grantmakers.

The event, sponsored by TD Bank, PSEG and Synetek Solutions, will be held on Tuesday, June 11, 2013, from 3-5 pm at Bergen Community College's Ciccone Theater, 400 Paramus Road in Paramus. The event is free and open to the public, but pre-registration is required; call 201-489-9454 Ext. 119.

"When faced with dwindling funds, the traditional response would be to either cut services or grow revenue," says William "Pat" Schuber, former Bergen County Executive and Bergen LEADS seminar director. "Many organizations, already lean, have cut expenses to the bone, severely hampering their ability to meet their mission. On the revenue side, more and more organizations are competing for scarce dollars, often with little success."

The Bergen LEADS Class of 2013 will explore current practices, both locally and in other communities, then make recommendations on ways in which Bergen County non-profit organizations could do business differently to meet the economic challenges of this "new normal."

The 27 men and women in the Bergen LEADS Class of 2013 have met monthly since September to dissect issues, debate viewpoints and get a first-hand look at Bergen County's infrastructure. The Forum is the culmination of the seminar year for the Class of 2013. Members of the graduating class are:

Karen Acker (Milford, PA); Denise Andersen (Paramus); Walter Beese (Carlstadt); Jeff Chandler (Hackensack); Cynthia Chazen (Demarest); Frances Cogelja (Hackensack); Natalie Cullen (Hoboken); Mark DeGuzman (Hackensack); Karen DiMaria (Hackensack); Betty Garger (Sparta); Rachel Glickman (Paramus); Kathleen Hansen (Rutherford); Meredith Lee (Glen Rock); Carole Lotito (Cresskill); Jeanne Martin (Haworth); Sharyn Matthews (West Milford); Michael Miklas (Wyckoff); Evan Miller (Hopewell); Carolyn Myles (Hackensack); Alexandra Noriega (Lodi); Daniel Polin (Ramsey); Daniel Ritson (Hoboken); Paul Schatz (Waldwick); Emil Stern (Teaneck); Marc Sturiale (Glen Rock); Susan Usatine (River Edge); and Vito Viscomi (North Arlington).

To register for the forum and for further information, email amissey@bergenvolunteers.org or call 201-489-9454 ext. 119.

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 direct service volunteer programs, building capacity for effective volunteering, and participating in strategic partnerships that meet community needs.



The 2013 graduating class of Bergen LEADS, Bergen County's premier leadership program for adults, will host a forum, *How Can Bergen County Non-Profits Do More with Less?*

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