

BERGEN LEADS REPORT CARD 2011

Dear Friends,

2011 was an exciting year for Bergen LEADS! Newly-elected County leadership wholeheartedly supports the program. Alumni total 86 – our “network of networks” continues to expand. Our partnership with the Meadowlands Chamber has brought us healthy geographic diversity. And our decision to continue Fifth Friday luncheons under the Bergen LEADS banner has met with unprecedented success.

For us, growing Bergen LEADS is a labor of love. It's essential to the future of Bergen County. It's also fun, fascinating and immensely fulfilling to be part of such an amazing program. Read on for more highlights from 2011... Pat, Lynne and Amanda



William “Pat” Schuber
Seminar Director
Bergen LEADS

Lynne H. Algrant
Seminar Co-Director
Bergen LEADS

Amanda Missey
Director
Bergen LEADS

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR

PUBLIC FORUM ON THE FUTURE OF EDUCATION

The culminating event of the seminar year took place at Bergen Community College in June. The Forum provided an opportunity for members of the Class of 2011 to present recommendations to 200 community leaders on strategies to reduce the cost of public education by restructuring the way that schools do business.

BOARDLINK

3,600 non-profits call Bergen County home, and they all need knowledgeable and engaged leaders. Enter Bergen LEADS BoardLink, an in-depth skill development program for board members. Eleven LEADS graduates and nine others completed the course, which will be offered twice a year.

“I LEARNED THERE ARE SOME VERY REAL ISSUES I CAN IMPACT RIGHT HERE AT HOME.”



KIMBERLY CAESAR, CL09
JOSEPH M. SANZARI CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL



“THE LEADERSHIP SKILLS I DEVELOPED AND CONNECTIONS I MADE WILL LAST A LIFETIME.”



JOSE VICENTE, CL11
AMERIPRISE FINANCIAL SERVICES



“MY BERGEN LEADS EXPERIENCE OFTEN AFFECTS HOW I APPROACH MY ROLE AS MAYOR.”



RAY CYWINSKI, CL10
UNITED WATER | MAYOR OF DEMAREST



LEADERSHIP TOOLBOX

2011 brought an enhanced leadership development curriculum, designed to give our graduates the tools they need to lead in an increasingly complex world. We expanded our team to include Michele Brown, certified executive coach, who guides the class throughout the year on both personal development and team dynamics. We also retooled the diversity seminar, shifting from our more typical Issue Day approach to one that focuses on introspection and personal development – a learning laboratory for leading in a diverse world.

ALUMNI OF BERGEN LEADS (ABL)

ABL is a dynamic graduate organization created to maintain and develop relationships, serve the community, learn about local needs and resources, influence public policy and ensure program sustainability. ABL hosted social events, provided holiday gifts for needy neighbors, volunteered for service projects and sponsored Breakfast with Bergen LEADS. ABL members are also the moving force behind sponsorship of Fifth Friday luncheons, a powerful networking and learning event which will be presented by Bergen LEADS beginning in 2012.

CITIZENSHIP

Each September, we administer the Civic Engagement Survey to members of the new class, then we do it again about eight months after they complete the program. Bergen LEADS classes of 2009 and 2010 get an A+ for encouraging civic engagement:

- 40% increase in working to resolve a community issue
- 35% increase in voting in local elections
- 133% increase in campaigning for a candidate or cause
- 31% increase in advocating for a political candidate
- 31% increase in contributing to political campaign(s)
- 66% increase in raising money for charities

95% actively volunteer for a charitable cause!

BERGEN LEADS IS A PROGRAM OF THE VOLUNTEER CENTER OF BERGEN COUNTY



WWW.BERGENLEADS.ORG



FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK, TWITTER AND LINKEDIN



64 PASSAIC STREET
HACKENSACK, NJ 07601
201-489-9454

WWW.BERGENVOLUNTEERS.ORG