



LeaderReader

SEPTEMBER 2020 EDITION

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Kimberly Berfield, '97, Board President

It has been said, "The best way to predict the future is to create it." We are proud to be part of creating a brighter and healthier tomorrow for our community.

Thanks to Matt Campbell, we have our first social distancing alumni event set for Sunday, Sept. 13 from 1 to 4 p.m. with the Three Rooker Island Raft Up. This event will allow all alumni to come as you are by boat, floatplane, parachute, or Uber virtual teleport. We hope alumni, friends and family members will come out to one of our local barrier islands for some good, old-fashioned, outdoor, social distance fun!

In preparation for our Class of 2021, we have begun efforts to formalize an annual Leadership Pinellas Service Project Request for Proposal (RFP) to secure project applications. This class will be voting on their service project during their new member orientation retreat. More will be shared about this next month.

On the website, you will find the video presentation outlining information regarding our monthly programs. They will be restructured to align with the Stay Safe environment guidelines adopted by the Board. Allie Chandler will be sharing more with you about these safety protocols in this newsletter.

During September, we will be establishing committees (including program day committees) reflected on the interest indicator. We will be hosting two planning meetings for our program day volunteers in September. The first meeting will be on Sept. 22 at 6 p.m. to discuss with those who volunteered to participate in our topic specific days (Criminal Justice, Education, Health, Emergency Services and Human Services). The second meeting will be held on Sept. 24 at 6 p.m. to discuss the regional days, which will include the remaining community facets. If you responded to the interest indicator, you will receive an invite for the appropriate meeting.

Moreover, if you are interested in serving on a regional day (North, Clearwater, Mid, South) please email contact@leadershippinellas.com.

As new leaders are emerging with diverse skills to support and establish community and business in Pinellas County, and for those with the desire to make a difference, we will be providing our Cornerstone Intensive Leadership program.



Information Sessions:

- Sept. 9, 8–8:30 a.m.
- Sept. 9, 7–7:30 p.m.

The application is available on the Leadership Pinellas website.

- Class 2021 Application deadline: Sept. 18, 2020 by 5 p.m.
- Applicant Interviews: Oct. 5-8, to be determined virtually or in-person
- New Member Orientation Retreat: Dec. 4–5
- Program begins: January 2021

For more information, please visit our website **www.leadershoppinellas.com** or contact us at **contact@leadershoppinellas.com**.

This year our new member orientation retreat will be unique to the Class of 2021. We will be partnering with Collaborative Labs at St. Petersburg College. A strengths-based, team building, self-educational, and organizational experience will be provided over the two-day period. Dependent upon CDC, local and state guidance, we will determine whether this Class experience will be in-person or virtual.

While this is a critical time for a new generation of leaders to emerge and develop the knowledge and skill set needed to move us forward, you will be hearing from Brian Siracusa regarding our Youth Leadership Pinellas program.

As you can see, our Board of Directors has made some difficult decisions to establish a safe, healthy environment where we can offer our cornerstone program as well as alumni events. None of these decisions have been taken lightly or made easily. However, the strength of Leadership Pinellas is in each of us coming together to ensure the leader of tomorrow is educated and prepared today for the challenge that will lie before him or her.

Thank you for your ongoing support, and, if you have not renewed your membership, take a moment and do so now.

Loyally,

Kimberly Berfield
Johns Hopkins All Children's
Leadership Pinellas President



NEWS FROM ALP

Jennifer McGrail '99, Executive Director

Programs like Leadership Pinellas are not unique to our area or state but are widespread across the country. The national organization, Association of Leadership Programs (ALP), puts on regional and national conferences to keep staff and board members up to date on programming trends, collaborate with other leadership programs, share ideas of successes, and more.

For the last few months, ALP has been a convener and facilitator for community leadership programs going virtual and digital. Program members have shared their technical expertise, innovative ideas, and experience in adapting community leadership development to virtual platforms and social distancing.

At the onset of COVID challenges, ALP immediately recognized the opportunity to assist community leadership programs in adapting and responding to the situation. After three months of free virtual learning sessions to support community leadership programs across the country, the ALP held a two-day virtual conference at the end of July. Over 300 attendees representing more than 100 community leadership programs from 23 states. This exciting paradigm shift from a traditional in-person conference to entirely online further demonstrated ALP's ability to adapt and innovate.

Now leadership programs across the country, along with ALP, are putting together virtual learning opportunities open to all alumni on a regular basis. Several groups have had discussions around relevant topics like belonging in a workplace, social justice, and fair and balanced elections. Leadership Pinellas is offering these sessions to alumni as they become available. You will receive an email with upcoming program topics with a link to register. These sessions are free to you as alumni of Leadership Pinellas.

You may remember that we recently sent you a survey initiated by Leadership Rhode Island. They have taken the lead in creating a national network of leadership alumni and have been actively hosting online Zoom meetings with leaders across the country.

As these online programs and speaker series become available, I will be sending out the registration links for you to sign up and attend as you like. Many are offered at no cost to you while some may have a minimal fee. On many, registration is limited, so if you see a topic of interest to you, do not hesitate.

This benefit of your alumni status has never been available in this capacity. In the past, these topics and discussion rooms benefited those attending national or regional conferences. While Leadership Pinellas has sent representatives from time to time, we can now offer this information to our entire alumni base. As the saying goes, "When one door closes, another one opens." These programs result from ALP canceling all in-person conferences and meetings, and alumni nationwide now have the opportunity to participate.

Sept. 9, 9:30 a.m. EST: **How to Lead Teams**

How to Lead Teams Through and Beyond a Crisis.

Presented by Louisville Leadership Center, KY

Register here: <https://app.etapestry.com/onlineforms/LeadershipLouisville/9-9-20.html>

If you have any questions, contact me at **contact@leadershippinellas.com**.

Jennifer McGrail '99
Executive Director

RECRUITMENT EVENTS

Leadership Pinellas is still accepting applications for the LP Class of 2021. We have made every effort to offer a robust experience for the Class of 2021 that will kick off later this year. Adjustments in schedules and some innovative programming will ensure the class can expect a full Leadership Pinellas curriculum. We will host two recruitment Zoom sessions on Wednesday, Sept. 9 for any of your colleagues, coworkers, and friends. They can log on at 8 a.m. or 7 p.m. for the updated information on what to expect this year along with retreat and program dates. Applications will be accepted until Sept. 18.

Guests must pre-register for these sessions. After registering, guests will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting. Please forward the following registration links to anyone who would be a fit for Leadership Pinellas.

Morning Recruitment Event

Wednesday, Sept. 9
8–8:30 a.m. Eastern

Register in advance for this meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEsdGvqzkjGNUlg5b5WE6hg6bCzqzmz6HQi>

Evening Recruitment Event

Wednesday, Sept. 9
7–7:30 p.m. Eastern

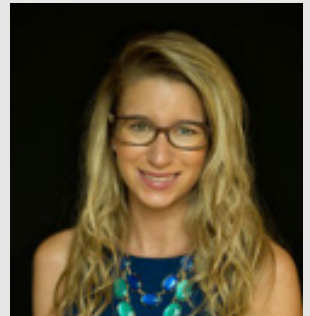
Register in advance for this meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0uc-morz8qHd1OMWa32dQxL8W51WQKvJLF>

SAFETY FIRST

Allie Chandler '18, Board Member

Leadership Pinellas has been a staple in Pinellas County for over 40 years, and we've been lucky enough to host a program each of those 40 years that created more informed leaders for our area. In order to continue that tradition, we have created some straightforward safety protocols for this year's program. Just know, though the program may be structured differently from previous years, together, we will continue to have an impactful, enriching, and safe experience.



While COVID-19 and the risk of contracting is present in public places, there are many important steps we can take to preserve each other's safety. Our "Staying Safe" protocol puts your health and safety at the top of our organization's priorities. To participate in the 2020-2021 Leadership Pinellas program, members will sign a liability waiver and have their temperature checked, need to wear a mask when in public, drive separately to each location, and physical distance whenever possible.

These guidelines are fluid and will evolve as the situation progresses. As a leadership organization, we must lead by example and provide the safest environment for our members. I am incredibly proud of how my fellow board and class members came together to create these new guidelines and format during a time when many are experiencing their own personal or career pandemic-related challenges. By following these safety guidelines together, we can responsibly continue to create a better-informed community of leaders in Pinellas County.



YOUTH LEADERSHIP PINELLAS UPDATE

Brian Siracusa '14

Youth Leadership Pinellas (YLP) has been a mirror of the Leadership Pinellas program since 1998. Providing high schools students a comprehensive and diverse understanding of the community has allowed them to emerge as leaders. However, during these times, we, like other business, have been weighing the decision about how to proceed, and would-be youth and families question whether they should plan to participate. After great consideration and various conversations with our YMCA of the Suncoast partner about cancelling, re-configuring or postponing the class, the recommendation was made to the Board of Directors to cancel this year's program. While this could undermine our momentum, we believe by engaging alumni, who volunteered to assist with this year's program, we can more effectively build recognition to produce a more robust YLP Class of 2022. I hope those of you who volunteered will engage with me to reflect the leadership we are attempting to instill in the diverse group of young people who participate in our program. The Board of Directors has already started considering different social media venues we can utilize to drive up participation for our next class.

SEPTEMBER SOCIAL OUTING

Three Rooker Island Raft Up
Sunday, Sept. 20
Noon–3:30 p.m.

Three Rooker Island
NE Corner (backside of the island)
Lat. 28.1128 / Lon. -82.8364

Look for the Leadership Pinellas "burgee" and blue canopy.

Join your other alumni, classmates and friends for our second annual raft-up event, this year at Three Rooker Island! This event is in the great outdoors and allows for social distancing! All LP alumni and their friends or associates that own or rent boats through a boat club are invited to attend. There are unfortunately no private ferry services or bridges to the island.

Note: Use common sense when traveling to and from the island by monitoring weather and sea conditions. No pets are allowed on the island, and there are no restroom facilities. Power/sail access only. Paddle craft access not recommended due to the distance from shore, currents, and frequently changing weather/sea conditions.

Remember: Leave no trace! Pack out what you bring to the island.

For more information, call/text Matthew Campbell '15 at (727) 421-4046.
No registration needed.

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Thank You to Our 2020-2021 Alumni Boosters

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