

Pasadena is the second largest city in Houston metro area, the nation's 5th largest metro area. With a rich history that extends over more than a century, Pasadena's second century will be brighter if community leaders work together. A still-growing industry base, a young population, good schools and an involved community are key to a vibrant future that can be measured by how many people get employed, how many people get trained, how many small businesses get financed, and how rich the quality of life is for residents.

Why Invest in the Next Generation of Leaders?

Jamie Dimon, CEO of JP Morgan Chase, recently talked about successful cities. He observed, "If you have alignment from the mayor, the civic societies, the nonprofits, and business, you can get a lot done. If not, you are just wasting money."

A recent study by the Pasadena Economic Development Corporation called for "a pipeline of engaged civic leaders who support economic development." IMPACT Pasadena, a transformative leadership experience designed to develop Pasadena's next generation of leaders, is the response to this call. The cohort of 2019 is the inaugural class, the first of a series of cohorts that will ensure a vibrant future for the city of Pasadena.

How will IMPACT Pasadena Develop Emerging Leaders?

Focused on economic viability, social sustainability, and community engagement, IMPACT Pasadena will bring together rising leaders from Pasadena's business and industry, community, government, healthcare, and education sectors. IMPACT Pasadena has been designed to allow participants to be a part of the positive change that occurs when government, economic development, and community partners work together toward a common good.

Developing leaders will participate in a year-long cohort-based learning experience that builds the personal and professional skills, relationships, and knowledge needed to design and implement solutions that result in positive change to community problems. During the year, the group will use data to identify a community issue. Together, the leaders will design a plan that involves a variety of community partners working toward a common goal of solving a specific problem.

IMPACT Pasadena will offer emerging leaders opportunities to:

- Develop professional and personal leadership and communication skills;
- Build relationships with current influential leaders;
- Explore issues from the vantage point of diverse perspectives and experiences;
- Experience how government works at the local, regional, state, and federal levels;
- Engage with case studies that demonstrate the power of collaboration; and
- Study the intersection of education, workforce, economic development, and community vitality.

What is the outcome?

When skilled and passionate leaders are engaged in collective problem-solving, the result is a community climate ripe for business growth, industry expansion, and project development. That climate will lead to an enhanced quality of life for all who live, work, and conduct business in Pasadena. An investment in emerging community leaders is an investment in the future of Pasadena's business, industry and community.

The leadership infrastructure of a community is as important to successful economic development as public works and utilities. IMPACT Pasadena will bring emerging leaders together across sectors and communities to lay the foundation for community leadership for the second century.