ABOUT LEADERSHIP TOMPKINS

Leadership Tompkins engages a diverse group of aspiring and existing community leaders in building networks, developing leadership skills, and raising awareness of local issues.

Through the program participants will:

- Hone professional development skills for future leadership roles in Tompkins County
- Build capacity by immersing themselves in the community by participating in several interactive workshops - including facility tours, service outings, volunteer opportunities, training workshops, guest speakers, and networking events
- Set realistic goals for professional and personal leadership development and develop skills that will prepare participants to further their career
- Gain an understanding of key local issues and needs, how those issue areas impact historically and systematically disadvantaged populations
- Expand local network of professional contacts, community leaders, and resources

2024-2025 Likely Program Dates

Retreat (not an overnight, 9 am to 4 pm each day), location TBA

October – two days, dates TBD

Program Days are on Thursdays, once a month. Lunch provided. 9 am to 4 pm. Various locations around Tompkins County. Draft dates are included below, but subject to change.

November 14

December 12

January 9

February 13

March 13

April 10

May 8

A casual graduation celebration will be held on June 6th from 4pm - 6pm. Friends and family are welcome. Location to be determined!

Leadership Tompkins Program FAQ

What is the time commitment for the program?

The program kicks off with a two-day retreat in October. Then, there is one monthly session on the second Thursday every month until June. The program takes place from approximately 9 am until 4 pm and is hosted at a different site in Tompkins County. We expect program participants to be fully present and attend the full day.

What does the program cost? What does it include?

The program is $1,150 per participant. This includes two specialized leadership assessments (Strengthsfinder and the Leadership Practices Inventory), a two-day retreat, interactive leadership development training sessions, presentations and workshops from a variety of community leaders, and all meals and training materials. Full fee is due by the start of the October retreat, and there are no refunds if a participant drops the program part way through. Including the retreat days, this costs out to approximately $100 per day. We've found this to be commensurate with the costs of other professional development training in our community.

My employer can't cover my cost? What are my options?

The program has a limited number of scholarships available for participants representing either a non-profit or a local small business. Please indicate your need when you complete the online application. Your employer can also request to be invoiced quarterly instead of all up front.

I don't know if I can come to every program – what should I do?

The program is designed for full participation from each participant. It is only to your benefit if you attend all elements of the program. It is understandable to miss one day because of an unavoidable conflict, but missing more than one session negatively impacts all the class members. Please have a serious conversation with your employer and set the expectation far in advance that you will need to be out of the office on program days.

Who will I meet? What are the main benefits to joining the class?

In addition to forming a strong bond with your program cohort, you will be given insider access to our top community leaders. Past speakers have included Presidents and VPs of all local colleges & universities, the Mayor of Ithaca and other local government officials, CEOs of local businesses, many Non-Profit Executive Directors, and local dignitaries and experts. Each of the speakers generously offer themselves as resources for all Leadership Tompkins participants and alumni.

Sounds great! How do I apply?

The online application will open by mid-August; a link to the form can be found here:

APPLY HERE