



BACKGROUND

LEADERSHIP NORTHERN TULARE COUNTY



Our Mission: To develop effective and visionary leaders for Northern Tulare County.

In 1994, several community leaders in Dinuba, including the city manager, the city council, an Alta District hospital administrator and the president of Ruiz Foods, made a strategic decision to develop more community leaders to fill roles in private, public and non-profit sectors. Hence, Leadership Northern Tulare County (LNTC) was created with its first graduating class in 1994. Since then, over 200 participants have graduated from the program.

Leadership Northern Tulare County works under the umbrella of the Dinuba Chamber of Commerce with a steering committee of nine community leaders, most of whom are alumni of the program. Additionally, the program facilitator and CEO of the Dinuba Chamber of Commerce serve as lead consultants.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The program is designed to discover, train and develop adult future leaders by providing a broad curriculum that allows individuals to learn about state and local government and the alignment to the industry sectors that impact our local communities within our county; health care, economic development, education, and agriculture.

In addition, each participant learns about their personal leadership style, the ability to get along with people with similar or differing leadership styles, and leadership development in general. The culminating class project consists of the LNTC class planning, organizing, and hosting the community Cinco de Mayo Festival, and assisting with the Cinco de Mayo Pageant.

The program covers a period of nine months (October to June) with class meetings held on one Thursday per month, one evening per month, plus a team building retreat and a two-day trip to Sacramento.

Leadership Northern Tulare County inspires community members to become active leaders in their place of business and community. Graduates of this program have moved to serve on various boards, councils, and many other organizations. Four city mayors have been graduates of the program.



DEVELOPING STRONG COMMUNITY LEADERS

The goal of Leadership Northern Tulare County is to develop effective and visionary leaders who will help Northern Tulare County remain a successful and unique community. Individuals will develop leadership values, skills and learn about leadership issues to use in their current and future roles in the community.

The program consists of the following:

LEADERSHIP RETREAT

The leadership retreat is an opportunity for class members to learn about their own leadership styles, to set leadership goals for themselves, and to build a team with fellow class members. This sets the stage for the entire year.

DAY SESSIONS

The day sessions introduce the class to key leadership issues in the local and state-wide community, connects class with committed leaders, shows class how they can get involved and how they can apply the information at their work sites. The day sessions are usually the third Thursday of each month (specific dates on the Dinuba Chamber of Commerce website).

EVENING SESSIONS

Evening sessions provide leadership skill development and gives class practice in coordinating and facilitating a group experience.

COMMUNITY PROJECT AND FUNDRAISER (CINCO DE MAYO)

The Cinco de Mayo event provides class members with experience in coordinating events, fundraising, teamwork and giving back to the community. The Cinco de Mayo Festival is on the first weekend in May. Class organizes and implements the weekend event.

GENERAL HIGHLIGHTS

The program runs annually from October through June.



The program consists of a full day orientation and welcome reception, a two-day retreat (full Friday – beginning 9 a.m. /Saturday – concluding 5 p.m.), monthly full-day sessions (8 a.m. -5 p.m.), monthly evening sessions (6 p.m. -8:30 p.m.), a two-day Sacramento trip and graduation ceremony as well as coordinating, staffing, and managing the two-day Cinco de Mayo event.

Leadership Northern Tulare County inspires community members to become active leaders in their place of business and their community.

Participants will be expected to commit to and spend several hours of personal time in conjunction with the program elements. Personal time commitments include reading, personal reflection, various assignments related to leadership/personal development and overall coordination and planning of the Cinco de Mayo event.

THE LNTC PROGRAM

LEADERSHIP NORTHERN TULARE COUNTY



Effective and visionary leaders are developed in the Northern Tulare County program by working through four primary program components designed to develop all facets of leadership.

1 Leadership/Personal Development

Class members develop and improve their leadership skills through a series of self-assessments, working through leadership training book(s), curriculum, participating in group discussions, and spending time on self-reflection.

Through this (and more) they come to understand their own and other leadership styles. They have self-awareness of personal leadership behaviors and tendencies, which assists with improving working relationships.

The program also provides personal development with communication, conflict resolution, time management, presentation/public speaking skills, better understanding of diversity and group dynamics, values, and much more.

2 Networking & Relationship Building

Through the diversity/makeup of the class itself, the class is exposed to key businesses, organizations, and agencies. As well as opportunities to meet with representatives in the local and state-wide sectors, make connections with committed leaders and community members. Through these interactions, the class members are able to network directly and build business and personal relationships. They form relationships that can be accessed for collaborative efforts and learn of new partnership opportunities to enhance and improve services, programming, and overall effectiveness.

DEVELOP LEADERSHIP





3 **Community Awareness**

Through tours, guest speakers, and the ability to meet directly with community leaders, class members gain a better understanding of the issues, challenges, opportunities, and successes of our city, county and greater regional area. These opportunities serve as the basis of networking and formation of business relationships and partnerships.

4 **Major Class Project - Cinco de Mayo Event**

The class signature project provides the vessel for applying all the leadership skills gained; networking, relationships, and collaboration established through all the various components of the program. Leadership skills gained in the program are directly used in coordinating and managing the Cinco de Mayo Festival event.

NETWORK WITH LEADERS





PROFESSIONAL GROWTH PROGRAM

Curricular topics are geared to the 21st century priorities which include major issues in North County Cities, Tulare County and the State.

The curriculum topics include:

- State and local government
- Health care
- Service organizations
- Economic development
- Agriculture
- Education
- Non-profits and boardsmanship
- Class project on relevant topic
- Leadership styles
- Interpersonal skills
- Teamwork

The learning program also includes the leadership retreat and a two-day trip to Sacramento.



WHO WILL BENEFIT

From Participating In Leadership Northern Tulare County?

Businesses will benefit from their employee's increased knowledge, improved communication skills, stronger problem-solving abilities, access to decision-makers, and community resources.

Non-profit organizations will have access to trained effective leaders with a positive attitude toward volunteering who understand the importance of community and giving back.

The community at large will benefit by the development of a large pool of trained, knowledgeable, and skilled individuals in the North County.

How Do I Apply?

Applications may be obtained at the Dinuba Chamber of Commerce office or visit the website (www.dinubachamber.com). The written application is a major part of the selection process. Applicants are encouraged to devote time and serious thought to its preparation ensuring commitment to the established program dates.

How Are The Class Members Selected?

Class members are selected through a formal interview. The program is seeking individuals who exhibit the following:

- Commitment to self-development
- Desire for community involvement
- Willingness and ability to discuss and propose solutions for community issues
- Potential as a leader, as displayed through such things as work experience, organizational involvement, demonstrated interpersonal skills or other activities
- Ability to work effectively with people
- Individuals, businesses, and community groups are also encouraged to nominate prospective participants

LEADERSHIP TRAINING

