

June 28, 2016

Re: Leadership Mercer – Tazewell – 2016/2017

Dear Chamber Members:

Ask any former Mercer – Tazewell Leadership participant and they will tell you that this is not a lecture series; it's a "roll-up your sleeves" approach to leadership and you never know what might happen during the sessions. Past years have included a private meeting in the Governor's office, trips underground in a working coal mine, and some fairly brutal warfare in simulated societies. It's well worth the time invested for each participant.

The Leadership Mercer/Tazewell Program will begin in the fall. This comprehensive program places special emphasis on teaching leadership skills and attributes while developing the participant's understanding of civic responsibility.

Our committee is considering a slight change in the application process for this year. Many companies have sponsored their employees to take part in the program. We understand that you may not have a good candidate right now but ask that you become a sponsor of someone to participate. If we receive enough interest, we plan to include a select few area college seniors into the program. Your company would be recognized as their sponsor. If we receive enough sponsorships, we may be able to include representatives of the non-profit groups in the area as well.

The success of Leadership Mercer-Tazewell can only be measured by the 468 men and women who have graduated from the past 18 programs and are now providing valuable leadership in their respective business and community roles. Brochures and applications are now being finalized for the prospective applicants.

Thank you for your cooperation and, we look forward to further serving you.

Sincerely,

John Beckett
Chairman

Jeff Disibbio
Vice Chair

xc: Kim Allen, Chairman of the Board
Becky Ritter, Vice-Chair, Community Life Division