EXPAND YOUR UNDERSTANDING OF LOCAL ISSUES

- The regional economy
- Environment and recreation
- Agriculture
- Local government
- The judicial system
- Education, health and social services

"As someone who was new to Freeport, the Institute was very helpful for me with regard to learning what are the issues facing the community and what I can do to help."
Patrick McDermott

"The Leadership Institute, speakers and the other participants gave me valuable insight into the community, county and other employers in the area."
Barb Green

"The Leadership Institute program at Highland energized and strengthened my belief that true leaders are instrumental in making strong communities like Freeport/Northwest Illinois."
Suresh Raut

EXPLORE WHO WE ARE AND WHERE WE'RE GOING

- Our values
- Community history
- Immigration then and now
- Vision 20/20

"With the tools I learned at the Leadership Institute, I have expanded my focus and refined my own leadership style. The class has shown me aspects of the community that I didn't even know existed. My classmates have become an energized group that will be lifelong friends."
Kevin Strock

"I have learned so much about leadership with this course. This class has made a significant difference in my life."
Melissa Henze

"What an exciting experience the Leadership Institute has been for me. The skills and tools I have learned will be invaluable to me for the rest of my life. Being able to meet with community leaders and great classmates are opportunities I would not otherwise have had."
Julie Abels

"A key component of the Leadership Institute was the focus on community activities which gave me the opportunity to broaden my vision and gain knowledge of other leadership role models that I might adopt in my own leadership style."
Cathy Stouffer

PURPOSE

The future of our county and its organizations depends on a diverse group of capable and committed leaders.

The Stephenson County Leadership Institute is committed to developing and sustaining a network of local leaders who are:

- Knowledgeable about community issues
- Able to demonstrate effective leadership and collaboration skills
- Committed to building and improving our organizations and communities

The Leadership Institute is part of a leadership development program at Highland Community College which provides opportunities to all segments of the College community to learn more about leadership.

EXPAND YOUR UNDERSTANDING OF LOCAL ISSUES

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- Agriculture
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"The Leadership Institute experience is exceptional. We are provided the opportunity to develop relationships, develop understanding of our community, and develop ourselves. It was a journey that enabled me to grow as a leader."
Michelle Vietmeier

"The Leadership Institute provides the tools necessary to develop extraordinary community leaders. The Leadership Institute provides an opportunity for participants to gain valuable insight into their personality traits and leadership style."
Latacia Ishmon
FORMAT
The Leadership Institute begins in September with a two and one half day opening retreat at Eagle Ridge Inn and Resort. After that, the Institute generally meets on the third Wednesday of each month from September through May.

2015 - 2016
SCHEDULE AND PROPOSED LEADERSHIP TOPICS

September 13 - 15
Opening Retreat
"Leadership, the Community, and You"

September 23
"Understanding Leadership Styles"

October 21
"Challenging the Process"

November 18
"Inspiring a Shared Vision"

December 9
"Enabling Others to Act"

January 20
"Modeling the Way"

February 17
"Encouraging the Heart"

March 2
"Ethical Decision Making"

March 30
"Project Planning"

April 20
"Finding Your Voice"

May 18
Closing Retreat and Banquet

Faculty
Alan Wenzel, director of the program and Highland Community College faculty member has been with the Leadership Institute, serving Stephenson County, since 1991.

Jim Phillips, an instructor of history, political science, and leadership at Highland Community College, serves as co-facilitator of the Leadership Institute.

Numerous local guest speakers address the Institute monthly.

Join Us
The Leadership Institute seeks men and women from a wide range of community and career interests. Each class will have approximately twenty-five members selected from applicants on the basis of their interest in leadership issues and their representation of the diversity of our county.

Cost
The cost of the nine-month Leadership Institute is $1,200. The fee for books and materials is $300. Scholarship assistance is available. Contact Alan Wenzel, 815.599.3464 for further scholarship details.

Applications
Application forms are available from Alan Wenzel, Director, “Leadership Institute,” Highland Community College, 2998 W. Pearl City Road, Freeport, IL 61032, 815.599.3464; alan.wenzel@highland.edu or by checking the Highland website at www.highland.edu

Applications are due by July 1, 2015. The class of 2015-2016 will be announced in July 2015.