

WHAT ARE ALUMNI SAYING?

"As a Leadership Somerset graduate, I can't recommend this program highly enough."

It had a tremendous impact on my professional career and on how I view Somerset County. I met people and learned about organizations that I otherwise would never have encountered, and it gave me a much greater appreciation for the people making a difference throughout our county.

I can honestly say I wouldn't be where I am today without that experience.

I'm excited to see what the Somerset County Chamber of Commerce has planned for this revitalized program. If you're considering applying – or sending an employee – I hope you'll give it a serious look."



Eric Knopsnyder

Director of Public Relations and Community Outreach, **GO Laurel Highlands**



HOMETOWN HERO PROJECT

The Hometown Hero Project emerged from a group within the Leadership Somerset County Program. Graduates are driving meaningful change that positively impacts our communities. This is just one of many similar initiatives that have transformed Somerset County and our community for the long term!

ABOUT THE SOMERSET COUNTY CHAMBER

For more than 100 years, the Somerset County Chamber of Commerce has been a leader and advocate for local businesses, dedicated to promoting the region as an exceptional place to live, work, visit, and conduct business. The Chamber is a 501(c)(6) nonprofit organization representing more than 500 members across a wide range of industries, including agriculture, finance, healthcare, manufacturing, media, retail, service, and tourism.

Membership also includes community organizations such as service clubs, churches, elected officials, and individual associate members. While diverse in scope, all members share a common commitment to strengthening Somerset County's economy and enhancing the overall quality of life in the region.



THE LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE

Emily Riggs Korns, J & J Truck Bodies/Riggs Industries
Kelley Dupstadt, Somerset Trust Company
Gabe Vinzani, Concurrent Technologies Corporation
Brett Lesnick, Vail Resorts
Sharon Clapper, Clapper Educational Consulting
Dr. Steve Nunez, Penn Highlands Community College
Sarah Tinsmith, Office of the Public Defender, Somerset County

MEET THE CHAMBER CREW



Mark Ickes

Executive Director
Mickes@SomersetCountyChamber.com



Renee Eash-Hoffman

Operations Manager
Renee@SomersetCountyChamber.com



Hannah Purbaugh

Marketing & Communications Coordinator
Hannah@SomersetCountyChamber.com



ENROLL IN LEADERSHIP TODAY! ★

Leadership reimagined for a new era of business and community impact.

Reimagined, revitalized, and ready for the future, Leadership Somerset County offers a **fresh approach to leadership development and community engagement.** Participants gain valuable insight into the region, expand their professional networks, develop leadership skills, and build meaningful connections that **benefit both their organizations and the communities they serve.**

Ideal for employers seeking to develop future leaders and professionals ready to make a greater impact.



ENROLL TODAY

814-445-6431
SomersetCountyChamber.com
Info@SomersetCountyChamber.com



WHAT IS LEADERSHIP SOMERSET COUNTY

Leadership Somerset County is an **8-month experience*** —a professionally facilitated leadership development program that begins in October designed to:

- Build practical leadership capability
- Develop cross-sector relationships across Somerset County
- Increase understanding of regional challenges & opportunities
- Drive personal leadership growth with real-world application



WHY JOIN?

Thinking about applying?
Here's why it's a **big deal**:

- Build real-world leadership skills
- Connect with local leaders and professionals
- Go behind the scenes of Somerset County
- Learn something new every month
- Give back through a hands-on community project
- Become part of something bigger

WHO SHOULD APPLY?

- Emerging and established professionals
- Individuals looking to grow leadership and community impact

Become part of an expanding community of **over 380 Leadership Somerset County alumni**, representing **more than 20 years** of impactful achievements.

Together, we're making a significant difference!

OVERVIEW

Throughout the enrollment period, there will be numerous opportunities and resources provided to help develop essential leadership skills tailored to our community and the evolving business landscape.

NEW!

360° LEADERSHIP ASSESSMENT

You will have the chance to receive a 360° feedback assessment along with a results report to decode how you communicate, handle conflict, and collaborate with others to build stronger, more effective teams.

MONTHLY SESSIONS

Monthly sessions explore key topics like:

- Communication & Influence
- Team Leadership & Accountability
- Strategic Thinking & Decision-Making
- Workforce & Economic Development
- Civic Leadership & Community Systems
- Cohort Volunteer Day
- Leading Change & Innovation
- Leadership Integration & Reflection

COHORT VOLUNTEER DAY

Experience a collective and meaningful impact on our community by engaging participants in addressing a challenge we face together.

"BEST OF SOCO" TOUR & LEADERSHIP REFLECTION

Conclude the program with a tour of the county's cultural highlights, followed by presentations where participants can reflect on their experiences and share insights from their journey.

*Participants **must attend at least 6 out of 8 sessions** and complete **a group community project** to graduate in June.

INVEST IN YOUR FUTURE

Explore key leadership skills for **personal growth and success**. Improving these abilities helps achieve goals and fosters community value, enabling us to guide future generations in Somerset County.

**\$1,500
INVESTMENT**

SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarships are available for individuals, small businesses, and nonprofits.

Hosted by the Somerset County Foundation, a 501(c)(3) organization.

Contact the Chamber to apply!

SUPPORT THE FUTURE OF SOMERSET COUNTY

Leadership Somerset County has shaped future leaders since 2003, **but it can't happen without community support.**

Your tax-deductible donation helps:

- Fund annual scholarships (in your name, business, or in honor of someone special)
- Cover operating costs to keep the program strong
- Sponsor a participant in the current class
- **Make a lasting impact on Somerset County's future**

More than 50 local businesses and organizations have helped us grow — **will you be next?**