



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Contact: Elizabeth Reich
64 Passaic Street
Hackensack, NJ 07601
(201) 489-9545 ext. 211
www.bergenvolunteers.org
ereich@bergenvolunteers.org

Bergen LEADS: Class of 2022

Hackensack, New Jersey - Bergen Volunteers is accepting applications for the Bergen LEADS Class of 2022.

Bergen LEADS is a 10-month community leadership program for adults who live or work in Bergen County. Interactive, fast paced and experiential, the program is delivered through a series of "Issue Days", which include discussion with community leaders, site visits, leadership training, and small group interaction. Each class completes a capstone project which provides an opportunity to develop solutions to real issues in Bergen County.

"A persistent question facing every sector is, 'Where will the next generation of ethical and effective leaders come from?' The answer - Bergen LEADS," shared Debbie Emery, Program Manager. "Bergen LEADS helps students develop into leaders in their communities, ready to address complex issues and enact viable change."

Under the guidance of former Bergen County Executive William Schuber, Bergen LEADS is now in its 15th year. Bergen LEADers meet with county leaders and visit public, private, and nonprofit agencies in Bergen County to learn about where they live and/or work.

Bergen LEADS has gained a reputation as a "think tank" for challenges facing Bergen County. Each class focuses on a specific topic and in June of each year, the graduating class presents their findings and recommendations at a Public Forum. Past Bergen LEADS projects focused on:

- Food Insecurity in Bergen County
- Media in Bergen County
- Master Planning 101
- Aging in Place



- Revitalizing and Refocusing Bergen County Suburban Downtowns
- Mental Health
- The Future of Education
- The Future of Local Government

"The new class of Bergen LEADERS will join our network of over 375 individuals." stated [Nina Bachrach](#), CEO of Bergen Volunteers. "Relationships generated from Bergen LEADS transcend beyond the program due to the active alumni group that coordinates events, outings, and networking opportunities. By joining this distinguished group of leaders, individuals gain knowledge and wisdom that will benefit them for years to come."

Interested participants are encouraged to apply by April 10, 2021. To access the Bergen LEADS application, visit: www.bergenvolunteers.org/civic-leadership and reach out to Debbie Emery at demery@bergenvolunteers.org or (201) 489-9454 ext.202 with any questions.

About Bergen Volunteers:

Founded in 1966, Bergen Volunteers turns caring into meaningful action by engaging volunteers to improve lives and strengthen the community via a three pronged approach: Our own and external community programs, community engagement, and civic leadership.

We recruit volunteers to provide critical services to youth, families, veterans, seniors, and those who are economically disadvantaged, through our own programs and by supporting the nonprofit community. We offer individuals and businesses volunteer, networking, service, and training opportunities that address community needs. We also provide leadership and professional development opportunities for individuals living and working in Bergen County, educating people about our community and training them to be civically active.

To learn more, visit www.bergenvolunteers.org and follow us on social media, including Bloggr, Facebook, LinkedIn, Instagram, and Twitter @BergenVolunteers. Bergen Volunteers is a not-for-profit 501(c)3 organization.

###