

LEADERSHIP

York



**NEWSLETTER
SPRING 22**



Chad Myers

Board President 21-22, BOD 18-24

I am a product. I owe a lot to this organization. The programs I participated in (LTP '06, MY '11 – best classes ever) have helped make me the person I am today. Anyone who has been to a recent Leadership York program orientation or one of the many Mentorship York events, has heard my story. But that leaves a lot of you who have not – so here it is.

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I made a poor decision after my sophomore year of college to leave school and move back home to York. I got a full-time job at a local bank (thanks to my mom) as I tried to figure out what I was going to do with my life. Through a series of other connections, I eventually landed at the United Way of York County as a campaign division director, raising money for United Way's partner agencies – Leadership York being one.

United Way immediately sponsored my enrollment in the Leadership Training Program class of 2005-06. I did not realize at the time how impactful that year of my life would be. In fact, at first I resented being "volun-told" that I would be participating. **As a lifelong York County resident, I did not think there was anything that anyone could teach me about my hometown. After opening retreat, I quickly realized how wrong I was, and how great of an opportunity I had been provided with.** I was hooked. I was all in from thereon. I learned about the many great resources this community has to offer, made lifelong connections with other community advocates, and graduated ready to serve. I am forever grateful to Bob Woods and United Way for sponsoring me to go through this program.

Fast forward to 2010. My good friend JJ Sheffer reached out to me and another dear friend about a new program that Leadership York was launching, called Mentorship York where they were pairing up-and-coming leaders in the York community with established leaders in a mentoring setting. "How cool would it be if we all went through this program together," she exclaimed! The timing was great. I was at a crossroads in my career – while I enjoyed my work, I still did not have a college degree or any real professional goals for myself. **I knew I wanted to lead in a higher capacity, but I did not know how to get there on my own.** I remember the day Carolyn Warman, former LY executive director, called to tell me I had been accepted into the inaugural Mentorship York class of 2011, and that I had been paired with Larry Richardson from the YMCA of York and York County (now YMCA of the Roses). I was ecstatic. I used

“The programs I participated in have helped make me the person I am today.”

this time with Larry to discuss both personal and professional goals. I made changes in my life. I gained confidence and direction. I started a family. I advanced my career several times. I eventually finished my degree. I still meet with Larry to this day – over 11 years later.

Fast forward to 2018. I am now the director of development at the UPMC Pinnacle Foundation. I had been staying connected to LY through a short volunteer stint on the Advancement Committee and a longer stint on the MY Committee. One day I got a call from Ben Chiaro about an opportunity to serve on the LY board of directors. Once again, I was ecstatic. I loved this organization and was absolutely thrilled at the opportunity to serve on the board.

It has been an absolute honor to serve as President of the board for the 2021-22 fiscal year – I just hope I have done the organization justice. When I met with Wilda prior to taking on my role, we discussed goals for the year – 100% staff retention of this amazing team, open doors to major funders, and help recruit for programs (specifically from my own employer). Happy to report – check, check, and check.

One word to describe this past year – Nimble. Continuing to operate a nonprofit organization whose mission is to connect people, through a pandemic, is no easy task. Masking guidelines. Social distancing. Contact tracing. Virtual meetings. You're on mute. The LY staff responded to every twist and turn and kept programs moving. They are AMAZING, and on behalf of the board I would like to thank all of them for their resilience, perseverance, and dedication to the LY mission. And speaking of the board – what a truly dedicated and engaged group of volunteers. **You can see and feel the passion of these individuals who give of their time, energy, and resources to help further the LY mission.** I personally thank you all for your dedication to and support of this great organization.

Thank you for the opportunity to tell my story – I hope it resonates with others and potentially serves as an inspiration. We have amazing programs. Let's let the world know, and continue to Train, Connect, and Inspire the next generation of leaders in our community.

Stay well,

Chad A. Myers

Program Recruitment

Program recruitment season is here for Leadership York! Our programs aim to meet volunteer leaders at their unique experience level and leadership goals. We are currently accepting applications for the Leadership Training Program (LTP), Leadership for Diverse Schools (LDS), and Mentorship York (MY). To learn more about which program is the right fit for you, visit leadershipyork.org or email info@leadershipyork.org. We look forward to welcoming our 2023 program participants later this year!



Leadership Training Program

In this nine-month experiential course, participants learn about York County, get more involved in the community, and begin to make a difference right away. LTP sessions provide an insider's view of York, its people and its issues. Community leaders and leading subject matter experts conduct the sessions covering topics such as human services, the economy, education, law and justice, understanding diversity, government, and health care.

Leadership For Diverse Schools

Consider this nine-month experiential course if you are in the K-12 education system and are looking to build culturally proficient communities within your district. Throughout the program, you will build a mindset to shift the culture and be the change agent at your school and in the community.



Mentorship York

This year-long program accelerates successful leaders to step up to significant community impact through servant leadership and connections. Talk with other Mentorship York alumni or mentors about their experience with the program before applying to this program to best understand the impact.



SPARK!



Each year, Leadership York alumni as well as potential program prospects gather for an evening of networking and inspiration.

This year's event was held on June 8th at Keystone Kidspace. To help our host, a fellow nonprofit, we collected items such as Legos, bottle caps, and corks.

In addition to networking opportunities and hearing stories of program impact, we recognized the 2022 Alumnus of the Year and Outstanding Partner of the Year.



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Douglas Smallwod *2022 Outstanding Alumnus of the Year*

Douglas Smallwood, Sr., 2022 Outstanding Alumnus of the Year award recipient, is the President/CEO of Helping Hands Realty Investments, LLC and works part-time as a Tipstaff for the Honorable Amber A. Kraft. Douglas' past board service in York County includes the South York Boys Club, York City School District, United Way of York County (loaned executive), York N.A.A.C.P., MJALC of York, Community Progress Council, York High Alumni Association, Cornerstone Youth Home, and the Lebanon Cemetery. Douglas continues his outreach to children whenever the opportunity presents itself and is currently a team member on the Drug Wellness Court and the Veterans Wellness Court.

He is a life member of VFW Post #556 and Post American Legion Post #127.

He is also a member of BPOE Lodge #213 and Social Friendship Lodge #42.

Brian Grimm *2022 Outstanding Partner of the Year*

Brian Grimm, 2022 Outstanding Partner of the Year award recipient, is the President & CEO of York Day Nursery. He has been a leader in York County nonprofits for over fifteen years and has a passion for putting others in positions to succeed. Brian serves on the Board of the Children's Home of York and volunteers with the Farm and Natural Lands Trust of York County. He has served on the United Way's Campaign Cabinet for the last four years and was Chair of the United Way's Partner Agency Executive Director's Committee for the past four years.



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Never Waste a Good Crisis

Featuring Fred Walker & Anthony Moore (EC17)

“Is this the infamous Fred Walker?” That’s how Anthony answered the phone on an otherwise normal Saturday morning. He was on his way to the gym when Fred’s name popped up.

For Anthony, it was a YDR article highlighting Fred’s story as well as his efforts to help individuals realize their dreams of entrepreneurship. It was also seeing him in action through events such as Hope Fest.

For Fred, it was watching Anthony’s shift from corporate executive to entrepreneur. He recalled one particular episode of a video series Anthony referred to as Investor Season. In the episode, Anthony’s message was to never waste a good crisis. Fred remembers it well, **“The world was falling apart but there was Anthony saying, ‘No. Find a reason. Find something. This is a good crisis. Figure it out. Invest!’** ... I saw what he was doing during the crisis and what was making sense during that time frame. It was intriguing to me, and I really respected it, so I was like let me call him, let me reach out to him.”

Eventually the two realized they could be successful as partners and Four Squares Development & Construction was born.

The fact that this partnership may have never come to light if it weren't for the Leadership York Executive Connections program makes their enrollment in the same class even more serendipitous.

Anthony came to York in 2016 to work for a company that was big into community involvement and believed in sending their employees through Leadership York programs.

Fred was already here. He had been living in York since 2004, but his wife had just moved to the area and her new employer wanted her to go through the program to learn more about the community their organization served. As an added incentive, his employer took advantage of the discounted spouse/partner rate and invited Fred to go through the program with her.

While they both may have been skeptical about enrolling at first, they quickly saw the value. They both gained a high-level understanding of everything that encompasses our county. They also enjoyed the exposure to a variety of host locations, featured speakers, local restaurants/caterers, and new community connections.

Anthony shared, "I had moved around so much, I was so detached. I was literally coming to a city just to do a job. But it was the first time, and I would say that **it is because of Leadership York, that I actually became interested and integrated into a community enough to actually care about its well-being and wanting to participate in the prosperity of it.** I think all of that initiated in that class."

When asked what advice they would give to those just starting out, or interested in starting a new chapter, they both emphasized the importance of understanding your own journey and where you want to be. They also both agreed that you should chase down every lead.

"I run every opportunity down." Fred shared. "You never know who is who. Don't hesitate to explore every opportunity. Take the time to get to know what each person does. Take advantage of the conversations and keep in touch."

On a personal note, Anthony added, "Be true to who you are, and the right people will notice that. When you're doing good work, doors will open."

So the next time someone tries to volunteer you for something, keep an open mind -

you never know where it could lead!





Servants, Inc.

Joe Alfano, Matt Doran, Gretchen Kowalik, Nolan Myers, Kate Rohrbaugh, Frankie Tyson

With the help of Barley Snyder, **Team A** raised \$2250 for Servants Inc. and constructed a ramp for an individual coming home from rehabilitation. As a team, they volunteered 100.25 hours in planning the project and on-site for the build.

Bell Socialization Services

Liliana Fisher, Steve Hart, David Mizenko, Lydia Nailor, Nona Watson

Team B collected over 2400 toiletry items (such as soap, body wash, shampoo/conditioner, hair products, etc.) to benefit service users in all of Bell's programs. Together they worked 50.5 hours in planning and collecting and delivering donations.



Deanna Crockett, Jenna Jansen, Matthew Sechrist, Amanda Steininger, Rob Walker

Team C dedicated over 160 hours to plan an event for April 23rd engaging over 50 girls in York County grades K-5 where local businesses planned activities that focused around STEM, entrepreneurship, outdoors and life skills.

Give Local York

Joe Baublitz, Drew Heistand, Liz Morales, Kristin Schab, Colton Wildasin

Team D implemented a plan to attract and engage new donors and businesses to the Give Local event on May 6th. Through 84 hours of working together as a team, \$153,963.04 was raised by business fundraisers, the highest amount in GLY history!





Leg Up Farm

Carman Banzaca, Carrie Becker, Casey Jordan, Paul Pope III, Ericka Stewart, Kaitlin Stiles

Team E restored and breathed new life into the three raised flower beds located in the music garden. Over the course of 150 hours, and with the help of a mini excavator, the team raised \$2,285, removed dirt, tapped pavers into place, installed a drainage system, and filled beds with soil. The Garden Club of York finished the project by planting flowers.

Bell Socialization Services

Rita Becker, Joshua Gill, Megan Long, Tavon Parker, Adrienne Pauls

Team F organized a pillow & sheet drive to benefit Bell Socialization between February 1st and March 1st. Volunteering 78 hours as a team, they collected 101 pillows, 103 sheet sets, and 40 pillowcases, to benefit Bell's clients in their service programs.



Each year, Future Leaders of York (FLY) students establish grant criteria and decide how to allocate \$5000 in grant dollars. Nineteen nonprofit agencies submitted requests totaling \$70,000, making it a challenging task. The students presented checks to the following organizations at graduation in May:

Keystone Human Services - \$2500

Children's Aid Society - \$871.25

Typical Life Corporation - \$750

Leg Up Farm - \$878.75

THANK YOU

Kathy Brickner BOD President 2019-2020, Chair of EC

"Serving on the Leadership York Board has been a wonderful professional and personal journey—from my first experience in the LY Executive Connections program to my service as Board President. LY has continued to ignite my passion for organizational leadership, strategic planning, community service and building a network of meaningful relationships."

Judy Brown-Hershner LDS Committee Chair

"Leadership York not only inspired my interest in educational leadership through participation in Leadership for Diverse Schools, but also provided an important bridge to broader community service through board leadership. The training, support, and experience I received through my tenure at Leadership York will be as invaluable as the camaraderie and enduring connections."



Nadine Hubner BOD President 07-08, Chair of Board Development

"I became involved with Leadership York nearly 30 years ago when I first moved to the area and have remained involved in various capacities ever since. I guess you can say I'm "sold" on Leadership York. They inspire us - to be better, do better and lead better. What more could you ask for?"

to our outgoing board members!

"There are many rewarding aspects of the Leadership York Board service, meeting people from different professional and personal backgrounds, attending programs that deepen our understanding of York County and the staff who go far beyond their responsibilities to make the community a better place."

Joan Mummert *Chair of Advancement*



Aaron Kveragas *Chair of Advancement, Finance Committee*



"My Leadership York journey has been extraordinary. I have been lucky enough to not only experience all the knowledge and life lessons that were passed on to me through both the Leadership Training Program and Mentorship York, but to also sharpen my Board Leadership skills through my time serving on Leadership York's Board of Directors. The people, the experiences, and the training have been invaluable. I am eternally grateful to the staff, volunteers, and fellow classmates that I have meet over the last 7 years and am looking forward to serving Leadership York in any capacity I possibly can going forward as I step off the Board."

LEADERSHIP

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2022

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