

## Leadership Development Initiative (LDI) XVI

### COMMUNITY IMPACT PROJECTS

#### **Guidelines and Frequently Asked Questions**

##### **What is Leadership Development Initiative (LDI)?**

Each year, approximately forty-five emerging leaders are selected to participate in the Leadership Development Initiative program.

Founded in 1994, LDI is a selection-based program which provides an opportunity for young professionals/emerging leaders to enhance their leadership skills and learn about community issues for heightened civic involvement. Twelve to fourteen sessions from October through June are conducted in the evenings and help hone the "start performers" skills of emerging leaders while exposing them to avenues for civic involvement. With a strong network of more than 475 graduates, LDI provides young leaders with the tools necessary to affect positive change in the Pittsburgh region.

More information on LDI can be found at the Leadership Pittsburgh Inc. website, [www.lpinc.org](http://www.lpinc.org)

##### **What is the timeline for the LDI XVI community impact projects?**

Leadership Development Initiative XVI participants will choose their project teams and pick their projects in October, 2008. Each team will then present the results of their project work on June 11, 2009. The project scope should include desired outcomes that can be reached within this timeframe.

##### **How many participants work in a team?**

Typically, participants work in teams of six to eight people; however the size of the project team will depend upon on the scope of the project. Kathy Risko, Senior Program Manager will work with your organization to determine the correct size of the team, if your project is selected.

##### **When do teams work on their projects? How much time do they give to the projects?**

All LDI participants meet in the regular sessions about once a month and the teams work on their projects outside of their regularly scheduled program sessions. Part of the challenge for all team members is to determine the amount of time they are able to give over the course of the project. While every team varies in the amount that it devotes on the project, generally speaking it is fair to expect them to devote around 4 hours a month on the projects.

##### **Should the projects require strategic thinking?**

YES!!!!!!!

Projects should use participants' strategic thinking and leadership capacities and contribute to the long-term efforts of the not-for-profit organization.

##### **Are there any activities the teams cannot do as part of their project?**

Projects may not involve political activity or direct fundraising.

##### **Will all project proposals be matched with a team?**

No. So that the each LDI team can choose a project that fits their interests, skills, and time requirements, we solicit more project proposals than can be fulfilled by the project teams. After teams have chosen the project, Leadership Pittsburgh Inc. will notify organizations of the decisions. You will learn if your project has been selected in October, 2008.

**Proposal Deadline: FRIDAY, September 5, 2008**

Email to [kathy@lpinc.org](mailto:kathy@lpinc.org) or fax to 412.392.4559

**If you would like to discuss the scope of your project prior to project selection, please contact Kathy Risko ([kathy@lpinc.org](mailto:kathy@lpinc.org) | 412.392.4503) and a consultation will be scheduled. (THIS IS HIGHLY RECOMMENDED)**

**This appointment must be requested by August 18, 2008 so that sufficient time can be allotted to review the project proposal prior to selection).**

**What is required of the organization that is proposing the project?**

Each client organization MUST identify a staff person who will serve as the liaison to the team. The client representative must be accessible to team members throughout the project.

**The client should expect to devote at least 2 - 3 hours a month working with the project team.**

After identifying mutually agreed upon terms for the project, both the organization and the team members should be totally committed to the successful completion of the project. Organizations should provide the necessary support and resources that are required to make that happen.

**How can I find out more about the LDI Community Impact Projects?**

Please contact Kathy Risko, Senior Program Manager at 412.392.4503 or email [kathy@lpinc.org](mailto:kathy@lpinc.org)

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## Leadership Development Initiative XVI

### PREVIOUS COMMUNITY IMPACT PROJECTS

#### **RIVERS OF STEEL NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA**

Blast furnaces number 6 and 7, majestic formations of steel and brick resting on the shore of the Monongahela River are regal symbols of hope and history. These Carrie Furnaces, together with thirty-eight acres of surrounding land, comprise the site of the proposed Homestead Works National Park which will commemorate and educate the public about steel heritage in the Pittsburgh region. Rivers of Steel National Heritage Area enlisted the LDI team to research the potential impact of tourism resulting from the National Park on the surrounding communities of Swissvale, Rankin and Braddock. The team interviewed community stakeholders, researched comparable sites and estimated the economic impact of the anticipated National Park on the region.

#### **UPTOWN PARTNERS OF PITTSBURGH**

The LDI team worked with Uptown Partners (UP), a community organization dedicated to the revitalization of Pittsburgh's Uptown neighborhood to develop a business plan which outlines future programmatic goals for the organization and identifies methods and resources available to meet those goals. To develop the business plan, the team attended membership meetings, walked through the neighborhood and talked with community members, business owners and organizational consultants.

#### **CONSTRUCTION JUNCTION**

The LDI team evaluated Construction Junction's deconstruction service and collaboration opportunities with Allegheny County municipalities. The project included promoting the non-profit's services during the residential building/demolition permitting process in exchange for statistical results regarding the amount of material a municipality saved from the landfill. By contacting municipalities with median housing values of at least \$100,000, the LDI team was able to obtain historical permit data, gauge each municipality's interest level in working with Construction Junction and make recommendations to the organization on points of entry within the permitting process to market its deconstruction capabilities.

#### **PITTSBURGH INTERNATIONAL CHILDREN'S THEATER**

Founded in 1969, the Pittsburgh International Children's Theater presents professional arts programming through a Family Series from October through March and during the International Children's Festival each May. The team members examined the organization's internal operations and conducted a marketing and branding analysis in order to develop a business plan incorporating suggestions for improvement in these areas.

#### **THE WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA DIVERSITY INITIATIVE**

The team assisted the Western Pennsylvania Diversity Initiative (WPDI) with identifying opportunities for growth through a benchmarking process and analysis of the regional target market. WPDI is a membership-based organization dedicated to promoting economic growth by providing resources to employers who wish to attract and retain a diverse workforce. This team's findings will further define the target audience of potential members and analyze the needs of regional employers, both of which will position WPDI to more effectively fulfill its mission by educating and promoting awareness of the importance of diversity in today's workplace.

#### **WILKINSBURG COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION**

The LDI team assessed the state of the Wilkesburg Main Street District and compared their progress to other communities that have participated in the Main Street programs. The team interviewed the Main Street Managers of nine local neighborhoods and spoke to the Wilkesburg Community Development Corporation (WCDC) to learn their interests, needs and vision. The team made recommendations to the WCDC regarding the possible benefits of the Main Street grant to businesses, property owners and the community. The findings will be used to illustrate the potential benefits of becoming a Main Street community and provide recommendations on the best strategies used by other neighborhoods.

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## **Leadership Development Initiative XVI**

### COMMUNITY IMPACT PROJECT PROPOSAL

#### **PART I – Organizational Information**

Name of non-profit organization:

Address:

Phone:

Fax:

E-mail:

Organization Website:

Organization's Mission:

How did you learn of this opportunity? (If you learned of it from a LP/LDI graduate, please provide the name of the graduate/participant who referred you):

Organization's contact person name and title (this person must be available to meet with the LDI project team throughout project development):

Name & Title

Telephone Number

Email Address

Has this person agreed to commit the time to support the efforts of the LDI team?      Yes      No

#### **PART II – Project Information**

**Proposal Deadline: FRIDAY, September 5, 2008**

Email to [kathy@lpinc.org](mailto:kathy@lpinc.org) or fax to 412.392.4559

Please describe the proposed project (in detail- please add additional pages if necessary):

What skills are required to complete this project (i.e., accounting, legal, marketing, engineering, etc.)?

Is there data already available to support or augment this project? If so, what is it?

Is this a new project/program or will this project support a report/program that already exists?

Is there a set timeline/deadline for this project? If so, what is it?

Roughly how many total person-hours (LDI participants) would be required to complete this project?

How many participants do you think will need to be on this project team, if selected?

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Does the organization have the financial resources in hand to implement the recommendations that come out of the project? If needed, is the organization willing to raise the money needed to implement the recommendations?

How does the organization plan to use the project findings? (note, as part of the projects we ask that the project groups be able to present their findings to your organization's board or other governing body).

How does the organization plan to track/manage the progress of the project?

What other information can you share regarding the project and time commitment needed to complete the project (i.e., work week or weekend meetings, time required on-site versus working remotely, or resources required)?

Additional comments:

Would you like to schedule a time to talk to Kathy Risko regarding your project prior to project selection?

YES                      NO

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**I have read and understand the Project Guidelines. This organization is committed to supporting and working with an LDI team to the reasonable extent necessary to ensure a productive relationship for both the team and the organization.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_