

FAYETTE COUNTY EDUCATION FUND, INC.

EDUCATION LEADERSHIP COMMUNITY

MAKING A DIFFERENCE
SINCE 2001

Providing leadership training and environmental education to continually develop and retain youth and community leaders for the future of Fayette County and West Virginia; offering opportunities for hands-on experiences:

- in the business, government, and tourism sectors;
- for individual development, college prep, team-building, and public speaking;
- with environmental science in an outdoor classroom.



HARVARD Kennedy School

ASH CENTER

for Democratic Governance
and Innovation

Program participants have earned admittance into highly competitive universities, including medical and veterinary, and many have returned to Fayette County as professionals in fields such as education, engineering, accounting, marketing, small business owners, criminal justice and health care.

LEADERSHIP FAYETTE COUNTY PREPARING TOMORROW'S LEADERS TODAY



Fayette County Education Fund / Leadership Fayette County, 2001-2018

In 2001, Leadership Fayette County (LFC) was born. In 2013 the LFC program earned recognition from Harvard Kennedy School and the Ash Center for Democratic Governance and Innovation as a "Bright Idea" and exemplary community development program.

Also in 2013, the Capstone Program at WVU studied the program and attributed hundreds of thousands of dollars in local economic growth to LFC and its umbrella organization, the Fayette County Education Fund, Inc.

Fayette County Education Fund, Inc. is a registered 501C3 and graciously accepts tax-deductible donations from generous businesses and individuals. Donations can be sent to: 310 W Oyler Ave, Oak Hill, WV 25901. Contact Board President Geoff Heeter 304-573-0111 and at geoffheeter@gmail.com, or Coordinator Rachel Davis 304-880-8059 and at rachel.davis8059@gmail.com.

Leadership Fayette County

Each year, ten to fourteen students are selected by application and interview to participate in twelve to thirteen session program throughout their eleventh grade school year. In 2011 the program expanded to offer select sessions to all students who complete the application and interview process. Those who successfully complete the full program are awarded a \$1000 college/training scholarship.

Goal - To develop future leaders who have a working knowledge of how successful communities progress while providing them with tools to aid in their future development as leaders.

Objectives - Through hands-on activities and exercises the students will gain and develop:

- working knowledge of the individuals, agencies, businesses and programs that foster economic and social development in Fayette County.
- essential public speaking and public presentation skills to enhance their effectiveness as community leaders.
- skills necessary to participate and flourish in groups or teams through exercises assimilating community and business development and governance practices.
- working knowledge of the power of the spoken and written word while assessing the audience and its reaction to their leadership efforts.
- a variety of leadership tactics and skills though directed case studies while applying these tactics within the framework of the Leadership program.
- critical and creative thinking on their feet by being placed in situations outside of their normal comfort zone to acclimate them to the process of performing under pressure in real world situations.

The Fayette County Education Fund appreciates financial and/or in-kind support from:

ACE Adventure Resort	Hamilton, Burgess, Young & Pollard
Adventures on the Gorge	Honorable Judge John Hatcher
Ansted Lions Club	Impel Promotions llc, Rachel Davis
Appalachian Electric Power Company	Jan-Care Ambulance Service
Bridge Walk, Benjy Simpson	Jon Dragan Family
Christopher Frost, Esq.	Kroger, Oak Hill
Crosier's Sanitation	New River Birding & Nature Festival
Epic Escape Game, New River Gorge	New River Gorge CVB
Fayette County Board of Education and Superintendent	Opossum Creek Retreat
Fayette County Chamber of Commerce	Pat & Alecia Ford, Sirk/Fork Initiative Inc
Fayette County Commission	The Robbins Company

"LFC was an outstanding experience building life skills and friendships I would not have otherwise gained without the program. I graduated from WVU and am now working as an accountant in Fayette County. Without the support from the community and local businesses integral to the LFC program, I'm sure I would not have been nearly as prepared to tackle the real world obstacles I faced after completing the program."

- Lauren Booth, LFC class of 2006

Approximate facts and figures:

Total Program Graduates, 2002 - 2018	207
Average Annual Program Costs	\$40,000
Average Annual Cost Per Student	\$4,000