



SPOTLIGHT:

Muncie's Youth Leadership Program Sparks a Movement

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Muncie's Youth Leadership Program Sparks a Movement

Kaylani Wilson, Junior at Muncie Central

Need an easy way to develop your people?

At Shafer Leadership Academy, we believe that growing your people is the best way to increase your impact. So find a program that's right for you. Now is the time to invest in your people. Let's multiply your success with more effective and enthusiastic leaders.

Find A Program



Each year, students from Muncie's three high schools — Muncie Central High School, Burriss Laboratory School and the Indiana Academy for Science, Mathematics, and Humanities — come together for the Muncie Youth Leadership Program.

One of the various programs put together by Shafer Leadership Academy, this program allows youth from Muncie's three schools to learn about being a leader in their respective schools and the wider Muncie community, while also teaching them leadership skills and strategies. The program, which lasts throughout the school year, ends with a group service project focused on the Muncie community.

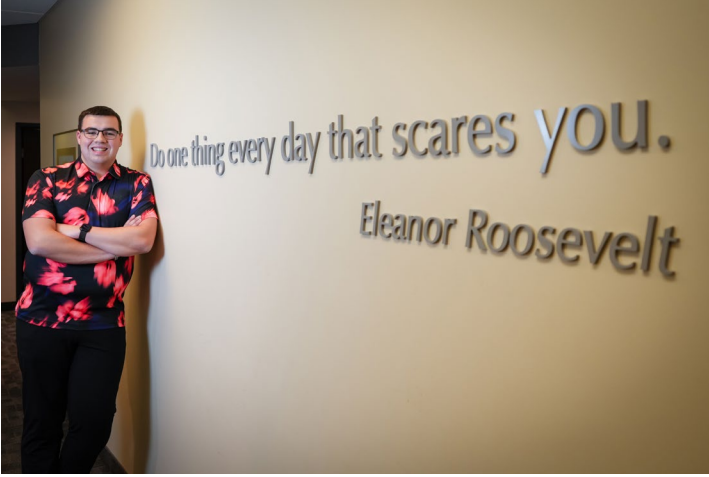
"The Muncie Youth Leadership Program empowers young people to discover their leadership potential while connecting deeply with their community," said Mitch Isaacs, Executive Director of Shafer Leadership Academy. "It's inspiring to see how this experience fosters personal growth and a lifelong commitment to making a difference."

Students are often identified by their teachers as potential program participants. Once the program starts, students learn about themselves and their group members, while also learning various leadership styles, community resources, delegation and conflict resolution skills.

Andrew Goodman, who completed the program during the 2022-23 school year, was referred to the program by a teacher at Muncie Central. During the program, Goodman said the biggest thing he learned about himself is his open-mindedness to other people's ideas and viewpoints.



Andrew Goodman, 2023 Participant



Jacob Emert, Junior at Ball State University

“The Muncie Youth Leadership Program empowers young people to discover their leadership potential

“I let everybody speak before I could form exactly what I wanted to say, because I wanted to actually hear what was being brainstormed,” he said.

Likewise, Kaylani Wilson, current junior at Muncie Central, noted she learned not to be too headstrong when floating ideas around.

“I figured out very quickly that we need to all put in our two cents, and it's not just about one person the whole time,” Wilson said. “So I figured out that just taking a step back is okay.”

During the second semester of the program, the students worked together in their groups for their group projects. The main goal of these projects was for the students to make a change in the community. Xyza Keller, current freshman at Ball State, said her group's idea was focused on putting a garden at a nursing home.

“My dad had previously run community gardens in North Dakota and South Dakota. So in the summers, I would go work on those,” Keller said. “We just learned about the benefits of introducing that [the garden] into their lives.”

When Jacob Emert, currently a junior at Ball State, worked with his group on their service project, they came up with the idea of using a free refrigerator of canned, non-perishable foods. In elementary school, Emert went to East Washington Academy, which is located in Muncie's food desert. His firsthand experience of seeing students and families at or below the poverty line influenced his direction for his group's project.

“I always wanted to do something that was relevant to Muncie,” Emert said. “We wanted to do something that could help address that.”

The resulting connection with community is something previous members of the program hold as one of their favorite parts of the experience. Wilson, whose team's project was focused on an “Adopt-a-Resident” program in a nursing home, said people recognize her from the events her group held.

“They still talk about them to their families, and I still get recognized and stuff,” Wilson said. “Some people in Muncie, their families are in nursing homes. So I feel like connecting with the families of the people at the nursing home helped me realize that our community is really similar.”

Keller said what she learned in the program motivated her to become a more involved community member. Currently, she is involved with the Student Honor Council and just joined the Alpha Omicron Pi sorority at Ball State.

“Honestly, I couldn't imagine my life without like being an active member of the community,” she said. “I would love to have a career focused on me making an impact in the community.”

Emert said the program helped teach him how to be accountable to himself and other people. For him, the mindset is he is responsible for his own decisions and experiences.

“Yes, it relies on other people, but I have to be willing to put in the work, take the time, take the effort to see it work out,”

For Goodman, he sees the program as an important building block experience in his life. Through the program, he was able to value the people around him as well as their personal experiences and backgrounds.

“I'm very glad that like I was able to partake in that, because I miss it sometimes, with the people I was with and the fun times we had,” he said. “I'm very glad I ended up doing the program.”

Invest in young leaders.

Create a leadership program for your community!

Shafer Leadership Academy facilitates Youth Leadership Programs to help communities develop young leaders. These customizable programs are designed to meet the unique needs of your community.



Grant Enables Free Access to Shafer Signature Programs

Thanks to a generous grant by the American Electric Power Foundation, Shafer Leadership Academy is offering two of its highly sought-after programs free of charge to the public: Fusion: Leading Multi-Generational Teams and Pre-Supervisor Training. Typically valued at \$250 per participant, Fusion will be held on October 29, 2024, from 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM, at Ivy Tech's Fisher Building in Muncie. Additionally, Pre-Supervisor Training, which is typically priced at \$750 per participant, will be available for free at Eastern Indiana Works in Muncie.

The grant was provided by the American Electric Power Foundation, whose support makes it possible for a wider audience to access these dynamic leadership development opportunities.

"This partnership with Indiana Michigan Power allows us to offer some of our most impactful programs at no cost, opening the door for many who may not have had the opportunity before," said Mitch Isaacs, Executive Director of Shafer Leadership Academy. "We're excited to bring more people into these experiences and help them foster greater understanding and collaboration, whether through cross-generational teamwork or by developing essential leadership skills."

“This partnership allows us to offer some of our most impactful programs at no cost, opening the door for many who may not have had the opportunity before.”

Fusion is an interactive workshop designed to help participants understand the perspectives and work styles of five distinct generations—from the Greatest Generation to Gen Z. The program uses Shafer's proprietary Generational Game Board, fostering stimulating discussions and hands-on learning in a collaborative environment.

Fusion

~~\$250 per participant~~

Tuesday, October 29th

1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Ivy Tech Community College
345 S High Street
Muncie, IN 47305

Learn more or register at: shaferleadership.com/fusion

Pre-Supervisor Training prepares individuals for leadership roles, building the skills and confidence to transition into supervisory positions. The program provides tools and insights into leadership, team dynamics, and communication, enabling participants to manage teams effectively in their new roles.

Pre-Supervisor Training

~~\$750 per participant~~

November 19th & November 26th

9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

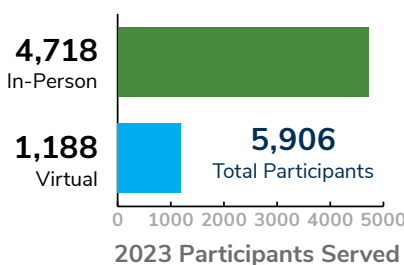
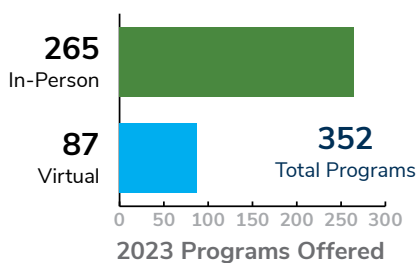
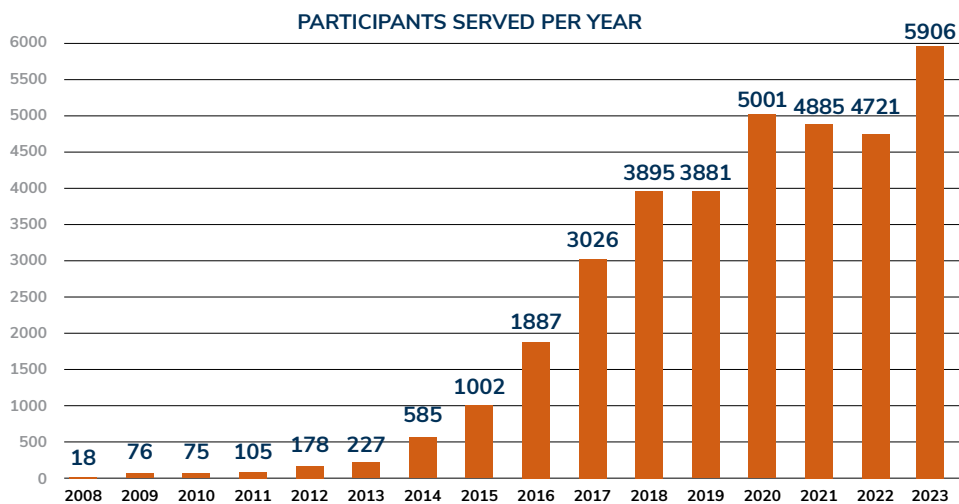
Eastern Indiana Works
4620 W Bethel Ave
Muncie, IN 47305

Learn more or register at: shaferleadership.com/pre-supervisor-training



Highlights from SLA's 2024 Annual Meeting

Members of Shafer Leadership Academy gathered at the Innovation Connector for our Annual Meeting to celebrate SLA's impact. We heard from WaTasha Barnes Griffin about our commitment to Inclusive Leadership Development, learned how Emergence graduates are making a difference in our community, and shared our progress and growth as we continue to lead forward.



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Upcoming Events

Shafer Leadership sessions are led by facilitators who guide participants to learn in community together around a leadership development topic.

Facilitation is different than lecturing, webinar, or presentation style format.

October

THU
3

Excel: What You Don't Know But Should Know

This session is great for the novice as well as the experienced Excel user looking to be more efficient.

Virtual Early Riser



Janet Jackson

November

THU
07

Leadership Strategies for Building Inclusive Teams

This session will equip leaders with tools to create an inclusive, engaged, and high-performing team in any work environment.

Virtual Early Riser



MeChelle Callen

WED
15

Learn the DNA to Make Hard Conversations Easy

Participants will learn practical tools they can implement immediately at work or home to make hard conversations easy.

Virtual Workshop



Ariana Friedlander, MPA

TUE
12

Workplace Serenity: Strategies for Stress Reduction

Learn practical stress management techniques to proactively manage stress and maintain mental clarity.

In-Person Workshop



Nichole Linebaugh

TUE
23

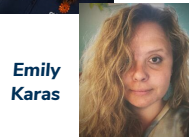
Navigating the Job Search Journey with Confidence

In this empowering session, we delve into the nuanced and often uncharted territory of disclosing disabilities during the job search process.

Coffee Talk



Dr. Courtney Jarrett



Emily Karas

WED
13

Mastering Change and AI in a Transforming World

Explore how to embrace change as a driver of growth, gain a new perspective on AI's potential impact, and learn effective strategies for leading organizations

Virtual Workshop



Pete van Overwalle

WED
29

Fusion: Leading Multi-Generational Teams

Fusion is a hands on journey to a better understanding of generational differences.

In-Person Workshop



Tisha Gierhart

WED
20

Strategic Decision Making: From Vision to Execution

Participants will discuss common sticking points in the path of effective and strategic decision making.

Coffee Talk



Erika Petrelli



EARLY RISER

A VIRTUAL JUMP START



LUNCH & LEARN

MID-DAY PROGRAMS FOR THE BUSY PROFESSIONAL



COFFEE TALK

A GREAT WAY TO START YOUR DAY



WORKSHOP

TIME TO DIVE DEEPER



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www.shaferleadership.com/calendar/

December

THU 03 **Off the Shelf: Valued**

The six coaching habits that turn subject matter experts into enthusiastic talent developers

Virtual Discussion



TUE 05 **Vision Casting-Creating a Compelling Future**

Learn about the power of your subconscious, the neuroscience involved in crafting your future and how to use this to your advantage as you set goals.

Virtual Early Riser



Halle Simpson

TUE 10 **Facing Fear**

Participants will learn and discuss four facing fear tips you can apply to various areas of your life to overcome whatever may be holding you back.

In-Person Lunch & Learn



Sara McInerney Hauck

WED 17 **Cultivating a Sense of Belonging**

Dive into the importance of creating environments where every individual is seen, heard, welcomed, and valued as an integral part of the collective.

Virtual Workshop



Megan Fuciarelli

THU 18



ALL ABOARD

BOARD LEADERSHIP IN MOTION

Wednesday Nov 20th

5:00 - 8:00 pm

YWCA Central Indiana - Muncie

All Aboard: Board Leadership in Motion is a three-hour workshop ideal for individuals who have a desire to serve on a not-for-profit board but want to learn more about what serving as a board member entails, and how to find the potential board opportunity that suits their interests and skill sets.

Participant Takeaways

- An understanding of the roles and responsibilities of a nonprofit board member
- How to determine board opportunities that match interests, skills, & desired level of commitment
- Guidance on how to be an effective board member
- Insight on how to find potential board member opportunities
- Descriptions of board member opportunities currently available in the area

Learn more or register at: shaferleadership.com/all-aboard

Our Mission

Shafer Leadership Academy provides inclusive leadership development so that people, organizations and communities reach their full potential.

Future Vision

Empowering people to inspire positive change in their community. Our participants excel in their careers, enrich the lives of others and transform their communities.

PRESIDENTIAL



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