



LEADERSHIP LAKE NORMAN

2026-2027 LEADERSHIP LAKE NORMAN APPLICATION AND INFORMATION



“There are no such things as limits to growth, because there are no limits on the human capacity for intelligence, imagination and wonder.”

Ronald Reagan

A Program Developed and Administered by the



CLASS XXX

Novant Health—Huntersville Medical Center is the Presenting Sponsor of the Leadership Lake Norman program.



LEADERSHIP LAKE NORMAN

THE PROGRAM

Apply online at
www.lakenormanchamber.org

Leadership Lake Norman is a program sponsored by the Lake Norman Chamber of Commerce to develop a group of informed, committed, and qualified individuals capable of providing visionary and progressive leadership for the Lake Norman region.

The program is an in-depth study of management styles, personalities, and involved activities to illustrate positive leadership opportunities. Taking place over an eight-month period, participants in Leadership Lake Norman have a chance to tour facilities, participate in informative seminars, and are enlightened to the resources available to them in the Lake Norman area.

Once participants have completed Leadership Lake Norman, they will be well informed, and have a foundation for implementing their knowledge and skills to become a progressive citizen and leader at Lake Norman.

“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, concerned citizens can change the world. Indeed it is the only thing that ever has.”

Margaret Mead

Leadership Lake Norman kicks off with a reception at the Chamber with the participants, Board of Directors of the Chamber, and various elected municipal officials. This is followed by a two-day retreat, combining team building, diversity training, a presentation on Lake Norman regional attractions sponsored by Visit Lake Norman and the Lake Norman trivia game. The program continues for eight months in one-day sessions.

Area leaders in business, government, media, education, health care, and tourism enlighten the participants about the resources, infrastructure, and facilities available to Lake Norman citizens. Each session, the group will look at topics ranging from crime and law to community infrastructure. The program culminates with a graduation and a class project designated by the group.



Leadership Lake Norman Class XXI touring the
Historic Hugh Torrance House & Store in
Huntersville.

THE REQUIREMENTS



Participants of Leadership Lake Norman XXIX during a tour of the Cornelius PD Lake Patrol.

Participants in the Leadership Lake Norman program are required to attend the overnight retreat and the Graduation exercise. All other full day sessions are required with only one absence allowed.

These attendance requirements reflect the commitment necessary to receive a meaningful experience from your investment in the program. Participants will need to budget additional time upon the completion of the program for the class project.

Casual dress is recommended at all sessions with the exception of the Graduation.

“If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader.

John Quincy Adams

APPLY On-Line at
www.LakeNormanChamber.org

THE TUITION

The program enrollment is limited to approx. twenty-one (21) and no more than 26 participants. Candidates are selected on the basis of their previous and potential leadership ability and community involvement. The online application is available at www.LakeNormanChamber.org.

Applications must be received by Friday, September 3, 2026 to be eligible for the program.

All applicants will be notified in writing regarding acceptance in the program by September 7, 2026. For more information call 704.892.1922.

Tuition for the program is \$495 for Chamber Members and \$600 for non-members. Participants may have all or part of their tuition paid for by their employer. The invaluable resources and contacts made through this program are a major investment in your future civic and business opportunities. Applicant understands that in order to graduate and receive a plaque from Leadership Lake Norman, they must attend the overnight retreat, graduation and five of the six full day sessions.

THE SCHEDULE

*Presented by Novant Health
Huntersville Medical Center*

Reception/Orientation

Thursday, September 10, 2026, 4:30 PM
Lake Norman Chamber

Overnight Retreat

Bethelwoods, York County, SC
Thursday & Friday, September 17 & 18, 2026
Sponsored by Shared Resources—Technology Solutions

History & Education

Thursday, October 22, 2026
Sponsored by HomeTrust Bank

Government/Crime/Law

Thursday, December 3, 2026
Sponsored by The Range at Lake Norman

Economic Development

Thursday, January 28, 2027
Sponsored by MSC

Travel & Tourism/Arts

Thursday, February 25, 2027
Sponsored by EnergyUnited

Health Care

Thursday, March 25, 2027
Sponsored by Novant Health

Community Infrastructure

Thursday, April 22, 2027
Sponsored by Duke Energy/McGuire Nuclear Station

Graduation

Graduation TBA



*Leadership Lake Norman XXIX visiting Southwire in
Huntersville during the Economic Development Ses-
sion*

**“Management is doing things
right; leadership is doing the
right things.”**

Peter F. Drucker

TESTIMONIALS

"I would highly recommend registering for Leadership Lake Norman. This course provides a behind-the-scenes view of what it takes to create and maintain the success of our community. We were able to meet with elected official, business leaders, and community leaders from across Lake Norman. We were exposed to the valuable missions that our police and fire carry out each day on our behalf of our community. We also got to meet the people that work everyday to ensure that our infrastructure remains fully capable to serve current and future needs. Perhaps most importantly, we were able to meet and develop meaningful relationships with each other as we went through this process. My class was a diverse group of professionals that helped me to become a better leader and a better member of our community!"

Thomas A Golden
Chief Executive Officer
EnergyUnited

"When I joined the Leadership Lake Norman program, my goal was to expand a greater understanding of the Lake Norman community while building meaningful relationships. After the yearlong program, I can say with success that I completed this goal. I have learned so many valuable things about our amazing community and will walk away with 25 new friends and connections. These connections will assist me in my role at Atrium Health. I highly recommend Leadership Lake Norman."

Matt Roden, Community Relations Director
Atrium Health

"Being new to the area, I wanted to learn more about the Lake Norman community. Joining the Leadership Lake Norman was a great decision and provided me more than I expected. Learning about the diverse businesses, local governments and developing relationships far exceeded my expectations. I have established a network of relationships that will help us all grow and serve each other. This is a great opportunity to learn how the Lake Norman community works and thrives. I highly recommend the Chamber's Leadership program."

Kent Minich, SPHR
Human Resource Manager
Reynolds Consumer Products

"Leadership Lake Norman was a great way for me to develop relationships with other leaders in our diverse community while learning about businesses in the region. As someone who was new to the area, I am much more aware of the commerce, industry, and Infrastructure that makes up this dynamic community. I highly recommend the program."

Mike Riley
President
Novant Health Huntersville Medical Center

"Leadership Lake Norman was an incredibly impactful experience that deepened my understanding of our community and how its leaders work together to drive success. I gained valuable insight into the connections between business, government, and education, along with relationships that will last well beyond the program.

The experience strengthened my connection to the Lake Norman community and gave me a broader perspective on how we can all contribute to its continued success. I would highly recommend Leadership Lake Norman to anyone looking to grow their network, expand their knowledge, and make a lasting impact."

Kirsten Orr
Manager, Leave of Absence Program
MSC Industrial Supply Company