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LeadershipPrinceWilliam.org

**EXPERTS CHALLENGE, INFORM AND INSPIRE CLASS TO ADDRESS
SOCIAL NEEDS IN OUR COMMUNITY**

February 19, Woodbridge VA —Leadership Prince William Class of 2009 attended their recent day-long session at the Hylton Education Center at Potomac Hospital where they connected with county, civic and local leaders in discussions about health and human service issues in the greater Prince William area.

Dr. Alison Ansher, Director Prince William County Public Health Department, led the discussion with an informative presentation on health issues in Prince William County. Dr. Ansher noted that Prince William County ranks above other Northern Virginia counties in infant mortality.

Cheri Villa, Executive Director of SERVE, Frances Harris, Director of ACTS and Dr. Mary Lopez, Independent Empowerment Center led a life simulation experience including a day in the life of those making minimum wage or less, the struggle to survive.

William Moss, President of Potomac Hospital, provided a virtual tour of the facility including the new state-of-the-art patient care building.

Dr. Alan Abramson, author and Senior Fellow in the Nonprofit Sector and Philanthropy Program at the Aspen Institute, Professor in the Department of Public and International Affairs at George Mason University, and board member of the Nonprofit Roundtable of Greater Washington led a discussion about the positive impact of non-profits in a community engaging the students in a discussion of the fiscal and social aspects of our philanthropic endeavors.

Karen Smith, Director of ARC/INSIGHT Inc., concluded the day by issuing a challenge to Leadership Prince William class members to become involved in addressing social problems in their communities.

Mary Foley, Executive Director of the Voluntary Action Center of Prince William and Chairman of the Health and Human Service committee session echoed the day's theme by delivering a call to action, "Become involved in community organizations as board members and/or members of committees in order to truly make the greater Prince William area a World Class Community."

Steward Sponsor of the day session was Didlake, Inc. and Reach sponsors were Potomac Hospital and Prince William Hospital.

The program, Leadership Prince William, is built around a comprehensive, ten-month curriculum that brings key community information and imparts vital skills to the residents and business leaders of the Prince William area. Directed by a Board of Regents, Leadership Prince William is a private, non-profit organization with programs designed to prepare existing and emerging community leaders for pivotal positions in business, local government and community affairs. The courses inspire, enlighten, and connect a network of individuals interested in building a strong future for the Prince William community. The skills imparted during this intensive program will help launch graduates into new civic and business opportunities, and will create a positive force for change in the community.

Leadership Prince William is sponsored by Venture sponsors Prince William County Greater Manassas Chamber of Commerce and Prince William Regional Chamber of Commerce. Foundation Sponsors are George Mason University, Dominion Virginia and Micron Technology. ###