

2018 Leadership Class Raises the Bar

Contributions exceed \$13,500

For Immediate Release:

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Projects to give back have become a hallmark of the Ankeny Leadership Institute (ALI) program. The 2018 class capped off their year by hosting a golf classic raising \$8,500 for the Ankeny Service Center in addition to over \$5,000 in materials and volunteer hours to build and install three pergola planters for the On With Life sensory garden.

The community projects were in addition to seven leadership class sessions. The ALI program combines community knowledge with leadership exploration and skill development. "ALI was a very rewarding experience and valuable networking opportunity. Both projects allowed everyone to participate and it felt great to give back to our community. It helped that the instructors and my classmates were hilarious and amazing!" said Nichoel Church, environmental scientist at Snyder and Associates and 2018 graduate. "Of course, I appreciate what I gained from the class work but the pride that came from our project work sets it apart from other programs in my mind."

Applications are being accepted for the 2018-2019 program. The deadline to apply is Friday, August 31, 2018. This seven-month program begins with a Meet and Greet September 18 with the first class session on October 2, 2018 and includes ten meetings through April 9, 2019. Details and applications are available at www.ankenyleadership.org. Space is limited.

The Ankeny Leadership Institute is a self-funded program sponsored by Ankeny Economic Development Corporation, Ankeny Area Chamber of Commerce and the City of Ankeny. Participants in each ALI class have added to a legacy of community focused projects that have included: Backpack Buddies, Art for Ankeny, Pay-It-Forward Ankeny, Little Free Libraries, Renovation of TAKE (The Ankeny Klothing Exchange), family baskets for On With Life and more.



2018 Ankeny Leadership Institute Class

Front row (seated): Ryan Drew, Ali Krogman, Brian Steffens, Jonnell Miller, Niki Wilson, Michael Hidder, Dr. Amy Dittmar, Daniel Schellhase

Back row: Megan Elsbecker, Nichoel Church, Michael Doss, Brett Walker, Brian Tiernan, Michael Fischer, Bruce Tennant, Amanda Hayden, Ellen Hames, Jason Ledden (not pictured)

