

Community Leadership Retreat



More than 80 individuals representing seven states convened for the 9th annual training retreat for Community Leadership organizations across the region. The National Emergency Training Center in Emmitsburg, MD was the host site.

A dynamic keynote presentation on the topic of “building a high velocity organization” was given by Umar Hameed of Productivity Cubed whose thesis is that speed, direction, and acceleration are the standards for productivity.

Breakout sessions during the day-long retreat provided information on current trends facing community leadership programs and also provided a forum for attendees to share ideas and best practices as well as exchange resources. Hot topics included “Designing Executive Leadership Programs,” “Best Practices in Graduate Programs,” “Class Projects,” and, of course, Fundraising!

“Fundraising 101 for Community Leadership Programs” was provided by Una Martone, CFRE President of Leadership Harrisburg Area. “People take pride in their communities and want them to thrive; through fundraising for your programs, you are simply providing your donors with a way to make a difference and change lives,” said Martone as she started the session. Five simple steps to launching a fundraising program and basic strategies to increase revenue were offered.

The retreat closed with a high-energy presentation on “using social networking in community leadership programs.” Jon-Mikel Bailey of Wood Street Marketing offered his assessment of free resources and insights to most effectively incorporate them into programming and operation.