



2023 TACL Conference

Best Practices – 45 Ideas In 45 Minutes

RECRUITMENT IDEAS THAT DELIVER:

1. Luncheon – Alumni invite people interested or those who want to learn more about their leadership program. *Lauren, Leadership Jackson*
2. Excited “feeder” program by recent grads. *Kathy, Youth Leadership Roane County*

ACTIVITIES THAT ENERGIZE & BOND:

1. Youth ROPES Course – *Kathy, Youth Leadership Roane County*
2. Poverty Simulation for Adults / Financial Simulation for Youth – *Shelby, Leadership Jackson Alum & Volunteer*
3. Scavenger Hunt with Digital Photos – *Kayla, L’Evate Volunteer*

SPEAKERS THAT ROCK:

1. Steve Joiner – Conflict Management – Lipscomb University (*Virginia Grimes, WestStar*)
2. Judge Callaway – Youth Court (*Milton Price, L’Evate Volunteer*) Nashville area
3. Jon Ewing, Women’s Clinic; Samuel “Dub” Oliver, Union University; Dr. Leah Gray-Youth Mental Health, Freed-Hardeman University; Judge Don Allen, Circuit Court - Jackson (*Lauren Saliba, Leadership Jackson*)
4. B. J. Keener, YMCA – All things leadership (*Deann Bradford, L’Evate*)
5. Tony Clower; Scott Mason; County Executive Wade (*Teresa Duncan, Leadership Roane County*)
6. Brad McCoy; Josh Schipp – Social & Emotional (*Leadership Roane County*)
7. Trish Holliday – Engagement Exercises (*Lisa Hayward, Leadership Middle TN*)

PROGRAM DAY THAT KEEPS THEM TALKING:

1. “Faith Day” – visit a variety of different denomination churches. Open Forum prior to visits - *Kayla, L’Evate Volunteer*
2. “Law Day” - Visit local jail – *Leadership Roane County*
 - a. Note from Gibson County Leadership – Add background check to your Application Form. They had someone that had a warrant for them when they visited the jail.

3. "Public Policy Issues: What is Happening in Tennessee" Day - Visit TBI Headquarters & "Humanity of Leadership" Day visit to U. S. Marshall's Office– *Virginia Grimes, WestStar*
4. Spent 30-45 minutes with speakers discussing Leadership Circles – *Deann Bradford, L'Evate*
5. Youth- "Preparing for College & The Future' Day" - American Job Center – Youth Mock Interviews – *Lauren Saliba, Leadership Jackson & Leadership University (youth)*
6. On our Airport/Transportation Day and Government Day, they put the senior program adults and youth together and both groups enjoy the experience. *Evelyn Tade-Finch, M3 Program with L'Evate*
7. "Law Enforcement Day" – Sit in on Drug Court Session – *Audrey Gregg, Adult Leadership Obion County.*
8. "Tour De Fayette County Session" – Bus Tour of Key Points of Interest – *Cheryl Browne, Leadership Fayette County*
9. "Community Tour Day" - Tour of EMS Dispatch Call Center – *Tasha Holmes, Leadership Collierville*
10. Social Services Center – community focus on new needs – *Vivian Fisher, Leadership Lincoln County*
11. "Non-Profit Day" Fair – Set up tables for non-profits to share their services and class can visit each one. - *Libby Wickersham, Leadership Gibson County*
12. "State Government Day" – Combine youth and senior program adults on a charter bus. Host lunch for state reps., divide groups for specific topics; focal point on quality of life/rendering service – *Barbara Stewart, L'Evate Volunteer*

SOLID METHODS TO SELECT CLASS PROJECTS:

1. Set parameters and send out requests to non-profits to submit a project and then let the class or class groups decide on their project – *Kathy Parks, Youth Leadership Roane County.*
2. App. Streamlined for specific needs with outline of "how to achieve." – *Armand Hebert, Leadership Paris-Henry County*
3. Non-Profit Fair to help youth find a project – *Barbara Virgin, Leadership Weakley County*
4. Appoint a Chair and Vice Chair of Class Projects Day who submit potential projects – *M3 – L'Evate's Seniors program.*
5. Do a S.W.O.T (Strengths, Weaknesses Opportunities, Threats) Assessment of your community and pick a project based on the results – *Cheryl Browne, Leadership Fayette*
6. Divide class into teams and let them decide. Each team submits three potential projects and, if no duplications, they get their top choice. Upon completion, they present a Power Point presentation on their project to the whole class. *Ellen Wilhoit, Leadership Sevier*
7. Class is required to do service hours and often find a project through this process. – *Tasha Holmes, Leadership Collierville.*
8. Exchange Club has an annual project called "Field of Honor" for children that have died of child abuse, as well as military and first responders who have lost their life. A total of 1,000 flags are placed in a field in honor of them. Our youth and adults help to place the flags and the youth stay for the service to experience the day. – *Deann Bradford, L'Evate*

PAT ON THE BACK RECOGNITION IDEAS:

1. Box with paper and pen is placed at the back of the room and if a class member sees another class member do something that exemplifies a leader, then they go to the back sometime during the day and write down their name and what they did and put it in a “Kudos” box. At the end of the day, those are pulled out and read. – *Lauren Saliba, Leadership Jackson*
2. Adults - Annual Class Recognitions at Graduation: Jewel Awards – 2 to 3 are given to people in the class who have gone above and beyond in the class of what was expected of them. DIAMOND Award (Did It All Master of Noble Deeds) is given to the person who best exemplifies a leader in the class and exceeded in every way. Youth – Leadership Award is given at Graduation – *Lauren Saliba, Leadership Jackson*
3. Superlative Awards – *Leadership Roane County*

GREAT “PROGRAM LOGO” WEAR / GEAR FOR YOUR CLASS:

1. Environmentally friendly – refillable Water Bottles with logo. Purchase different shaped stickers for the water bottles online and let each person decorate them to personalize. Request that none of your locations you travel to has bottled water but a way for the class to fill their water bottle. Goal is NO PLASTIC WATER BOTTLES FOR THE YEAR. Save the environment – *Deann Bradford, L’Evate*

DIVERSITY DAY – MOST EFFECTIVE – SPEAKER / EXERCISE:

1. Speaker – Sabrina Blue – *Joseph Ross, Leadership University Board (youth) Jackson*
2. Bead Exercise – List of diversity questions, you place a bead on your bracelet if it happened to you. After all the questions, your bracelet tells your story. Exercise on the TACL Website under ToolBox. *Tasha Holmes, Leadership Collierville*
3. Isle of Terre Femme – Great exercise that shows how we jump to conclusions about other cultures. – *Kara Williams, Leadership Maury*

MOST EFFECTIVE FUNDRAISER:

1. Tailgate Party – Put up tents, entertainment, food, “signature drink”, reverse draw that raises about \$20,000, of which they get to keep half. – *Ellen Wilhoit, Leadership Sevier*

SOCIAL MEDIA POSTS – CREATING FOLLOWERS:

1. Post pictures and post often – *Delaney Timberman, Leadership Hardin County*