

## PRESS RELEASE

### For Immediate Release

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## Leadership Center for Excellence Welcomes 23 Young Professionals to Membership

**Arlington, VA** – On Wednesday, January 20, Leadership Center for Excellence, powered by Leadership Arlington, welcomed its newest class of the Young Professionals Program as it gathered for the first time for a day-long retreat.

The Boeing Company hosted the exciting launch session for this four-month program that focuses on civic and philanthropic awareness to promote a deeper level of community engagement throughout the DC metro region. Twenty-three participants were selected to engage in the Spring session of this experiential program, now in its ninth session, for fast-track leaders in the region. The new class joins Leadership Arlington's membership of over 1,200 leaders, representing over 600 organizations.

"Leadership is the key to success for businesses and communities. I can think of no better preparation for future leaders in this area than the Young Professionals Program," said Todd Yeatts, Chair of the Arlington Chamber of Commerce and Senior Manager for Government Operations at The Boeing Company, who welcomed participants to the retreat.

"Our program, offered in the Fall and Spring, provides a launchpad for up-and-coming leaders to expand their leadership footprint regionally. We provide training on essential skills necessary for both professional and personal leadership while also connecting participants with other leaders in their peer group as well as established leaders from the private, public and nonprofit sectors. It's our hope that this program results in retention of young leaders in our region who will mold the future of our community," says Liz Nohra, Chief Operating Officer at Leadership Center for Excellence and Leadership Arlington.

"This area is filled with a large population of young professionals. They have the talent; we help them tap into that talent, build upon it and develop additional skills and resources to become agents of change," explains Betsy Frantz, President & CEO at Leadership Center for Excellence and Leadership Arlington.

### Congratulations to the Leadership Center for Excellence Young Professionals Program Spring Class of 2016!

**Uche Akobundu**, Meals on Wheels America  
**Emily Almand**, Arlington Public Libraries  
**Victoria Bown**, Arthritis and Rehabilitation Therapy Services  
**Scott Desmond**, Accenture Federal Services  
**Laura Dietsch**, Verizon  
**Meredith Eisenhart**, Arlington County, Department of Human Services, Aging and Disability Services Division  
**Kyle Epting**, Arlington Law Group  
**Nikki Ferraro**, HITT Contracting  
**Ling Gao**, AmeriCorps: The Literacy Lab  
**Reem Garada**, Arlington Community Federal Credit Union  
**Chelsea Jacobs**, Ann Wilson Homes, Keller Williams Realty

**Serena Jezior**, Council on Foundations  
**Bernie McKeever**, TransWestern  
**Sawyer Mueller**, Accenture Federal Services  
**Alison Nashed**, Freddie Mac  
**Megan Pierce**, The Shooshan Company  
**Chris Rozario**, Freddie Mac  
**Kate Rutherford**, CEB  
**Kate Shooltz**, TCS Realty Associates  
**Tyson Stanislaus**, Arlington County Fire Department  
**Taylor Vaughn**, United Bank  
**Aaron Walsh**, Marymount University  
**Travell Williams**, Freddie Mac



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### About Leadership Center for Excellence

The mission of Leadership Center for Excellence is to accelerate individual, organizational and community impact through innovative consulting and leadership development. For more information, visit [www.leadercenter.org](http://www.leadercenter.org).