

Class of 2020 Leadership Action Project Summaries

AMIKids Space Coast, Inc.

<http://amikidsspacecoast.org>

“Mentors Mold Young Lives- Enhancing Career Skills for Troubled Youth”

Project members would share their valuable professional experience with our youth, thereby helping them aspire to and attain more challenging and fulfilling careers. This project would entail monthly career classes at The Melbourne Center for Professional Growth for approximately 30 youth ages 13 -18. These youth have been court ordered to our facility for offender and substance abuse rehabilitation. AMIKids provides educational and vocational training, counseling, and behavior modification. Leadership Brevard project team members would focus on how to search for jobs; interview skills and practice; important soft skills such as flexibility, acting as a team player, effective communication, problem-solving, resourcefulness, accepting feedback, confidence, and creative thinking; job etiquette; work ethic; and other tools necessary to transition youth to successful careers and leadership positions.

Brevard County Emergency Management

www.embrevard.com

“Business & Industry Emergency Support Function Coordination (Phase 2)”

Brevard County Emergency Management uses the Emergency Support Function (ESF) model as the primary mechanism for organizing preparedness for, response to, and recovery from the various threats and hazards that may affect our community. Each ESF consolidates multiple organizations that perform similar functions into a single, cohesive unit to allow for better emergency coordination.

The purpose of ESF-18 (Business & Industry) is to coordinate actions that will provide assistance to the needs of business, industry and economic stabilization, and enhance the community’s ability to restore business operations as quickly as possible. Phase 1 (LB 2019) of this project brought together a coalition of business networks, developed connectivity among those networks, created a Business & Industry Partner Strategy, and drafted by-laws and MOUs for the structure and membership of this supporting organization.

This Phase 2 project will mature the conduit for information-sharing in daily and emergency situations, begin creation of a database identifying local business resources and develop a team of volunteers to represent the business community in emergency management meetings/trainings/exercises/emergencies. Several members of the Phase 1 LAP team (LB 2019) have agreed to remain involved for project continuity.

Brevard Indian River Lagoon Coalition, Inc.

www.helpthelagoon.org

“What You can Do to Help the Lagoon: Educating and Motivating Brevardians”

Following a 2016 major fish kill in the Brevard region of Indian River Lagoon and passage of a half-cent sales tax to fund Brevard County’s “Save Our Indian River Lagoon” Project Plan, public interest in restoration of the Indian River Lagoon skyrocketed. While there are many organizations involved with the lagoon restoration, there is confusion among individuals and residents about the impact their behaviors have on the health of our waterways.

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Brevard Indian River Lagoon Coalition, Inc. continued:

In order to increase the health of the Lagoon, major behavioral changes among our communities is essential. The “Help the Lagoon” campaign will result in significantly more residents educated and motivated to engage in daily behaviors that will help the Lagoon. Participation from Leadership Brevard project members will provide the Coalition with a strategy and tactical plan to achieve this. Project members will have the opportunity to demonstrate strategic leadership through development of this project. Engaging local leaders of diverse communities and developing a comprehensive education and outreach program will provide participants with the opportunity to demonstrate their ability and willingness to take on major challenges and develop meaningful solutions.

Brevard Workforce Development Board (d.b.a. CareerSource Brevard)

www.careersourcebrevard.com

“R.I.S.E. Brevard”

CareerSource Brevard (CSB) is the local Workforce Development Board (LWDB) representing Brevard County and is interested in securing resources to help develop Pathways to Prosperity for ex-offenders. We have branded our local response to this need as “R.I.S.E. Brevard” which stands for **R**entry **I**ntervention *resulting in* **S**uccessful **E**mployment. This name reflects our hope that the vocational training and employment intervention services offered to program participants will result in their successful employment, increase self-sufficiency, and reduce recidivism rates. This will also result in helping local employers fill their talent pipeline with much needed workers. We are seeking Leadership Brevard project members’ assistance in helping to put together an image campaign in efforts to change or influence local employer’s perspectives on hiring an individual with criminal background.

Habitat for Humanity of Brevard

www.brevardhabitat.com

“Affordable Housing Requirements for Disabled Children”

Habitat for Humanity is seeing a dramatic increase in families with disabled children, many of which are not physical disabilities. These disabilities may include, but are not limited to, autism spectrum disorder, attention and hyperactivity disorder, speech disorders, and physical and mobility impairments. As Habitat works to build these families affordable housing, we need to understand specific space requirements of these various special needs to enable these children to grow to their fullest potential allowing all families to thrive. Habitat would like to understand what other agencies are available to assist with this or where guidelines might exist.

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Housing for Homeless

www.housingforhomeless.org

“Breaking the Cycle of Poverty in Brevard”

The Breaking the Cycle of Poverty Project will consist of a series of actionable items including research, education, and the identification of effective strategies to be employed in Brevard County. Outlined below are the proposed steps to be taken to achieve the desired outcome of this project:

- I. Education on the causes and culture of poverty, generic methods employed to address poverty and the state of poverty today, nationally, in Florida, and in Brevard.
- II. Identify the contributing factors to poverty in Brevard, and determine why the level of poverty has increased by one-third in the last 10 years, despite an improvement in Brevard’s economy that has resulted in a 65% reduction in the unemployment rate.
- III. Research how the factors contributing to poverty in Brevard have been successfully addressed in other communities.
- IV. Identify best practices and activities that have been successful in breaking the cycle of poverty elsewhere, including the positive impact on the communities concerned.
- V. Determine which activities are best suited to be successfully implemented in our community, and quantify the return on investment.
- VI. Outline strategies and proposed solutions with recommendations on how these activities could be applied in Brevard.

Keep Brevard Beautiful

www.keepbrevardbeautiful.org

“Downtown Melbourne: From History to Sustainability”

The Leadership Action Project will serve as advocates for Keep Brevard Beautiful’s current “Litter Quitter” program. Litter Quitter is a free membership program for restaurants and businesses within Brevard County to encourage the reduction and elimination of single-use plastics and Styrofoam within the business industry. The program offers three membership levels that require certain criteria to be met within the restaurant. During LB 2019, Project Members worked with KBB on spreading Litter Quitter to Cocoa Beach Main Street. This year (LB 2020), KBB would like to replicate that in Historic Downtown Melbourne. The team will work to introduce the Litter Quitter program to the Historic Downtown Melbourne restaurants, in cooperation with Melbourne Main Street. The team members will first be trained as Litter Quitter volunteers by attending on the volunteer training sessions; here they will learn more information on Litter Quitter as well as how to properly approach and speak to business owners about the program. The team will then work with KBB and Melbourne Main Street to create an educational and informative workshop to spread awareness of the program as well as promote the program via door-to-door communication with business owners. The team will be responsible for identifying restaurants in Historic Downtown Melbourne, giving educational material on the Litter Quitter program, inviting the business owners to attend the workshop, and then following-up with those businesses to encourage them to become part of the Litter Quitter family.