

SCIL – Developing Leaders for Today

Sauk County is a thriving and growing region of the state. However, with such success comes challenge.

- Providing activities and guidance for the communities' youth
- Enhancing the quality of life (cultural, social, recreational, economic) for area residents
- Preserving the county's natural beauty

All of these challenges require leaders.

The Sauk County Institute of Leadership (SCIL) is an award-winning program that helps people who have a desire to get involved in their communities. SCIL was recognized as one of Wisconsin's top ten Rural Development Initiatives at the 1998 Governor's Rural Summit. Many people have a strong desire to make their community a better place to live. SCIL can help enhance each participant's natural talents by:

- Strengthening and developing decisionmaking skills,
- Learning about and discussing many of the issues that face the community, and
- Helping to develop the confidence needed to go out and become a more active member of the community.

The mission of the Institute is...
to develop informed, civic-minded leaders who are committed to a vibrant Sauk County.

Who Should Participate?

If you live or work in the Sauk County area and are interested in bettering yourself and your community, SCIL may be for you!

The Sauk County Institute of Leadership has openings for 20 people who represent a variety of backgrounds and interests. Participants may be nominated by a sponsoring organization or they may be self-nominated.

In order to "graduate" from the program, each participant must make a commitment to attend all nine sessions.

Applications for class are due July 15.
Classes start in September



"Developing informed, civic-minded leaders who are committed to a vibrant Sauk County."

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What is Sauk County Institute of Leadership (SCIL)?

The Sauk County Institute of Leadership is a nine-month leadership development program consisting of an initial two-day retreat followed by one-day workshops and a graduation dinner. The workshops will be held in various locales, and, except for September, will take place the second Thursday of each month, through May.

Each session will focus on a different aspect of community leadership. The workshops will share information by utilizing both local and non-local experts and will be focused on keeping the learning process interesting and practical.

Each participant will also have the opportunity to be involved in a community-based project with other members of the group. In other words, you won't have to wait until the end of the program to start making a difference in your community!

What will Participants Learn?

The SCIL program will address the following topics as they relate to local issues, concerns and opportunities:

- Team Building and Leadership Concepts
- State and Local Government
- Family and Community Issues
- Community and Economic Development
- Justice, Civil Liberties and Security
- Education
- Health Care
- Agriculture, Land Use and Natural Resources
- Hands-on Leadership Experience

What does this Program Cost?

The cost of the program is \$425 per participant. It may be paid by the participant, employer, sponsor, or from a combination of sources.

Limited scholarship assistance is available based on financial need.

Who Benefits from the Sauk County Institute of Leadership?

By working with emerging local leaders, community leadership programs help to create an active network of informed, concerned citizens willing and ready to guide the future of their communities.

SCIL has been preparing community leaders for years and the testimonials from graduates and organizations are inspiring. SCIL graduates become leadership resources at work, at home, in local government, in local organizations-- for the entire community.

Community Benefits

- Pool of citizens with a broader knowledge of the issues facing the county
- Enhanced network of leaders who will be more likely to participate and get involved
- More effective employees and citizens armed with new ideas and new ways of engaging people
- Contribution to overall community health and development via the class projects conducted with local partners

Individual Benefits

- Interaction with a group of motivated individuals who share a common concern: a desire to develop leadership skills and have an impact on the community
- Enhanced personal awareness and a deeper understanding of the issues facing Sauk County
- Improved skills for dealing with others
- Connections with community leaders and organizations
- Development as a more confident and capable leader for your organization and/or your community

Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.

-Margaret Meade

Testimonials

From SCIL Graduates:

- "You come out with a whole new perspective, and that increases your effectiveness in the organization you work for as well."
- "Tremendous learning and growing experience. I am thankful that this opportunity was available."
- "An excellent program and experience. I would highly recommend it to anyone interested in learning more about our community."
- "What an excellent year of programs! Thanks for a broad overview of what's happening in our county."
- "The SCIL program provided an excellent array of topics and speakers. When I took this course I was relatively new to the area and it gave me great insight into the projects and needs in the county. "

From Employers:

"Part of growing is learning. And SCIL has provided an opportunity for several of our employees to gain valuable knowledge of the people, the environment and the programs of Sauk County. With this knowledge gained through SCIL, individuals have grown personally and professionally and have taken that step forward in leadership to better serve their communities."

George L Johnson, Past President
Reedsburg Area Medical Center

