



THE LEADING EDGE

CREATING TOMORROW'S LEADERS TODAY



A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Leaders!

At Leadership Coachella Valley, we strive to provide excellent opportunities for budding leaders in our community to learn where they are needed. From your first day of class, learning the names of your classmates and developing long lasting relationships, to the last session you attended learning about our environment and how important it is for us to sustain it; your experience was part of the key to your growth as a leader. Unfortunately, like most non profits, our program is solely funded by the tuition from our students; and areas of development are needed for our organization to grow. You might ask where you can help. One area is by joining our Alumni Council for \$250 annually, this allows you to have a ticket to all of our mixers and is a perfect tax write off! Another area would be to sponsor those delicious lunches and snacks we give our students during each session. Lastly, there are plenty of Corporate Sponsorships available to help promote your business and what services you offer. All of these opportunities lead to the continued growth of our program and the development of future leaders such as yourself. Consider helping LCV grow by donating today.

Be well, and continue to make a difference in our community. I look forward to seeing you at Graduation! Save the date: **LCV Graduation is Friday, June 24th 6-9pm at the Hyatt Regency Indian Wells.** *More details to come, stay tuned.*

All my best,

Shawn Abramowitz

Shawn Abramowitz (16)
Board President, Leadership Coachella Valley
KESQ-TV, Local Sales Manager
shawn.abramowitz@kesq.com

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THE CLASS OF 2021-2022 GETS INTO ACTION

READY TO CREATE LASTING COMMUNITY IMPACT

The 2021-2022 Leadership Coachella Valley Class has sprung into action when tasked with a class project that will help our beloved Coachella Valley. With so many meaningful non-profits and charities suffering post-Covid, the class decided that the organizations who helped the under-served and often overlooked members of our community would be the focus. After many surveys of the 40 classmates, the Galilee Center in Mecca was selected based on several factors: zero government funding, the East Valley residents being hit extremely hard by the pandemic, and the amount of programs the Galilee Center provides. They are currently just shy of \$100,000 short of their efforts to fund an expansion to their currently overflowing Center, in addition to offering the following services: Infant, Children's, and Senior Services, A Farm Worker Center, Food Distribution, Holiday Food Baskets, Rental & Utility Bill Assistance, and Thrift Store Clothing Vouchers. Their impact is mighty, and they need our support now more than ever. A rising tide lifts all boats and LCV is ready to make waves, get media coverage, and help them reach their goal. Thank you to Local IQ/The Desert Sun & KESQ.

Once the Class of '21-'22 learned that some previous LCV classes didn't have the opportunity to participate in a class project: **we wanted to invite, include, and inspire ALL LCV participants past and present to join us.** Together we can make an even bigger impact on the lives of so many hard-working East Valley residents! The impact project is 2 pronged: A donation drive as well as a baby item drive. All information is on the infographic to the right. Scan the QR code to donate, and numerous drop off sites are available for all baby items both new & gently used.)

Thank you for your support!



IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE INCREDIBLE WORK THE GALILEE CENTER DOES IN THE COACHELLA VALLEY, PLEASE VISIT [HTTPS://GALILEECENTER.ORG](https://galileecenter.org), WHERE YOU CAN SEE THE IMPACTFUL PROGRAMS, AS WELL AS DONATE ON BEHALF OF LCV.

TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THEIR EXPANSION PROJECT PLANS, PLEASE VISIT [HTTPS://EXPANSION.GALILEECENTER.ORG/](https://expansion.galileecenter.org/)

DOES YOUR COMPANY PROVIDES GRANTS OR DONATION MATCHING, OR WANT TO GET INVOLVED AND JOIN OUR EFFORTS OR MONTH OF SERVICE? CONTACT US!

Leadership Coachella Valley Class of 2022 presents

May 1 - May 31, 2022

OH BABY!

DONATION DRIVE BENEFITTING FAMILIES AND CHILDREN AT THE



501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that fulfills the food, clothing and basic needs for local disadvantaged children, families and farmworkers in the East Coachella Valley

two ways to give!

BABY ITEMS, new or gently used can be dropped at our 7 locations:

Visit Greater Palm Springs 70100 Highway 111 Rancho Mirage, CA 92270 Monday-Friday 8am-5pm	Desert Sands Unified School District Office 47950 Dune Palms Road La Quinta, CA 92253 Monday-Friday 8am-4pm	Destiny Church East 80250 Hwy 111 Indio, CA 92201 Sundays 8:30am-12:30pm	Destiny Church West Mary Pickford Theater 36850 Pickfair St Cathedral City, CA 92234 Sundays 8:30am-12:30pm
Hyatt Regency Indian Wells 44600 Indian Wells Ln Indian Wells, CA 92210 Monday-Friday 8:30am-4pm	KESQ 31276 Dunham Way Thousand Palms, CA 92276	JadaBug's Kids Boutique 78377 Highway 111 La Quinta, CA 92253 Vons Shopping Center Washington and 111	

DONATE CASH TODAY

GalileeCenter.org/give

Donate by Check to:
Galilee Center, PO Box 308
Mecca CA 92254



THANK YOU LCV SPONSORS

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COLLEGE OF THE DESERT PARTNERSHIP

LCV + COD

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT:

CHRISTINA PAREDES



Christina Paredes is earning her Associates in Sociology in Spring 2022 with sights set on attending CSU in the fall. Her ultimate career goal is to run a nonprofit organization that uplifts the citizens of the Coachella Valley. She believes Learning to Lead “will allow me to gain knowledge of programs that are available, issues facing our citizens, as well as the knowledge, and experience to become the leader of a program that our community truly needs. I am determined to educate children and their parents that (education and their) success is achievable regardless of their socioeconomic status to inspire them to pursue their ultimate dream career.”

The College of the Desert Learning to Lead participants will grow in awareness and understanding of the issues and challenges facing their community. They will also develop valuable contacts within the community and networking opportunities for the future. Additionally, while participating in the Leadership Coachella Valley program, College of the Desert’s Learning to Lead participants become more invested in making their community a better place to live and work. Most importantly, they can discover valuable information that helps them to uncover their passion in life, as well as expanding on their prospects toward a future career path.

For more information on Learning to Lead and how you can support College of the Desert students participating in this valuable leadership program, please contact Matt Durkan, Director of Development, College of the Desert Foundation at 760.773.2561 or mdurkan@collegeofthedesert.edu.

College of the Desert Foundation was founded in 1983 and serves the Coachella Valley’s largest institution of higher learning. The mission of the College of the Desert Foundation is to act as an advocate for the College and to secure financial support, enhancing the educational opportunities for all students.

LEADERSHIP MOMENT

BY SEAN WEBB, LCV ALUMNI COUNCIL

One of the toughest things a person can do is ask for something. For most of my life, as a member of my family, part of a group of friends, and in collaboration with colleagues, I’ve always been the person in these groups to make “the ask”.

I remember as a teenager being in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, for spring break. I was lucky enough to have friends with me on the trip as many of our family friends traveled together. During the trip I was the one who asked if my friend and younger brother and I could walk down the boardwalk without our parents for the first time. To this day, I still have butterflies in my stomach as I think about it. I remember coming up with a plan and topics to share with my parents justifying why they should allow us to do so. All in all, we were able to walk down the boardwalk with my friends.

On behalf of my friends, I continued throughout the rest of grammar school and into my adult life. As a high school teacher and coach, I never had a problem with asking local businesses and community members for items for my students. As I changed roles and became an assistant principal, I now had a much larger group to “ask” for. Luckily, as long as I had a strong reason as to why I was asking, I never let it phase me.

As the new assistant principal in charge of the culinary department at La Quinta High School, I saw that there were many needs to address. One of the primary concerns was the need to fundraise so that we could have basic smallware items for the kitchen. Alongside the teacher, local chefs, and students, the concept of holding cooking competitions came about. The team discussed the cook off idea, and we decided we needed a local celebrity to emcee the event. Once again, this is where I made an “ask”. With the power of social media, I was able to reach out via messenger on Facebook and I directly asked Bianca Rae, local television reporter and personality to be the emcee for the first Blackhawk Showdowns at La Quinta High School. From that “ask” it led to an amazing working friendship and relationship with Bianca. I’m happy to say that with her help and the community, we were able to successfully raise over \$75,000 for different programs at La Quinta High School. It was through my friendship with Bianca that introduced me to Leadership Coachella Valley in 2014. Since being part of the 2015-2016 #MostActiveClass, I’ve been happily asking LCV alumni and students for the students of DSUSD.

Yes, as time has passed the “ask” has become easier. All in all, it just has to be done, do as Nike says, “Just Do It!”

THANK YOU FROM THE
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General supports our community visit:

CalltheGeneral.com

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ALUMNI COUNCIL

LCV GRADUATES CONTINUING LEADERSHIP EFFORTS - THANK YOU!

LCV Graduates are encouraged to join the Alumni Council and stay engaged.

ALUMNI COUNCIL

Sponsor a new class of leaders for \$250

If Leadership Coachella Valley made you feel amazed or inspired, please consider joining the alumni council to support current and future participants of Leadership Coachella Valley. Your annual support directly sponsors a new class of leaders in our valley, who will use LCV as a springboard to do great things for our local community.

BENEFITS

- Name and Class Year listed on all our printed materials, website, and emails
- Free admittance to alumni mixers
- Usher in a new wave of local influencers and leaders

Alumni Council

Wes Ahlgren - 07
Deborah Glickman - 09
Amir Afsar - 10
Rich Malacoff - 10
Susie Harvey - 11
Matt Rifkin - 11
Scott Wilson - 11
Greg Grubb - 13
Randy Florence - 14
Toni Merrihew - 14

Troy Kudlac - 15
Mika Moulton - 15
Valerie Powers-Smith - 15
Catherine Robinson - 15
Katelyn Empey - 15
Sean Webb - 16
Shawn Abramowitz - 16
Abby Sturgeon - 17
Amy Kudlac - 17
Janella Andrews - 18

Erin Eslinger - 18
Charles Gallagher - 19
Arthur Kimball - 19
Oscar Fonseca - 19
Larry Davis - 19
Debra Mumm - 19
Brooke Beare - 20/21
Brandon Marley - 20/21
Patrick Sommers - 20/21
Nicole Trigg - 20/21



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