Our Mission
Leadership SouthCoast engages, educates, and empowers diverse individuals to become active community leaders in a vigorous network determined to improve and strengthen the South Coast region.

The Annual Program
LSC’s annual program brings together individuals from the non-profit, private, and public sectors to explore the critical issues and opportunities that exist across the region in areas such as economic development, education, basic needs, environmental sustainability, arts and culture, government, public health, and criminal justice. Topical information is presented by local leaders and experts in their fields, providing participants direct exposure and powerful connections.

While deepening their understanding of the South Coast, participants develop leadership skills through the Positive Leadership curriculum. Based on the principles of positive psychology and drawing from a range of leadership and social science theory, Positive Leadership provides participants a thought provoking roadmap for honing the capacities necessary to become more effective leaders in both their community and organizations. Our engaging ten-month program includes presentations, panel discussions, field experiences, readings, group discussions, and more.

The Benefits
FOR PARTICIPANTS: Participants expand their professional network across sectors and communities, increase their self-awareness, develop leadership skills, hone problem solving and project management skills, broaden their understanding of the region, and begin to understand the complexity and interconnectivity of issues impacting the community.

FOR EMPLOYERS: LSC offers a comprehensive and affordable professional development opportunity. When an employer supports an employee to participate in LSC, they are making an investment in the individual, their organization, and the community. Research suggests that employers experience boosted company-wide morale, expanded professional connections, and an improved bottom line when they invest in professional development and encourage their staff to engage in the community.

FOR THE COMMUNITY: Communities that possess a strong civic infrastructure are safer, healthier, more resilient, and better able to respond to crisis and opportunity. At the helm of civic infrastructure are effective leaders. Community leadership programs provide a solid foundation for building the capacity of individuals and organizations to solve the challenges facing their communities.

Leadership SouthCoast is the only community leadership program servicing Southeastern Massachusetts. Our engaging ten-month program includes presentations, panel discussions, field experiences, readings, and group discussion. LSC’s Class of 2018 is pictured here with members of the SouthCoast legislative delegation during their monthly session on government at the Massachusetts Statehouse.
Discover our Growing Alumni Network
After graduation, participants join a robust network of over 300 individuals that they can tap to leverage skills, support professional goals, and strengthen community initiatives. The Alumni Network builds on the LSC experience by offering graduates resources and opportunities to further develop their leadership, and stay engaged with the organization, one another, and the community.

Community Collaboration
LSC partners with a host of local organizations to support, and contribute to, the incubation of ideas and solutions, and to build bridges across sectors. We actively participate in a number of collaborative partnerships such as the New Bedford Regeneration Committee, the SouthCoast Emerging Leaders Awards, and the New Bedford Lyceum. We are a proud member of the Bristol County Chamber of Commerce, the SouthCoast Chamber of Commerce, and the Association of Leadership Programs.

Apply
Applicants are selected through a competitive process conducted by a selection committee of LSC alumni and board members. Roughly 30 individuals are selected based on criteria including commitment to civic involvement in the South Coast, potential for community leadership, and professional and personal achievement. Diversity is a goal of LSC and an important factor in determining the makeup of each class.

2019 tuition is $3,200 and covers all class expenses. Limited tuition assistance is available for candidates who are accepted into the program and demonstrate financial need that would otherwise prevent participation.

Nominate
Do you have an employee or know someone from the community who would be a good candidate for the program? Please consider nominating that person to be a participant!

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
To learn more about applying or nominating a candidate, contact Jennifer Downing, LSC Executive Director, at jdowning@leadershipsouthcoast.org or visit our website at www.leadershipsouthcoast.org