

# 2022-2023 LEADERSHIP SPOKANE Annual Report



# MISSION

We are a catalyst — educating and uniting diverse, collaborative leaders to ensure a vibrant Spokane.



## OUR MISSION RESULTS:

111

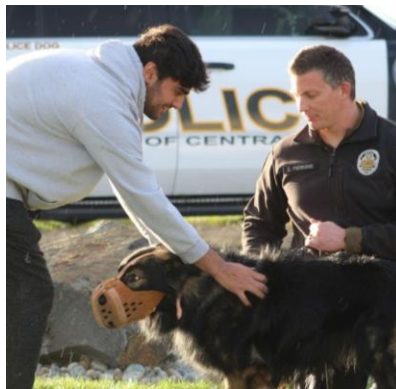
Training Hours

82

Engaged Leaders

1,133

Service Hours



### LS'23 Flagship Highlight

*“Leadership Spokane exposed me to new leadership ideas, reframed my thoughts on essential skills, instilled the ideals of servant leadership and created a new perspective on the impact we all can have on the community around us. The program challenged my preconceived thoughts about the serious issues our community faces and taught me that a group of 50+ caring and dedicated people can make a real difference. Those people, who were once strangers, are now a family with collective goals and values who will forever be connected by our shared experiences.”*

**Jake Patterson, Class of 2023, Director of Marketing at Northern Quest Resort & Casino**

# COMMUNITY IMPACT



## 10 Dollar Challenge

In September, the Class of 2023 was presented with a \$10 “pay it forward” challenge by Class of 2016 alumnus, Dirk Vastrick. They decided to use this opportunity to support a nonprofit in need and raised \$7,284.65, plus 4 sewing machines, for International Rescue Committee (IRC). The funds were used to purchase laptops for refugees in their English immersion program.

## Community Service Projects

Nonprofits directly impacted

Habitat for Humanity Spokane  
Ronald McDonald House Charities  
Embrace WA  
Wishing Star Foundation  
NW Autism Center  
Spokane Symphony Associates

## Donation Drives:

The Class of 2023 cohort hosted not one, but three, drives during their class sessions. This included: a sock drive for Manzanita House and Thrive International, personal care products for Spokane Public Schools, and makeup for Project Beauty Share.



*“We are very grateful to you and the Leadership Spokane volunteers. Our staff enjoyed having the Leadership Spokane volunteers at the store and at the job sites. Your team had a huge impact on the work that Habitat-Spokane does, together we build homes, communities, and hope! Thank you for supporting Habitat-Spokane and affordable homeownership in our community.”*

**Gloria Penaflor, Volunteer Coordinator at Habitat for Humanity – Spokane**

# Flagship Programming

Tuition scholarship assistance totaled **\$16,800** for the Class of 2023 provided by: *Dirk Vastrick, Horizon Credit Union, Innovia Foundation, Outreach Foundation, Rotary 21, and Ira Amstadter.*

## 47 Tour Opportunities



## LS'23 Flagship Highlight

*“Leadership Spokane was a tremendous opportunity to deepen my knowledge about Spokane, meet inspiring community leaders and develop relationships with fellow participants. The program is thoughtful and well organized from the opening retreat to stepping up day. I walked away from every theme day having learned something new. Working on group projects with the diverse, impressive group of classmates deepened my appreciation and understanding varying leadership styles and personalities. Thank you to all who make this program possible- Spokane is truly better off because of it.”*

**Rita Koefod, Class of 2023, Senior Director of Marketing, Communications and Branding at Cowles Real Estate**

# Alumni Programming

We host a variety of alumni programs and events, helping our 1,593 alumni further develop their community connections!

## Alumni Highlights:

The Alumni Holiday Party with a Purpose was held on December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023, where donations for Communities in Schools of Spokane County were collected. The Inaugural Alumni Leadership Summit – Leading Through Change was held at the Spokane Public Library on April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023. In addition, thank you to all our alumni who attended our gala, joined us on Regional Economy Day for our morning Scavenger Hunt and Human Needs Day for our Poverty Simulation. Stay tuned – more events to come!



## The 1983 Society:

- 59 Alum Members
- 68 Lifetime Ambassadors

**Join the 1983 Society:** The mission of The 1983 Society is to build and foster a legacy of Leadership in the Spokane area through GROWth opportunities. To sign up, go to [leadershipspokane.org](http://leadershipspokane.org).



## Get Involved:

- **Alumni with Class:** After every class session on the first Thursday of every month, alumni are invited to join the Flagship class for drinks and networking!
- **Volunteer:** Keep an eye out for Regional Economy Day and Human Needs Day. We will need volunteers for both days!
- **Follow us:** Stay in the know by following @LeadershipSpokane on LinkedIn, Facebook, and Instagram!
- **Update your contact info:** Have a new job? Recently retired? [Email us](#) to let us know!
- **Save the date:** Our Leadership Lights the Way Gala is on February 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024!



# THANK YOU TO ALL OUR PROGRAM SPONSORS!

## Program Sponsor



Avista Foundation - Rotary 21 - Cowles Company - Horizon Credit Union  
Outreach Foundation - Numerica Credit Union - Washington Trust Bank  
Triumph - Idaho Central Credit Union - US Bank  
Gesa Credit Union - David and Dorothy Pierce Charitable Trust

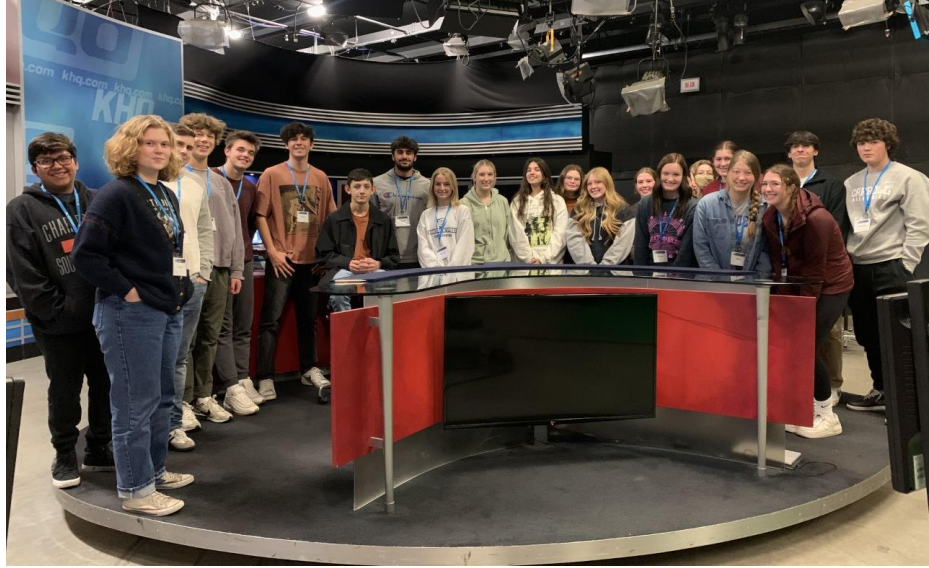
## Day Sponsor

Comcast - AgWest Farm Credit - Numerica Credit Union - STCU  
Spokane International Airport - Premera Blue Cross - Rotary 21  
Kalispel Tribe of Indians and Northern Quest Resort & Casino - Skills'kin  
Global Credit Union - Providence Inland Northwest Washington

## LS'23 Flagship Highlight

*“When I started Leadership Spokane, I had no idea how it would impact me, and now, I would recommend this experience to anyone and everyone. Throughout this year, I have experienced personal and professional growth in areas of communication, awareness, empathy, compassion, and commitment. The networking opportunities and relationship building with other Spokane professionals has been invaluable. One of the strengths of Leadership Spokane that stands out to me the most upon reflection is their ability to take a group of 60 disparate individuals and, within only ten months’ time, turn them into a powerhouse team that is “a catalyst – educating and uniting diverse, collaborative leaders to ensure a vibrant Spokane.” I can truly say, as I’m sure all previous alums would say of their years, that our class has been the best class ever.”*

**Erin Smith, Class of 2023, Assistant Dean of Arts and Sciences at Spokane Community College**



## LOOKING AHEAD TO 2024

### Our Goals:

- 1.) Maintain financial stability, pursue unique funding opportunities
- 2.) Provide engaging program delivery to Classes of 2024
- 3.) Continue expanding focus on inclusivity, incorporating into more facets of programs, as well as staff development
- 4.) Increase outreach to alumni through integration with current class, active engagement with Alumni Committee, and development of new opportunities
- 5.) Implement new nonpartisan training program, *You Should Run*, to inspire more diverse populations to get involved in order to diversify the candidate pool in our region

### LS'23 Youth Highlight

*“This program taught me how to be a better leader, but it also gave me so much more than that. We had speakers that gave us ways to help when we can in local organizations, speakers that gave us very useful insight for preparing for college and admission processes, presentations that showed us parts of Spokane we’d never been able to see, and more, all while making us better people and leaders. We have made friendships through this program, all while experiencing and learning about servant leadership.”*

**Elsa Bertelsen, Youth Class of 2023, Cheney High School**



# LEADERSHIP

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## S P O K A N E