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Projects address local need

Leadership class is wrapping up

TRIBUNE REPORTS

Twenty-five area residents are expected to graduate Thursday from the latest class of Leadership Jackson County.

That's when class members will present reports on community impact projects.

"We wanted to try something different this year," LJC Executive Director Ann Windley said. "We wanted to have the class address specific needs of area community service agencies."

Presentations on those projects will start at 9 a.m. Thursday in the Jackson County Education Center, the former Seymour-Jackson Elementary School, 100 S. Poplar St. Windley encourages the public to attend during any one or all of the presentations, each of which will run about 30 minutes.

The theme of the LJC class year is Leading Through Partnerships. The six project teams were linked with community agencies to develop a project that will benefit the agency and the wider community, Windley said.

The partnering agencies this year have been Girls Inc., Turning Point, Community Health Center, Childcare Network and Muscatatuck National Wildlife Refuge.

The class has examined community partnerships involving youth, the elderly, heritage, government, culture, health and visited communities throughout the county. They have also studied personality styles, active listening, team building, consensus building, collaboration, and other 21st century leadership skills.

Leadership Jackson County is a program whose goal is to develop strong leaders well aware of community challenges, trained in the latest leadership skills, and willing to make a difference in Jackson County, Windley said.

This year's class includes representatives from business, industry, social service, community volunteerism, city and county government, health services and others.