

United Way's 2008 Leadership Development Yearbook



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Special thanks to

 **Unity Health System**

**for sponsoring the
2008 Leadership Development
Yearbook**

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In this document, you will find profiles of the 2008 AALDP and LLDP graduates. AALDP has been graduating future leaders for 17 years and LLDP for 26 years. Both classes focus on developing leadership skills through intense training workshops that prepare individuals to go out in our community and LIVE UNITED.

If you feel that one of the following graduates would be a great match for your organization, please contact Lisa Brown at 242-6575 for more information.

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2008 African American Leadership Development Program Yearbook



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Monique C. Adams is a pricing and tariff analyst at Frontier Communications. She joined the 2008 AALDP class to develop her professional relationships through networking, which will benefit the AALDP program and the community. She plans on being an “Agent of Change” by being an instrumental part of the development of the NextGen philanthropic vehicle for young professionals in the Rochester area. This group will work together to learn about community issues and find solutions.



Wayne Alexander is a business system integrator at Eastman Kodak Company. He joined the 2008 AALDP class because it’s an opportunity to become more engaged in the Rochester community and he wants to develop his leadership skills. He believes that the biggest problem in Rochester is crime. He would like to mentor youth.



Janie Anderson is a senior help desk analyst at Excellus BlueCross BlueShield. She wanted to join the program to increase her knowledge in leadership skills. She plans on being an “Agent of Change” by taking a leadership role in her own life and being ready when opportunities are presented to her. Her mission is to work with the community to ensure that everyone is aware of programs and opportunities available to them.

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Richard G. Anderson is a residence manager at Lifetime Assistance. He wanted to join the 2008 AALDP class because throughout his career, there have not been any minority leaders in upper management making decisions crucial to the components of the organization. He would like to bring back the skills that he learns in the class. He hopes to get to the root cause of high school dropout.



Kenny Baptiste is a chemist at Eastman Kodak Company. He joined the AALDP class because he always worked for programs that facilitate his education and provide opportunities to develop leadership skills that directly engage the African American and Caribbean communities. He plans to work with the youth of the community to improve college enrollment and advise on careers in science.



Sandra S. Brannigan is an accounts payable manager at Birds Eye Foods, Inc. She wanted to join the 2008 AALDP class to learn more about the program and how its involvement in the community had made a difference. She hopes that her participation will encourage her company to get involved in the African American Community. She wants to become involved in the community and offer her time, love and effort to children who are less fortunate. AALDP helped open her eyes to volunteer opportunities and has helped her become an important part of an inspiring group of African American professionals.

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Shawanda Denise Brown is a program coordinator at Hillside Work-Scholarship Connection. Participating in this year's program fostered her growth as an African American professional. The program will also provide her with the necessary tools to engage in other community-based organizations, committees and boards in order to contribute to the strengthening and growth of the African American community. She hopes to focus her new leadership skills on education and mentoring.



Christina Marie Christman is a branch customer-service representative at HSBC Bank USA, N.A. She became a member of AALDP because she wants her community to become a better place and wants to be involved in that process. She wants to learn how to become involved and learn how the process works. She wants to focus on violence and personal safety, low graduation rates and keeping businesses in the area.



Roshawn Lanita Cole works at Rochester Gas & Electric. She came to the conclusion that it's not productive to complain about issues if she doesn't make an effort to positively impact the community. The program will help her build on the skills she already has and make her more comfortable with being involved in the community on a larger scale. She hopes to volunteer at a youth organization and a homeless shelter or food kitchen.

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Carolyn Coney-Johnson is a graduate studies course coordinator at University of Rochester. She wanted to become a member of the 2008 AALDP class because she has always wanted to give back to the community and thinks that Rochester needs positive minority leaders. She hopes that going through the program will help strengthen her ability to make a difference and help give her the confidence and knowledge she will need. She is interested in getting involved with the Urban League and other youth organizations..



Tanya Lynn Davis is a senior financial analyst at Birds Eye Foods, Inc. She joined AALDP because she has a strong desire to utilize her talents to support community agencies. Also, interacting and networking with other local leaders is critical for her to develop her current leadership skills, observe other styles and broaden her skill set. She will focus her attention on arts, mental and physical health and well-being, and economic development



Winona Dixon is a research analyst at Greater Rochester Enterprise. She feels that the theme surrounding 2008 is change, and she wants to be a part of that change locally. She hopes to prepare herself to be used as a vessel to help improve the community in which she was born and raised. Upon completion of the program, she would like to focus her volunteering efforts on young children and literacy.

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Radiah Drayton-Scott is a manager of recruitment at Unity Health System. She joined the 2008 AALDP class because she believed that it would help strengthen her current skills and offer additional ones to her as a new leader in the community. She is interested in job advocacy programs for youth and adults.



Calvin Daniel Eaton is an education projects coordinator at the University of Rochester. He joined AALDP in his quest for continued professional and personal growth. He feels that this program will provide him the opportunity to become a more proficient and effective leader. Upon completion of the program, he hopes to work with youth to help them understand the value of education. He hopes to help young people navigate the college applications process, improve their communication and interviewing skills, and become mature, responsible members of the community.



Cassandra Edmonds-Kelley is a benefits manager for Action for a Better Community, Inc. She feels that minorities are under-represented on many boards and in leadership positions because they lack the proper training, development and networking opportunities. That is why she decided to become a member of the 2008 AALDP class. She would like to focus on community organizations in the health sector.

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James H. Hawkins, Jr. is an IT project manager for the City of Rochester. He became a member of the AALDP class because it's an excellent learning experience. He is excited to learn alongside people like him and to develop skills that will benefit him professionally and give him an approach to community development. He would like to work with the youth of our community.



Sharon Lakesha Jones is a general accounting supervisor at Birds Eye Foods, Inc. She became a member of the 2008 AALDP class because it would allow her to gain exposure to the Rochester community and its needs. For her, being a part of this year's program will open new opportunities for her to make an impact. It will also allow her to improve on her leadership, decision-making, and communication skills. She wants to put her new skills to work with youth. She believes that time and commitment to developing them at this stage in their lives is an important aspect of our future.



Bridgette Jones-Waters is a program coordinator and project coordinator for volunteers and an alumni relations liaison for Wilson Commencement Park. She feels that if she is working in the community, she should better understand the community. She will focus her attention on volunteering with youth. She believes that youth need and should have more positive role models, and that there can never be enough positive influence in a youth's life.

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Lionel T. King-Lynch is a sales and marketing financial services regional vice president for Primerica. He joined the 2008 AALDP class because it is a great personal honor to associate himself with a program that focuses on building and developing exceptional leadership in the African American community. It also helped him expand in the Rochester area as an African American business leader. He is focusing his attention on housing, youth services, education and city government.



Ponnella Kittles is a claims supervisor at Excellus BlueCross BlueShield. She became a member of the 2008 AALDP class to build personal development and enhance her leadership skills. She will utilize her training in the workplace and in the community. Her goal is to be the additional voice heard, understood and positively represented.



Walter Larkin, Jr. is an assistant principal and track and field coach for the Rochester City School District. He joined AALDP because he wanted to give back to the community that has given him so much. He is focusing his efforts on education, athletics and wellness.

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LaRhonda D. Leonard is an IT portfolio lead at Excellus BlueCross BlueShield. She joined AALDP because she is always looking for ways to continue to grow and learn, and the AALDP program is a perfect way to do that. She will utilize her technical and management skills to help support programs and activities that are geared toward fostering and supporting the youth of the Rochester community.



Horace Little is an environmental services supervisor at Highland Hospital. He joined the 2008 AALDP class because as an African American male, he would like to be involved in the decision-making process that affects our community and children. He will work with young adults, as they are our future. He feels that if he can do something that effects change in just one person, it will be well worth the time he has invested.



Candice A. Lucas is the assistant director for C.A.S.H. Coalition-Empire Justice Center. She joined because she feels that she still has a lot to learn and would like to take the steps to enhance her leadership skills to better serve the community. She will use her newly learned leadership skills to address generational poverty and to help local African Americans build successful careers through networking.

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Deborah B. Manns is the supervising claims auditor for the Rochester City School District. She joined the 2008 AALDP class because she felt that the program would benefit her as she grows in her new career. She wants to be a servant leader to this community. She will be working with young people preparing them for corporate life and elderly people who need companionship.



Herman Lee McKinney is a supply chain supervisor at Highland Hospital. He joined the 2008 AALDP class to refine his leadership skills and to translate into a positive asset to the community. He will be focusing his new skills on working with Rochester youth or wherever he is needed the most.



Linda Mae Morris is an accounting bookkeeper at the University of Rochester. She wanted to join the 2008 AALDP class because she wanted to become more active in the community as well as bring back what she learned to her workplace. She will be focusing her attention on the health care setting for the elderly.

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Dr. Phyllis Anita Moss is the resource manager for The Salvation Army. Her position has recently changed and she believes that going through the AALDP program will help with the transition. She is planning on working with the Rochester City School District.



Collette A. Noel is a secretary at the University of Rochester Center for Community Health. She hopes that she can make a difference in the Rochester community and have a greater impact. The program would both strengthen and foster for her a greater involvement within the community on many levels through leadership participation. As a proud graduate of the AALDP class, she is looking forward to playing an expanded role in community-building at both the grassroots and policy level.



Tanya Simone Poyser is a teacher in the Rochester City School District. She already has a passion and love for helping to rebuild the African American community, and the program will only enhance her technical leadership skills. She will be focusing on education.

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Everton Ray Sewell is the assistant controller for mergers and acquisitions for Eastman Kodak Company. He joined AALDP to develop skill sets to be able to participate more actively in the community developmental activities so he can make a difference in the community. He will be focusing on public education.



Mark L. Simmons is a police officer in the Tactical Unit of the Rochester Police Department. He joined AALDP because he is interested in becoming educated in ways that he could improve his leadership and communication skills. He also would like to become more involved in community projects outside of his role as a police officer. He will put his new skills to use by becoming a friend or mentor to young at-risk males in an effort to help steer them on the path of becoming contributing, law-abiding community members.



LaTanya R. Sinclair is a team leader for Datacenter for Eastman Kodak Company. She became a member of the 2008 AALDP class because she wanted to develop her leadership skills and share those skills with a community organization. She will be focusing on working with an agency dealing with social issues and training.

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Marquita D. Smith owns a clothing boutique. With the AALDP program, she believes she will discover qualities that she didn't know existed as well as fine-tune the ones she already possesses. She wants to learn more about volunteer options and get involved in them. The program will help her to better herself as a leader and an African American woman. She will be focusing on making life better for women in domestic abuse situations, as well as self-esteem and safety awareness.



Wanda Diane Snow is a development assistant and special events coordinator for Rochester Childfirst Network. She joined AALDP because she wanted to become more involved in the community as a contributor, role model, leader, listener and speaker for the empowerment of her African American brothers and sisters. She will be focusing on education.



Dianne Snowden-Johnson is the CEO of Miss Sweet Potato Pie, Inc. She joined AALDP because she believes that the program would enhance her leadership skills and increase her knowledge of African American leadership. As an AALDP graduate and community volunteer, she expects to gain tools of leadership in order to be a greater advocate for Rochester's youth.

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Tiffiney C. Taylor is the Medicaid service coordinator and program manager for Epilepsy Foundation. She joined the AALDP program because she believes it offers her a diverse perspective and further enhances her leadership skills as a female African American leader in the Rochester community and beyond. She will put her leadership skills to use by addressing women's Issues; education; spiritual, mental and physical wellness; and unifying the family structure.



Avis R. Williams is the business development manager for Eltrex Industries, Inc. She became a member of the 2008 AALDP class to develop her leadership skills so that she can participate in leadership roles in the Rochester community. She would like to develop an ambassador program to bring back successful individuals who grew up in Rochester to tell their stories and inspire youth.



Beryl Joseph Wilson is the Administrative Assistant, Contract Assistant and Office Manager for V Weis Construction Solutions, LLC. She wanted to learn new things and to share her talents on a broader scale, and AALDP helped her do that. She will be working with Rochester Sickle Cell Disease Association, Pillars of Hope and Center for the Arts.

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2008 Latino Leadership Development Program Yearbook



**Latino Leadership
Development Program**

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Marina Álvarez joined the 2008 LLDP class to gain leadership skills and build on networking relationships. She wants to focus on health care, legal issues, and employment and training opportunities.



Michael Burgos is a manager of critical care services at Hillside Children's Center. He joined the 2008 LLDP class because he wanted to develop his leadership skills. He wants to focus on elementary education, mental health and crisis services.



Jeanette Colby is the calendar editor at the University of Rochester. She wanted to become a part of the 2008 LLDP class because she feels a strong tie to the Latino community, and wants to help other Latinos make Rochester a place that she's proud to call home. She wants to focus on elementary education, health care and the aging population.

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Shannon Colón is a collections specialist at the University of Rochester. She wanted to become a part of the 2008 LLDP class to improve her leadership skills, presentation skills, and decision-making skills. She is interested in working with early childhood development, elementary education and health care.



Liliana Crane is the Latino health promotion program developer at the University of Rochester. She became a member of the 2008 LLDP class to expand her role as a community leader and to learn more about local Latino leaders. She wants to focus on early childhood development, health care, employment and training opportunities, health disparities and healthy lifestyles.



Ineabelle Geena Cruz is a financial care path examiner for Monroe County Department of Human Services. She became a member of the 2008 LLDP class to expand her knowledge and her ability in leadership. She would like to focus on crisis services, emergency assistance and domestic violence.

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Charles DeSouza is the IT business integrator at Eastman Kodak Company. He joined the 2008 LLDP class to become more involved in the community and to get more direction on where his skills will be most valuable. He will focus his attention on early childhood development, crisis services, the aging population, and employment and training opportunities.



Herbert Escher is the director of corporate initiatives at Dale Carnegie. He joined the 2008 LLDP class to become more involved in the community. He will focus on secondary education, substance abuse, and employment and training opportunities.



Sady Fischer is a prevention specialist at AIDS Rochester, Inc. She has a passion for community education and empowerment, and believes that the LLDP program would help her in reaching the Latino community. She would like to focus on substance abuse, health care and crisis services.

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Amy Flanagan is a worldwide information systems technician at Eastman Kodak Company. She joined the 2008 LLDP class to enhance her leadership skills. She would like to focus on early childhood development and education, health care, housing and homelessness, emergency assistance, the aging population, and employment and training.



Daisy Hernandez-King is a tele-counselor at ABVI Goodwill. She joined the 2008 LLDP class to expand her knowledge in the work place to make progress in her personal and professional life. She would like to focus on early childhood development and education, crisis services and emergency assistance.



Janet Koslow is a program assistant in administration at the University of Rochester. She wanted to join the 2008 class because she heard that it was a great program and the experience is very enriching. She would like to help teach kids money-management skills.

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Luz Flores Lee is an external operations manager at Ortho-Clinical Diagnostics. She joined the 2008 LLDP class because she wants to increase her involvement in the community and put her skills to good use. She would love to influence youth in a positive manner. She would like to focus on early childhood development and education, elementary education, and employment and training.



Rosemarie Ortiz is a write-off and recovery specialist at Time Warner Cable. She joined the 2008 LLDP class to help anyone in need. She would like to focus on elementary education and disabilities.



Oscar Pedroso is a grant program manager at Rochester General Health System. He leads in his current role at the hospital and wants to expand those leadership qualities in hopes of effecting positive change in others and creating a legacy that will never be forgotten. He wants to focus on health care.

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Magalis Perdomo is a contract coordinator at Excellus BlueCross BlueShield. She joined the 2008 LLDP class to enhance her leadership skills and to have the opportunity to mentor with more seasoned Hispanic professionals, as well as become involved with the community. She wants to focus her attention on early childhood development and education, health care, crisis services and troubled teens.



Kristine Santillo is a program coordinator at Lifespan. She became a member of the 2008 LLDP class to develop her leadership skills and expand her knowledge of the Latino community. She would like to focus on disabilities and the aging population.



Lymaris Serrano is a senior systems engineer at ITT Space Systems Division. She joined LLDP to expand her leadership skills and to give back to the Hispanic community. She would like to focus on elementary education, legal issues, and employment and training opportunities.

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Isaac Téllez is a senior service representative for the City of Rochester. He joined the 2008 LLDP class to become an effective leader. He would like to focus on youth, minorities and mentoring.



Elio Villarini is a day habilitation manager at Ibero American Action League. He became a member of the 2008 LLDP class to improve his leadership skills. He wants to focus his attention on substance abuse, disabilities and legal issues.

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