

voices of the metro chamber

CREATING COMMUNITY AWARENESS THROUGH LEADERSHIP ADVANCE

Through Leadership Advance, I quickly realized just how much goes on day-to-day to keep our valley operational, as well as how local businesses and government work closely to provide a safe and thriving community – while being capable of adapting to a constantly changing landscape. The program provides its participants with a “backstage pass” to core infrastructure services and encourages us to ask the guest speakers candid questions in an open forum. Each day includes a facilitated session in which we dig deeper into that day’s focus. We share experiences and it’s during that time that I have grown and obtained some key takeaways that I have brought back not only to the workplace, but to my home life as well.

Until we actually walk in someone else’s shoes it can be difficult to have empathy and appreciation for the challenges and work done by that other person or organization. Leadership Advance gives you that opportunity to “walk in someone else’s shoes,” and gain insight on different people and perspectives. It creates more empathy and understanding – and those can be the key to our community leaders finding solutions to our Valley’s most challenging issues.

As an employee of NV Energy, we have a key responsibility “to keep the lights on.” During the kickoff Advance session, it was quickly pointed out by my teammates that accountability was high on my list of attributes of a successful leader. I didn’t realize how much weight I put on a person being accountable, but in many of our small group breakout sessions it was usually the first trait that came to mind. I think accountability sums up so much of a person’s personality that as a key strength, it speaks volumes to their commitment, trustworthiness and overall character. Entering the 23rd year of my career, I can say that NV Energy and its employees do that. We have core principles that include safety, stewardship, community involvement, environmental respect, customer service and regulatory integrity. I know that my values, aligning with my organization’s, have made me more aware of my leadership styles and strengths and given me the ability to hone in on them in my day-to-day work. Leadership Advance helped me realize these strengths and the weight I place on them.

Being a leader is not only reflected in your title but more so modeled in your behavior and commitment to achieve success through teamwork and effort. We all have opportunities to lead in some facet of our lives and the duty is on us to make the most of those opportunities. I hope my legacy is that I cared about others and positively impacted the community in which I lived.



Eugene Outley,
*Leadership Advance
Class of 2015*
NV Energy

As I get older, the importance of keeping relationships and having opportunities to form new ones continues to increase. The relationships I have formed during the past year through Leadership Advance have forever changed me. To be able to establish rapport with other civic-minded individuals who are driven to bring about positive changes in the community is a privilege that I do not take for granted. Like the classes before us, we plan to meet, share and grow with a relentless commitment to improving our communities.