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Leadership West Virginia Announces Class of 2020 Postponed due to COVID-19

(Charleston, W.Va.) – Leadership West Virginia (LWV) announced today that the remainder of the Class of 2020 will be delayed until 2021 becoming the official Class of 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

All 55 members of this year’s planned class, which was announced in January, have the opportunity to participate as there will be no application or selection process. The first session is planned for the spring of 2021. This is the first time in the organization’s 29-year history that it’s not hosted its annual program.

“The COVID-19 pandemic has presented challenges to organizations across the country, and Leadership West Virginia is no different,” said Pam Farris, executive director of LWV.

“In the late spring, as the state’s economy started reopening, we were optimistic we’d be able to plan an in-person, experiential program touring regions across West Virginia. However, because of the increase in cases over the past several months, it is apparent that we cannot safely move forward as we would normally,” Farris said.

Though class members have been meeting virtually since March, the experiences and in-person connections are vital components of the program. The LWV experience is one that is unforgettable, and we want to be able to safely provide a full experience for participants.”

In lieu of a program plans for virtual opportunities will be available for class members and alumni. More information can be found by visiting www.leadershipwv.org.

About Leadership West Virginia

Leadership West Virginia’s is an innovative program that grows, engages and mobilizes leaders to ignite a lifelong passion to move West Virginia forward with opportunities provided by in-person educational and professional development sessions around the state. Leadership West Virginia seeks to have class diversity among all ethnic groups, ages, genders, professions, backgrounds and geographic areas of the state.

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