



YOUth LEADERship Students Continue Exploring and Learning Throughout Ashtabula County

ASHTABULA - This past month, high schoolers from all over Ashtabula County had the opportunity to continue exploring and learning more about the area during YOUth LEADERship's November program days. Students from Ashtabula County High Schools, who started the program in September, will continue to learn about the county and their community through May with monthly meeting days and opportunities to network with local professionals while developing personal leadership skills.

Each day has a theme which shapes the curriculum, and November looked at industry within Ashtabula, with a focus on manufacturing (the top industry in Ashtabula). Geneva YOUth LEADERship student Matea Kanicki shares that "what I liked most about my day was seeing the two different factories and how they worked. It was very interesting to see what kind of things we have within our county. I think I enjoyed seeing them the most because it's exciting to hear from the professionals about all the different things the companies supply for."

In addition to learning more about Ashtabula, YOUth LEADERship students are focusing on the importance of teamwork and collaboration through the development of civic-minded projects that address topics such as animal welfare, the environment, mental health awareness, education, and the opioid epidemic. They were able to research these topics further by having a luncheon with local industry leaders to learn more about current resources available and how best to tailor their projects to complement existing services.

Pymatuning Valley YOUth LEADERship student Adam Romanko "enjoyed forming concrete groups and goals with the help of the professionals." By utilizing these resources, YOUth LEADERS continue to learn more about their chosen topic as they develop their main project focus area using the Design Thinking methodology.

The next few months will highlight different aspects of the county as students travel to all four corners to uncover the many gems while traveling on a journey of self-discovery and empowerment as they continue to learn the meaning behind being a leader and the importance of giving back to your community.

For more information on the Youth LEADERship program or about LEADERship Ashtabula County, please visit www.leadershipac.org.

For media information contact:
Laura Jones
Executive Director
LEADERship Ashtabula County
C: (440) 813.9053
Email: Laura@leadershipac.org