LEADERSHIP UNLIMITED - CLASS OF 2025 PROGRAM DAY TOPICS	Subtopic 1	Subtopic 2	Subtopic 3	Subtopic 4	Subtopic 5	Subtopic 6
OCTOBER - Tourism & Community Scavenger Hunt						
NOVEMBER - Economic Development	How do economic development initiatives shape Richland County's workforce, education, crime rates, housing, health, and natural resources?	Site Development - Making the land businesses use for operation ready for use. Site Attraction - How do we generate interest in our community from outside companies?	Continued revitalization efforts of the downtown areas. Safe and affordable entertainment downtown/nightlife. For example Final Fridays - I hope things like this continue and bring more people out to experience what Richland County has to offer.	Perception: thanks to nearly a half-century of decline, Richland County is not recognized for many positive things. But there are positive things happening in the area, and the more people are made aware of them, the more they will feel confident in investing their futures and their income in the area.	There are many property sites within Richland County that are bare and without industrial growth. We still seem to be stalled at growing industry and employment.	Economic Diversification: Expanding economic opportunities beyond traditional sectors and fostering entrepreneurship can stimulate innovation and resilience, reducing dependency on specific industries and promoting long-term prosperity.
DECEMBER - Workforce Development	Talent recruitment and retention - What is being done and what can be offered especially to young people? How can we address skill gaps and foster workforce readiness? How can we intentionally attract new industries to the region through a community-wide strategy?	Workforce Transit - Richland County Transit is developing a workforce transportation program in Richland County in partnership with NECIC.	Mansfield could take a page from Majora Carter's book "Reclaiming Your Community" featured in the Kaleidoscope series. We should think strategically about what would make people want to stay in the area and put their talents to work for the community.	What are the barriers/obstacles to workforce development? What are employers and organizations doing and why isn't a strategy being promoted in a concrete, clear, effective way?	Are there programs to help residents in Richland County to move from low-income to gainful employment overtime?	Communicating across five generations in the workforce.
JANUARY - Education	Improve educational attainment rates to develop a highly skilled and technical workforce that supports the mission at the 179th Cyberspace Wing and other technology organizations.	Are there educational programs in progress similar to the STEM lab at OSU-Mansfield?	College is not for everyone. There is a great missed opportunity in the trades, skilled labor, or sales. More trade mentoring would be a great asset.	Each K-12 School District in the state of Ohio has the opportunity to develop locally driven "High School Graduation Seals". This has been utilized at some levels, but not widespread and effectively. This could be better utlized in Richland County to promote civic involvement, economic involvement, regional industry pathways, and much more.	Support the youth of our county through summer and before/after school programs.	Embrace the impacts, advantages, and accessibility of AI in education and business.

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FEBRUARY - Responses to Crime	Gun Violence continues to occur. How can we do better for our youth through partnerships with schools, police forces, and other organizations? How can we give kids a safe space to speak on and listen more.	Each incident of gun violence is its own tragedy with a devastating effect on the individuals and families involved; but wider than that, the community is scarred by fear and distrust. These are huge barriers when it comes to maintaining a vibrant and positive outlook.	Does escalating violence inhibit people from moving to Richland County?	What is the impact of having two correctional institutions based in Richland County - Mansfield Correctional Institution and Richland Correctional Institution - on crime rates? What correctional education opportunities exist for Richland County inmates?	In some cases, family and home instability causes truancy issues and a need for children to be placed out of the home.	
MARCH - Disability Awareness Day with Richland Newhope						
APRIL - Housing	Lack of affordable housing impacts all demographics. There is a need for short-term housing for students and interns.	Aging Infrastructure & Home Maintenance - Many homes in neighborhoods throughout Richland County are in desperate need of indoor and outdoor maintenance. What community action plans are in place? Are community members pitching in to fix up, update, clean up, or make homes safe for occupancy?	Fair Housing - There is a significant lack of fair housing options for those with lower incomes.	Homelessness - What opportunities exist to help this population?		
MAY - Health Equity & Access	One way health equity can be addressed is by focusing on improving the diversity of healthcare providers in Richland County so diverse patients feel more comfortable seeking healthcare from someone who looks like them.	Accessible healthcare (affordability, medical insurance coverage, location). The Community Health Needs Assessment helps AND many citizens still lack access.	Lack of mental health resources impacts social service needs (substance abuse, Children's Services, crime and violence in the community, homelessness, Adult Protective Services). There seems to be a shortage of providers.	Improving public health through education, care coordination, and advocacy. In the US, we should not be seeing infant mortality rates that are higher than nearly every other developed nation. Our communities suffer from chronic illnesses, addiction, and behavioral health conditions and many do not know how to get the care and services that meet their needs.	Is a drug detox facility needed/available?	Food insecurity - proper nutrition for low to no-income families. Expanding urban farming locations to increase impact.
JUNE - Natural Resources & the Great Outdoors	Natural resource conservation and enhancement	Recycling - How can we make it easier individuals and businesses to recycle? What about e-cycling and recycling of industrial parts?	Growth of county and city parks. Currently, there are limited areas for outdoor activities (hiking, biking, hunting, fishing, etc.). What recreational activities are available county-wide and will any area be expanded?			