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For Immediate Release

**BABYBOOMER BUSINESS LEADERS GIVING BACK TO COMMUNITY
51 leaders selected for Encore Louisville Class of 2021 –
2020 projects deliver over \$500,000 in value to 19 nonprofit agencies**

Louisville, Kentucky (February 2, 2021) – Experienced leaders who have spent decades of their career in leadership roles AND who want to share their wisdom and make our community's nonprofits stronger are now having an *encore*. The Leadership Louisville Center's [Encore Louisville](#) program was launched in 2014 to leverage the talent, skills, and experience of senior leaders who are transitioning out of the workforce to solve challenges faced by worthy nonprofits that need help managing critical strategic issues. In this way, the Center makes it possible for our community's star talent to be engaged in high-impact civic leadership and stay connected with professional peers with a flexible, self-directed time commitment. Community nonprofits and all of those they serve benefit from the expertise and assistance of the highest-level community trustees. *Encore Louisville has been made possible with support from Kosair Charities and Lift a Life Foundation.*

The 2021 Encore Louisville class just began their year-long program (meet the class below). They participated in a marketplace to review pitches from area nonprofits hoping to gain strategic advice from a team of experienced executives. The nonprofits 'pitched' their requests in hopes of securing an Encore Louisville team who offer pro bono exploration of strategic issues, using their skills and experience to help identify options and solutions.

The 2020 Encore Louisville class helped 19 nonprofit agencies last year with strategic planning, opening doors to new partnerships, conducting facilitated brainstorming and priority-setting sessions, developing funding strategies and more. **Their work delivered over \$500,000 in value to these nonprofit agencies and the class dedicated over 1,800 hours to the pro-bono work.**

Recent projects included work for **Boys and Girls Clubs of Kentuckiana**, **Common Table of Catholic Charities**, a program that provides training in culinary arts to those who face barriers to employment; **OneWest**, a community development corporation in Louisville's West End (which was born in Bingham Fellows 2014); and **Make-A-Wish**, among others. See the work accomplished by the Encore Louisville Class of 2020 at this link: <https://www.leadershiplouisville.org/encore-louisville/outcomes-of-the-2020-encore-louisville-program/>

2021 Encore Louisville Class participants (view photo roster at this link)

Cindy Adelberg, Governance Consulting; **Lynn Ashton**, Sutherland & Associates; **Steve Barger**, SBC, LLC; **Michael Bateman**, Bateman Consultants; **Stephanie Bateman**, Semonin Realtors; **Ben Blincoe, Jr.**, Triple C Development LLC; **Nadine Brewer**, NB Consulting; **Doug Butler**, retired from Akzo Nobel N.V.; **Harold Butler**, retired from Stites & Harbison; **Al Cornish**, Closing the Gap Consulting, LLC; **J-R Curtin**, 4Civility Institute; **George Demaree**, St Stephen Baptist Church; **Beth Dlutowski**, Dlutowski Project Partners; **Sandra Dodge**, The Oliver Group Inc.; **Edward Dudley**, OP&D Partners; **Steve Ellis**; **Alan Engel**; **David Fennell**; **John Fleming**, Louisville Community Initiative and Unique Staffing; **Stuart Goldberg**; **Jim Gravitt**, MCM CPAs and Advisors; **Pam Greenwell**, Seiller Waterman LLC; **Paula Hale**, Paula Turner Hale LLC Consulting in Philanthropy; **Margaret Handmaker**; **Larry Hartog**, Ivy Tech Community College; **Leo Hauber**; **Sandra Hemmes**, Humana Inc.; **Bill Hensler**, retired Brown-Forman Corporation; **Chris Hermann**, retired from LG&E and KU Energy; **Rick King**; **Diane Kyle**, retired University of Louisville Professor & Administrator; **Susan Lehmann**, retired human resources leader; **Kim McCastle**, The Castle Consulting Group; **Bette Ann McCullum**; **Joe McCullum**, Eagles Wings' Business Coaching, LLC; **Barbara Michael**, Mead & Hunt, Inc.; **Joe Mitchell**, retired attorney; **Tom Monahan**, retired publisher of Business First; **Edie Nixon**, retired from D.D. Williamson; **Sister Janet Marie Peterworth**, past president of Ursuline Sisters; **Karen Phillely**; **Steve Rungwerth**, retired engineering executive; **Sonia Sanders**, Kentucky State University; **Michael Shaikun**; **Angela Thompson-Howard**, Passion Works LLC; **Linda Valentine**, Valentine Consulting; **Ginger Wallace**, Louisville Parks Foundation;

Kevin Wardell, retired healthcare executive; **Trudy Wheeler**, Kentucky Country Day; **Donald Whitfield**, retired from Great Books Foundation; and **Susan Zepeda**, retired foundation executive.

More about Encore Louisville:

Baby Boomers are retiring at a rate of over 10,000 per day, and hundreds are transitioning out of the workforce in the Louisville region, many that are in significant leadership positions with decades of valuable experience. The Leadership Louisville Center launched the [Encore Louisville](#) program in 2014 to capture the talents, skills, energy, and experience of these leaders and provide a structure so they can meaningfully give back to the community. The program is like no other in the country and is designed so seasoned leaders can stay engaged with professional peers and help solve challenges faced by our nonprofit sector as they retire, approach retirement or transition from professional careers.

Each Encore Louisville class includes about 40-50 participants, some are new and some have been part of the program for years. The program takes place over 12 months and the class gathers four times beginning in January, offering time to connect with other class members, hear outcomes of project teams, and attend a marketplace to review pitches from area nonprofits hoping to gain strategic advice from an Encore Louisville team.

Encore Louisville participants self-select to join one of these Community Acceleration Teams, where they join a group of peers to lend their skills and experience to help identify options and solutions for the nonprofit. Over the course of the year, participants take part in two to four Community Acceleration Teams, each involving a time commitment of about 15-20 hours, many times giving much more time.

Since the program began, Encore Louisville Community Acceleration Teams have worked with over 100 nonprofit organizations. [See recent results at this link](#). Nonprofit organizations interested in working with the Encore Louisville participants can learn more by visiting <https://www.leadershiplouisville.org/who-we-are/how-we-help-nonprofits/>, or can contact Jo Lloyd-Triplett at jlloydtriplett@leadershiplouisville.org.

What participants and nonprofits say about Encore Louisville:

"When I retired from Business First, I was looking for opportunities to give back without making a huge commitment of time. Leadership Louisville Center's new Encore Louisville program fit the bill perfectly. It's been great fun helping nonprofits come up with solutions to some of their challenges. And I've been able to do it in a manageable amount of time with fellow retirees who I enjoy being with." *Tom Monahan (EL '15-'20, LL '92)*, retired President and Publisher – Business First Louisville

"Working with an Encore team was an extremely valuable experience. The breadth of knowledge and expertise the team brings to the table and commitment to ensuring the project fulfilled the need of our organization helped move us forward in a way we would not have been able to do on our own or without significant financial cost." *Kim Hales (IL '11)*, Market Director of Advancement, Make-A-Wish

"As a recently retired person who had been on a number of Boards over the years, I wasn't interested in committing to a lot of new civic engagements. Encore Louisville was the perfect answer to still giving back but within a limited time frame. We have helped a number of nonprofits with specific problems, while getting to know other interesting, recent retirees—a great win-win." *Craig Grant (EL '15-'18, BF '97, LL '91)*, retired Regional President, Kentucky and Florida, PNC Bank

"The Encore Team was made up of experienced individuals that provided concrete action steps that will improve board communications/working relationships and strengthen my skills as a CEO. Nonprofits generally do not have extra dollars for consultative services and the Encore Louisville program allows us access a group of talented professionals to provide services that could not be accessed in any other way." *Jackie Ford (BF '19, LL '17, FL '15)*, CEO, Girl Scouts of Kentuckiana

About the Leadership Louisville Center:

The Leadership Louisville Center is the region's most valuable resource for leadership development and civic engagement. With a purpose to inspire and equip leaders to be better and do better, it has graduated over 10,000 through its civic programs since 1979. The Center is recognized as a national best practice and is known for its dynamic programming and strong community connections. Programming includes five social impact leadership programs (Leadership Louisville, Focus Louisville, Ignite Louisville, Bingham Fellows and Encore Louisville), leadership skills training courses presented through the Leadership Green Room, and events designed to connect leaders and motivate positive change. Learn more at www.leadershiplouisville.org.