



The Obama Foundation's mission is to inspire, empower, and connect the next generation of leaders to change their world. And we're doing it by giving leaders the tools they need to become active citizens—and inspiring others to do the same.

Our leadership programs focus on empowering leaders through a values-based approach. President and Mrs. Obama believe that how a leader leads is as important as what they do. That's why The Obama Foundation's programming fosters a leadership approach grounded in core values that give leaders the tools and support they need to make real change.

The Obama Foundation Leaders Program

The Obama Foundation Leaders program is a six-month virtual program that supports and connects regional leaders in Africa, Asia-Pacific, Europe, and the United States through values-based leadership development, skillbuilding for social change, and design workshops. Rooted in the values-based leadership that shaped the Obamas' journeys, our programs are guided by a simple yet profound belief that change only comes when individuals take action, remain engaged, and unite to make it happen.

SEADERS



UNITED STATES

Leaders USA builds upon The Obama Foundation's work over the past five years to support values-driven changemakers. The virtual program offers 100 United States-based Leaders the opportunity to learn new skills and tools to accelerate positive and lasting change in their communities.

Participants can expect to come out of the program with a stronger understanding of how values-based leadership can strengthen democratic culture, collective action, and the forces of pluralism in our communities both locally and globally.

2025-2026 APPLICATION

Applications open on Wednesday, November 13, 2024 at 12 PM United States Central Time (UTC-6).

Applications close on Wednesday, December 18, 2024 at 12 PM United States Central Time (UTC-6).



Weekly Skill-Building and Subject Matter Expertise

Leaders come together for weekly virtual meetings to discuss how to move from hope to action through practical tools and training in values-based leadership and strengthening democracy curricula. Leaders engage with trainers, subject matter experts, and each other to deepen their leadership practice.

Peer Learning in Community

Leaders have opportunities to meet virtually in small groups with other participants from across the country, Obama Foundation leadership, and experts across sectors.

Individual Leadership Coaching

Leaders are paired with a coach to help them clarify and build out their individual goals.

Connection to The Obama Foundation Network

Upon completing the leadership program, Leaders will join a global network of over 1,200 changemakers from more than 150 countries who focus on a wide range of pressing issues. Alumni are encouraged to connect with and learn from one another to spark change both in their communities and at a global level.

To learn more about the program and the eligibility requirements, visit https://obama.org/programs/leaders/usa or email LeadersUSA@obama.org.