

## CONFERENCE SCHEDULE\*

**8:00** | Registration, Breakfast & Networking

**9:00-10:00** | Welcome and Opening Session

- > Welcome by **Dana Pauley**, President & CEO, Leadership Montgomery
- > What's Important In Your Leadership? Exercise led by **Tony Spearman Leach (CORE 2018, LM Board)** Director of Business Development and Philanthropy, National Academy of Public Administration

**10:00-10:15** | Break

**10:15-11:15** | Breakout Sessions

*Option 1: Cultivating Success: Navigating Organizational Change through Culture & Leadership*

- > **Nicole L. Turner**, Owner, Nicole Turner Consulting

*Option 2: Holistic Perspectives of Opportunities and Challenges in Transportation: A Panel Discussion*

- > **Rich Parsons (CORE 2003)**, President & CEO, Parsons & Associates (Moderator)
- > **Lyn Farrow**, Director of External Affairs, Maryland Department of Transportation
- > **Duwan Morris**, Transportation Planning Specialist III, Division of Traffic Engineering & Operations, Montgomery County Department of Transportation
- > **Sam Oji (EL 2021)**, Deputy General Manager, Division of Transit Services, Montgomery County Department of Transportation

**11:15- 11:30** | Break

**11:30-12:30** | All Attendee Session:

*Achieving Trust in Mistrustful Times*

- > **Michael David Thomas**, Director for Access Management, National Security Council, Executive Office of the President

The

# LEAD FORUM

APRIL 25, 2024

**12:30-1:30** | Lunch

**1:30-2:30** | Breakout Sessions:

*Option 1: Leading with a Growth Mindset*

> **Kristen Crockett**, Author, Podcaster, Owner, *The Crockett Collective*

*Option 2: The State of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion in Leadership*

> **Yesenia E. Regalado (EL 2023)**, Director, Training & Community Impact | *Leadership Montgomery*

**2:30-2:45** | Afternoon Break

**2:45-3:45** | Afternoon Keynote

*Passing the Baton: Women at the Helm of Second-Generation Companies*

> **Angela Graham (CORE 2019)** President & CEO, *Quality Biological, Inc.*

> **Sarah B. Kaplan, RHU, CFP®, AIF® (CORE 2019)**, Managing Partner, *Kaplan Financial Group, LLC*  
| *Kaplan Benefits Group, LLC*

**3:45-4:00** | Closing Session

## Session Descriptions:

### **Opening Session:**

*We will set the tone for the day's conference by engaging in a collaborative and thought-provoking discussion about community leadership. Participants will break into small groups to have guided, in-depth conversations about knowledge of community, collaboration, civic engagement, leadership development and inclusion. Participants will leave with insights, connections and tangible actions that can positively impact their work, community, and leadership.*

### **Cultivating Success: Navigating Organizational Change through Culture & Leadership**

*This session is designed to empower individuals with the essential skills to unlock success in the workplace by understanding and influencing organizational climate and culture. Participants will also examine the transformative realms of leadership and emotional intelligence, discovering the profound impact of self-awareness and empathy. Through a blend of practical insights and engaging activities, this course provides a holistic approach to fostering a positive and effective work environment.*

### **Holistic Perspectives of Opportunities and Challenges in Transportation: A Panel Discussion**

*This panel features experts in state and county transportation discussing strategies to improve and expand transportation options while factoring in accessibility, safety and sustainability. The panel will also discuss challenges and opportunities including state and county initiatives and priorities.*

### **Achieving Trust in Mistrustful Times**

*Companies and organizations don't often take time to adequately plan for communication during crisis until its too late. During this all-attendee session, participants will learn how more effectively shape their story to bolster public confidence, form a bulwark against future crisis, and help build inclusive, successful organizations.*

### **Leading with a Growth Mindset**

*This session empowers leaders to make small shifts that boost their self-awareness, grow their emotional intelligence, tap into their strengths, and improve their interpersonal skills. Attendees will learn how to cultivate a growth mindset that incorporates problem-solving and possibilities; discover tools and techniques to create mindset shifts; and explore how to leverage self-awareness to enhance their personal leadership*

### **The State of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) in Leadership**

*Against the backdrop of a nationwide EDI backlash, leaders have an opportunity to be proactive and strategic in their commitments. During this session, we will discuss the implications of the Supreme Court's decision to end affirmative action in 2023 and the nationwide backlash on diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) initiatives. We will explore strategies to sustain DEI efforts in this changing landscape and learn how to address misconceptions, fear, resistance, and performative efforts.*

### **Passing the Baton: Women at the Helm of Second-Generation Companies**

*During this fireside-type session, our panelists will explore success strategies, share their leadership insights and reveal how they used their experience and expertise to expertly balance innovation and tradition at their companies. Attendees will leave inspired and empowered to leverage their own strengths to become transformational leaders.*