Leadership Barrow Class of 2023 – 1st Session – August 10, 2022

The class kicked off the very first session of Leadership Barrow 2023 with a bang! Leadership Barrow 2023 was at Camp Twin Lakes and it truly felt like being dropped off for the first day of school. Everyone seemed excited and a some were even nervous. Ben McDaniel and Shenley Rountree introduced themselves, the program and we talked about Emergenectics which is a profile assessment that dives into how you think, which determines how you behave. It was so enlightening to dive deeper into the way you think and how that reflects in your behavior. Learning about yourself and seeing where others fall on that spectrum too will help the group work better together. We got to hear from Tricia Massey from Piedmont Athens Regional, the sponsor of Leadership Barrow 2023, before playing the first get to know you game. The first day is all about learning about the program, yourself and your classmates.

This session we also had to pick who would be our class presidents, Facebook fan and storyteller. Our Class Co-Presidents are Alex Ward and Faye Spaulding. Alex Ward says “I volunteered to serve as a Co-President for the Leadership Barrow class because in a group full of amazing leaders, I believe I can provide a facilitative style of leadership that ensures all voices are being heard while still moving forward towards our goals.” Faye Spaulding says I volunteered because it offers me an opportunity to give back or make a difference to the people around me. I like the quote by Winston Churchill, “We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give.” Our Class Facebook Fans are Robin Martinelli and Kayla Shumate and our Class Storyteller is Aimee Keibler. “I volunteered for Social Media Fan because I love being able to share a story/experience with others. Being able to engage with our community via our social media platforms will share the word about this wonderful program and how others can get involved,” says Kayla Shumate and Robin Martinelli said, “I am a social butterfly and love connecting with people. I want to tell my community how great the Leadership Barrow Class of 2023 is!” This class has some great insights into why they are doing what they are doing. Well done all!

After that the class had a wonderful lunch provided by the Camp Twin Lakes staff. The class learned a little bit more about what Camp Twin Lakes does and why they do what they do. Next the class began the highlight of the day, for most people, the high ropes course. For the first day it was amazing to watch teams encourage each other and be cheerleaders for those they may not have even met before today. Bonds were made and cemented today that will last a lifetime. Everyone left with a little more than what they started with, maybe not energy, but knowledge about themselves or someone else in the class. It was a truly wonderful first session and the class is eagerly anticipating the rest of the year together. This class is going to do great things!!!!

Thank you to Camp Twin Lakes for the fabulous lunch, your wonderful staff and the awesome team building activities. You made our first session amazing! A big Thank you also goes out to Piedmont Athens Regional for being our sponsor for Leadership Barrow 2023. We would not be able to do the things that we do without you.