# Alumni Network

November 12, 2020 Folashade Alao, PhD RLI, Program Manager



The Regional Leadership Institute (RLI) is a one week comprehensive leadership development program. The week's programming features subject-matter experts, panel discussions, and interactive sessions around policy areas of regional significance, along with leadership curriculum.

RLI strives to create a network of passionate, engaged professionals who are ready and able to collaborate around regional challenges facing metro Atlanta. Since the program's inception in 1991, nearly 1,500 leaders have participated in RLI.

Every year, the LINK™ program takes the region's most influential leaders to another metropolitan area in North America to learn about new ideas and approaches for dealing with the issues and challenges facing metro Atlanta.

During each trip, leaders from the Atlanta region have the opportunity to engage in dialogue with their counterparts from other regions. They explore solutions and exchange ideas for improving the Atlanta region and fostering positive community change.

More about LINK

Model Atlanta Regional Commission (MARC) has engaged hundreds of students in experiential learning with the region's leaders and experts in transportation, natural resource sustainability, community development, and more.

MARC participants go beyond classroom learning to become immersed in the planning and development of a large metro.

More about MARC

Arts Leaders of Metro Atlanta (ALMA), encourages leaders throughout the community to take an active role in solving the issues and challenges facing the region's arts and culture community. The program brings together arts leaders and political, corporate and nonprofit supporters for five days of classes spread over a five-month period

ALMA began in 2004 as a program of the Metro Atlanta Arts & Culture Coalition. In 2012, ALMA became part of the ARC.

More about ALMA

#### More about RLI









## The Challenge



ARC leadership programs are highly successful



But no clear paths for alums to stay connected with each other and ARC



Surveys of alums show this is strongly desired along with more opportunities to continue learning

## Research: Alumni Survey





## **Highest interest level:**

Regional collaboration

Housing affordability

Transportation mobility

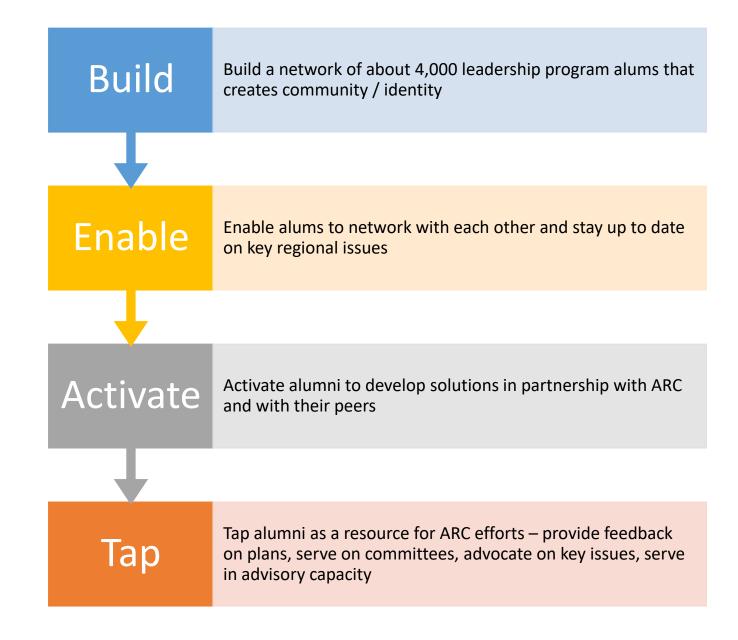
### **Preferred outcomes:**

Connecting with regional leaders

Interactive discussions on regional issues and policies with experts

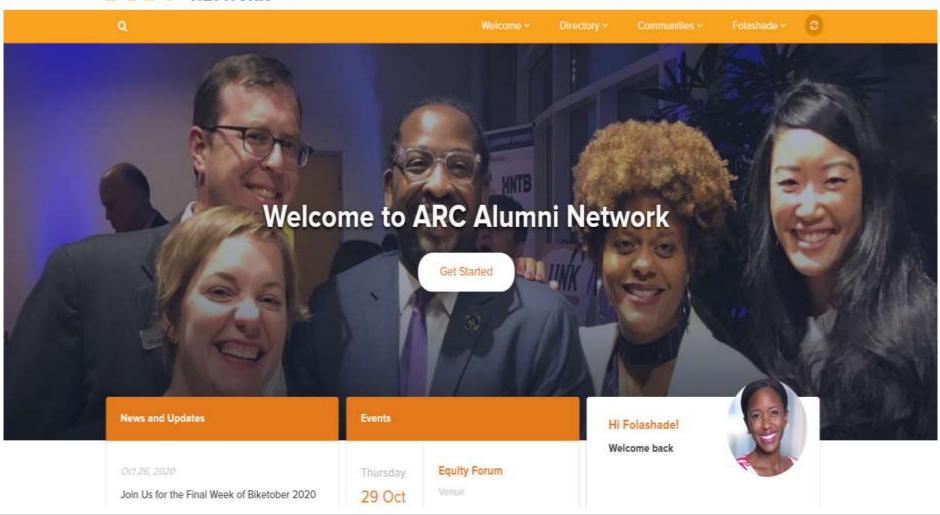
Small group discussions with peers interested in the topic.

# The Solution - ARC Alumni Network





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## **Key Principles**



**LEARN** 



**CONNECT** 



**ACT** 

Relevant articles
Webinars
Small group and panel
discussions

NETWORK
Attend discussion with policy experts

Serve in advisory capacity

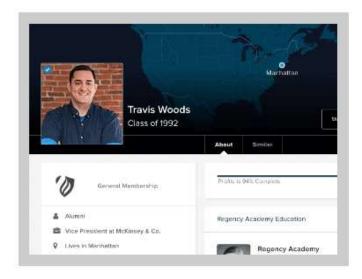
Advocate on key regional issues

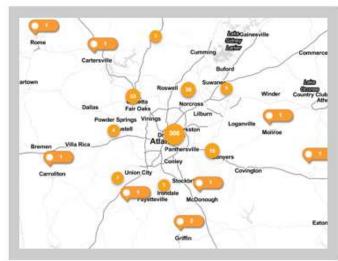
Drive action and change in region

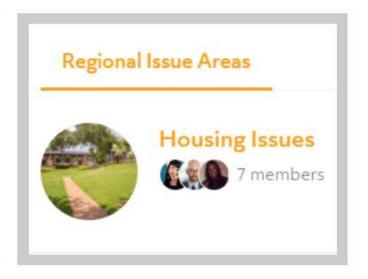
Communities v

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#### Your Profile

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Your profile is the best way to stay engaged! Login to the Platform in order to add your contact information, educational and professional history, or quickly import information by adding your

#### **Alumni Directory**

Connect with classmates and alumni across the leadership programs through the Online Directory! Search for alumnae by name, class year, occupation, area of interest, and more.

#### Communities

Engage with fellow alums through the online Communities by posting updates, sharing news, or adding group events. The current community was created to share information



## An Alum's Journey

#### Level 1

Read relevant articles

Peruse topic channels (e.g., housing affordability)



#### Level 2

Small group discussions

Attend webinar

Provide feedback on ARC/regional programs to help shape solutions (survey)



#### Level 3

Serve on ARC committee or with other regional effort

Advocate with local officials/leaders

Provide strategic feedback on ARC/regional programs Network with other alumni to brainstorm solutions

## Beta Testing



31 alumni beta testers



8-week testing period



Offering exclusive programming, emphasis on housing



News/ update and events



Gathering feedback on how alumni can, will and want to use the platform