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The Importance of Leadership On October 20th, 2018 the class of 2018 to 2019 of the Youth Leadership Development Program was able to take a small tour inside the Houston Food Bank (HFB) and see the many different areas of the organization. Not only did the class take a tour, but they also had the privilege to meet and listen to CEO of HFB, Brian Greene's presentation regarding leadership, courage, and non-profit organizations. HFB is a non-profit organization that gets many volunteers a day to participate who help pack food and send it out to people who are in need. Since 2005, Brian Greene has led the organization towards great success and now the HFB is the largest food bank in the country.

To start off his presentation, Mr. Greene said, "Courage is the most important virtue." It takes a lot of moral courage to become the best leader in a company or organization. There are two types of courage: physical courage and moral courage. Too many people, physical courage might seem rare but it is actually moral courage that is not common. We have the immediate instinct to jump into a lake to save someone from drowning but we don't have the confidence to stand up and declare when something is wrong. In a non-profit organization like the HFB, the leader of any branch must be able to stand in front of his employees and tell them that the company is doing something wrong only then the company can improve. Non-profit organizations don't have customers to tell them that their organization needs to improve. The employees and the leader have to realize their mistakes and that takes a great amount of moral courage. With a strong moral compass, people can easily solve societal problems and can achieve greater success based on honesty and integrity.

Brian Greene mentioned that in order to become an effective leader of an organization or a company, you must have many skills such as communication skills and financial skills. He elaborated on how the leader of the organization must plan according to what people will enjoy doing. If an organization like a food bank plans activities that volunteers won't enjoy, then fewer volunteers will show up and the organization won't succeed. A key point that Mr. Greene emphasized was that a company's effect on the outside world and the people in need is more important than obtaining a great amount of money.

In the end, the long-term effect on society by the non-profit organizations is important to keep the community united. The existence of non-profit organizations completes the task that other companies fail to do on a daily basis. Because of organizations like the HFB, many people around the world are able to live a long and healthy life.