

Commitment to Excellence

Purpose

If Lowndes County is to achieve its potential, the people in our cities and suburbs must be aware of the social, economic, educational and governmental needs of our community.

Through representation in LEADERSHIP LOWNDES by existing and emerging leaders, our community is alerted to challenges, opportunities, strengths and weaknesses in building a better Lowndes County. LEADERSHIP LOWNDES seeks out those who have been recognized for leadership skills and characteristics in our diverse community and brings them together. Nine hard-hitting programs throughout the year deal with crucial issues within our community. Together, the participants of LEADERSHIP LOWNDES seek mutual understanding of the challenges facing us and how they can be resolved or enhanced.

The participants in LEADERSHIP LOWNDES profit from getting to know each other, and from the formal and informal exchange of ideas and experiences. They gain knowledge and understanding from authorities on a wide variety of subjects such as government, education, defense, private enterprise, natural resources, finance, rural and urban development, health and human services, courts and public safety, economic development and quality of life. Thus, LEADERSHIP LOWNDES prepares them for a more active role in the affairs of our cities and county.

Program

The LEADERSHIP LOWNDES program is an educational experience rather than a program of advocacy. It deals with issues confronting our community and state. The meetings are scheduled at different locations throughout the community and consists of a two-day retreat in January, and full days in February, March, April, May, June, September, October and November. An optional program is usually scheduled in July or August. Topics of wide concern under an overall theme are selected for each program. Outstanding authorities speak and lead discussions designed to provide information and understanding on challenges and opportunities in the community and state.

Selection of Participants

First, the individual must be nominated for the program by a firm, organization or an individual. Once an applicant is nominated, he or she will be asked to complete a detailed application which is returned to a central location. All applicants are considered for selection.

Participants in LEADERSHIP LOWNDES are selected for consideration of their recognized and potential leadership. Each class is comprised of approximately 30 individuals representing business, industry, the professions and other occupations. A geographical, racial, gender and occupational balance is also achieved to ensure the program is representative of individuals from throughout the community and indicative of a variety of social, economic and professional concerns.

Through the interchange of this diverse group, participants will have developed a network of in-depth relationships with other leaders of various backgrounds and will have gained better insights and broader knowledge of issues facing our community and state. The individual participants and those whom they touch will profit from the fresh insight, broadened perspective and motivation gained by the class through the LEADERSHIP LOWNDES experience.



Contact leaderlowndes@bellsouth.net

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