

Overview of Sessions ~ Community Leadership Program

Curriculum Codes: (Y) Youth; (A) Adult; (YA) Youth/Adult; (O) Other

Session 1 – THE RETREAT

Orientation (informative session that discusses course expectations)

Understanding Leadership. (YA)

This session is designed to provide a foundation to practice leadership. Prior to this session participant will have completed the LPI Assessment. The assessment is a valid and reliable method for measuring the frequency of leadership behaviors.

Economic Development. (O)

This session focuses on strategies for local economic well-being. Participants will examine varied facets of community economic development as well as examine the specific nature of the Elberton economy.

Community Socioeconomic Profile (local Extension Agency facilitation) (O)

This session provides a forum for learning about the role of agriculture in Elbert County. Participants will focus on the importance of agriculture to the local economy, the challenges that are threatening to overcome the “family” farmer, and identify the forces that are molding agriculture.

Session 2 – Taking Charge. (Y)

This session will help identify time bandits, recognize peak energy times of the day, and adapt to stress fighters that are effective for us.

Session 3 - Communicating Effectively. (YA)

This session identifies and reviews the communication process, demonstrates the importance of being an effective communicator, and provides opportunity to practice communication skills.

Session 4 – Appreciating Differences. (Y)

This session focus is not just on cultural diversity, but on other kinds of differences that shape and define “who we are:” physical and intellectual attributes, talents and skills, values and attitudes. The goal is to appreciate and build upon the benefits that these differences contribute to the community.

Session 5 – Local Government. (O)

This session introduces participants to the role local government plays in the quality of community life. Purposes and types of local government, policy issues and obstacles are discussed. In addition, participants are asked to “grade” their own local governments and become more informed consumers of governmental services.

Session 6 – Leadership Day in Atlanta (all day). (O)

Group attends Leadership Day at the Depot, tours Capitol, visits with Representative Tom McCall and the House of Representative during open session.

Session 7 – Building Teams. (Y)

The session helps you to better understand the positive and effective ways that teamwork can be enhanced by understanding both diversity and conflict and by the application of good communication skills.

Session 8 – Managing Conflict. (Y)

This session will explore a difficult but rewarding responsibility for the group leader. The leader, like every group member, has an individual responsibility to manage conflict.

Session 9 – Setting Goals and Making Group Decisions. (YA)

In this session you will discover that the decision making process has many opportunities for success or failure within large and small groups and likewise in your community.

Session 10 – Building communities through Collaboration. (A)

This session provides a foundation for building and sustaining community collaborative.

Session 11 – Exercising Community Leadership. (Y)

This session will help you complete an assessment of the community by using the SPOT (*Strengths, Problems, Opportunities, Threats*) analysis to determine potential community projects that could be addressed by leaders.

Session 12 – Graduation Ceremony.

Participants will be honored with a guest speaker and dinner. Participants will receive certificates of completion at the end of the ceremony. Guests are invited to attend this session.