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LEADERSHIP WINTER HAVEN

2019-2020 - APPLICATION

LEADERSHIP WINTER HAVEN

[A CONTINUING LEGACY...]

Leadership Winter Haven was founded in 1980. Since that time the program has been dedicated to nurturing the leadership skills and understanding of individuals throughout the business community. In the course of the program, participants are exposed to the spectrum of business, industry, governmental and social issues that confront Winter Haven's current leaders and will challenge the leaders of tomorrow.

Since the program's inception as one of Florida's earliest community leadership programs (and Polk County's first), nearly 450 people have completed the course. Leadership Winter Haven alumni represent a strong communications network within Greater Winter Haven uniting people of varied interests and backgrounds. From agribusiness to entrepreneur, finance to public servant, the program is rich with diversity.

LWH graduates possess a unique understanding of the complexity of our region. Participants learn first hand the assets, opportunities, challenges and needs within our community, county and Central Florida.

Graduates of Leadership Winter Haven are found throughout not only business, government and community organizations but serving as effective, aware volunteer leaders on Boards of civic organizations and community projects. The benefit of this leadership program is the shaping of a vibrant yet diverse group of individuals who, through well informed decisions will help our community face tomorrow's challenges.

[PURPOSE]

Leadership Winter Haven strives to develop a well informed and diverse pool of leadership talent ready to help the community and area reach its full potential.

[WHO SHOULD PARTICIPATE]

Participants include young executives who aspire to leadership, established leaders seeking more thorough knowledge of the community as well as civic volunteers who seek a stronger communications network.

[SELECTION OF PARTICIPANTS]

Application to Leadership Winter Haven involves both a written application and informal interview conducted by several program graduates. The primary criterion for participation is a sincere interest in furthering your leadership ability and community understanding.

In the interest of group dynamics, married couples or close relatives are not selected for the same class. The program has, however, graduated a number of husband/wife teams who participated in different classes.

In the event that more qualified candidates apply than class space allows, first consideration will be given during the following year to those whose applications were deferred.

[WHAT DO PARTICIPANTS STAND TO GAIN]

Everyone reaps their own personal rewards from participation. Among them:

- Greater understanding of the community
- Stronger communications network
- More self-confidence in personal leadership abilities
- More opportunities for active participation
- New friends for life



[ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION]

- Successful completion of the Leadership Winter Haven program requires two essentials: attendance and active participation.
- The two-day opening retreat & welcome party, three-day Tallahassee visit and closing retreat & graduation ceremony are mandatory.
- While certain exceptions can be made for those needing to stay in Tallahassee beyond the class visit, class members are required to ride the charter bus to Tallahassee as that is when final preparations take place for the legislative visit.
- Class members may not miss more than one complete day of the program itinerary or any combination thereof. On occasion, special extra-curricular trips have been scheduled and counted as make-up days, however, there is no guarantee a make-up day will be scheduled. Certain other exemptions apply on rare occasions. Minimum attendance requirements assure the integrity of the accomplishment for those who participate faithfully.
- If you work for a company or organization, their support is essential. The program will require day-long outings from October through June, usually one per month. If you are self-employed you will need to evaluate the requirements of the program as compared to your available time.
- Leadership is a team-building exercise. Each member of the class must participate to the fullest. Sitting off to yourself, reading a book as you travel, cell phone calls between visits are all counter to the Leadership program goals ... and, therefore, not allowed.
- The use of cell phones on Leadership Class days, during the opening retreat and Tallahassee visit is strictly forbidden. When traveling between visits you are expected to discuss the aspects of your leadership experience ... not check in with your office. If you cannot make this commitment, this Leadership program is not for you. Violation of this policy will result in expulsion from the class and no fees will be refunded. (Your class Chairperson carries a cell phone and this number is provided to you in the event that serious emergencies arise.)



[TUITION]

Enrollment fees for Leadership Winter Haven are \$1,650 for Chamber member and \$2,000 for non-Chamber member. Arrangements can be made to pay in two installments. Tuition covers:

- Opening and Closing retreat accommodations and meals
 - 10 day-long excursions, luncheons and refreshments
 - Three-day, two-night Tallahassee visit, accommodations, transportation and meals
 - Graduation banquet for participant
- No refund of tuition is granted once the program begins.

[APPLICATION]

Applications for Leadership Winter Haven are available at the Greater Winter Haven Chamber of Commerce. Completed applications should be returned to:

Leadership Winter Haven
PO Box 1420
Winter Haven, FL 33882-1420

Should you have questions or desire further information, please contact Jennifer Romberger at 863.293.2138 or jennifer@winterhavenchamber.com.



LEADERSHIP WINTER HAVEN CLASS 40 NOMINATION FORM

The Leadership Winter Haven program is designed to bring together a cross section of those who should participate in leadership roles in Winter Haven's future. It is based on the belief that knowledge is a key element and prime motivator of leadership.

Selection Criteria: The Selection Committee seeks to identify those individuals most likely to use their leadership abilities for the long-term benefit of our community. Basic selection criteria, in addition to Chamber membership, are:

1. To select those individuals with a commitment, motivation and interest to serve Winter Haven.
2. To select those who have demonstrated concern by past community involvement.
3. To select those intending to seek key volunteer and/or appointed leadership roles.

Attendance: To be eligible for graduation from the Leadership program, participants may not miss more than one full class day. An option to make up the required day is available during the following year.

Tuition: The cost of the program is \$1,650 for Chamber member and \$2,000 for non-Chamber member, payable upon acceptance to the program. This fee includes all meals, transportation and accommodations. Arrangements can be made to pay in two installments.

Nominations: The form is to be completed by you as the sponsor or candidate for Leadership Winter Haven. It should be returned with the candidate's completed confidential application. In addition to the form below, please attach a letter stating why this individual has been nominated.

NOMINEE _____

Nominee's Company/Organization _____

Current Position/Title _____

Permission to Participate: I hereby nominate this individual for participation in Leadership Winter Haven and certify that he/she will be able to participate fully in all program activities which will require time away from work.

Signed _____

(Sponsor)

(Title)

Firm/Organization _____

Mailing Address _____

Please return to: Leadership Winter Haven, P.O. Box 1420, Winter Haven, FL 33882-1420

Leadership Winter Haven requires a significant time commitment from participants. Full-day programs are held approximately every two weeks. Before you consider participation, we must ask that you commit to regular attendance at Leadership programs (no more than one absence is allowed during the program). Your attendance at the opening retreat, three-day trip to Tallahassee during the legislative session and closing retreat is mandatory. The use of cell phones is prohibited throughout each Leadership day. Are you and your employer willing to make such a commitment from October through June:

Yes _____ No _____ Date of application _____

I. PERSONAL DATA

Name _____ Sex _____ (M/F)
(last) (first) (middle initial)

Date of birth (mo/day/yr) ____/____/____

Home Address _____
(street) (city) (state, zip)

Business Address _____
(street) (city) (state, zip)

Mailing Address (if different) _____

Telephone (home) _____ (business) _____ Fax _____

e-mail address _____ Hometown _____ Years in Winter Haven area _____

Name of spouse _____ Number of children _____

Hobbies/Special Interests: _____

II. EDUCATION

Begin with high school, college(s), advanced degrees and/or special training.

A.	Name and location of school	Date (from-to)	Degree	Major

B. Special Awards for Academic Performance: _____

C. Extracurricular Activities: (leadership positions held, special honors, awards received during school years)

III. EMPLOYMENT

Present Employer _____ Since _____

A. Briefly describe your current job responsibilities: _____

B. List previous employment (include active military duty):

Employer	Title / Responsibility	From - To
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C. What do you consider your highest career achievement?

D. Business/Professional Affiliations: (Not including civic organizations, public office or political activities)

Name of Organization	Position held/Assignments	From - To
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IV. COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

A. Include community, civic, religious, political, governmental, social, athletic, etc. Indicate major role in the organization.

Organization	Years as a member	Positions held
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(COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT continued)

B. What do you consider your most important accomplishment in one of the aforementioned organizations? and Why?

C. On the average, how much time each month do you commit to volunteer work? _____

D. In what kinds of additional activities would you like volunteer your time in the future? _____

V. GENERAL INFORMATION

A. What specific skills / knowledge do you hope to gain from your participation in Leadership Winter Haven?

B. What contribution do you feel you could make to this program? _____

C. What do you feel are two of the most significant challenges facing Winter Haven today?

1. _____

2. _____

D. Give your recommendations for approaching and resolving one of these problems:

Sample Itinerary:

While the itinerary is subject to modification, a typical list of Leadership Winter Haven program days would include:

Opening Retreat (Mandatory - Overnight)
& Welcome Party (Evening)

Tourism

Arts in Polk County

Community Health & Hospital Services

Agriculture & Citrus

Media

Polk County Government

Education

Manufacturing/Light Industry/Technology

City of Winter Haven

Regional Impact

Tallahassee: State Government
(Mandatory - Three-day two-night trip)
In March

Closing Retreat (Mandatory)



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