



# JO DAVIESS COUNTY LEADERSHIP FORUM

## *Frequently Asked Questions*

**1. What exactly is the Leadership Forum?**

The Leadership Forum is a program conducted by Highland Community College for individuals who are interested in the future of Jo Daviess County. Each year, approximately 15 participants gather once a month to study leadership topics and discuss important County issues.

**2. What is the purpose of the Forum?**

The purpose of the Forum is to create a network of local leaders who are knowledgeable about community issues, are able to demonstrate effective leadership skills, and are committed to improving our organizations and communities.

**3. When and how often does the Forum meet?**

After an opening two and a half day overnight retreat in late January, the Forum usually meets on the second Wednesday of the month, February through November from 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

**4. Where does the Forum meet?**

Each month the Forum meets in a different Jo Daviess County community giving participants the opportunity to learn more about all areas of the County. Meetings are held in schools, town halls, businesses, community buildings, or public meeting spaces.

**5. What happens at each Forum session?**

Mornings are spent exploring, discussing, and practicing various aspects of effective leadership. In the afternoon session, County leaders share information about important County topics such as land use and conservation, tourism, economic development, transportation, education, youth and senior issues, and agriculture.

**6. How can I participate in the Forum?**

The first step is to obtain an application from Jim Phillips, Highland Community College, 815-599-3469 or [jim.phillips@highland.edu](mailto:jim.phillips@highland.edu), complete and return. The participants are selected from the pool of applicants on the basis of their interest in community issues and how well they reflect and represent the diversity of the County

**7. How much does it cost? Who pays for it? Can I earn college credit?**

Tuition cost for the 11-month program (nine Highland Community College credit hours) is \$1,000.00. The books and materials fee is \$500.00. Often a sponsoring organization or employer will pay the entire cost for an individual. Occasionally participants will pay a portion of the costs with a sponsor paying the remainder.

**8. If my employer/sponsor or I are unable to meet the program costs, is there some kind of tuition assistance available to help offset the tuition and fees?**

Yes. Because of the generous support of numerous Jo Daviess County benefactors, scholarship assistance is available upon request at the time of acceptance into the program.