



\* Applications for Leadership Jones County (LJC) are requested from individuals interested in participating in a leadership development program of Community Development Foundation of Jones County and coordinated by the Economic Development Authority of Jones County.

\* Applications are reviewed, and delegates are selected by a committee. The number of delegates is limited to no more than 20 in order to encourage maximum participation. Efforts are made to balance participants according to business and professional interest, geography, race and sex. The number is also limited in order to adhere to State, Federal and Local Covid-19 guidelines.

\* Tuition for the program is \$600. This includes training sessions, instructional materials and meals. Limited scholarship assistance is available at the discretion of the Community Development Foundation of Jones County. The tuition must be paid-in-full prior to the retreat. If a scholarship is received a \$100 scholarship fee must be paid prior to the retreat.

\* By submitting an application to the LJC program, the applicant is indicating their willingness and ability to attend all sessions. LJC begins with a reception, orientation, and an out-of-town skills-building retreat. In addition, there will be monthly, full-day sessions, typically on the first Wednesday of each month. The program culminates with a graduation luncheon in May. Attendance at all events is required to complete the program. Make-up assignments will be required for missed sessions.

\* Participants, divided into teams, will be involved in a community project to improve or enhance the quality of life in Jones County. Participants must be willing to commit the necessary time to the project phase of the program. The schedule for the project work is determined by the team members, outside of monthly session time.

\* The employer of the applicant must agree to allow the participant the time off in order to participate in the program. (*orientation, retreat, monthly sessions, project time, graduation*)

\* Applicant must be a resident of Jones County, and/or employed in Jones County. Applicant must be at least 21 years of age.

\* For the safety of all participants, facilitators, and staff all Federal, State and Local Covid-19 guidelines will be followed.

\* For an application visit [www.jonescounty.com](http://www.jonescounty.com) click Foundation tab; LJC; return the application to Shelley at [shelleya@edajones.com](mailto:shelleya@edajones.com) or to the mailing address below. For additional information phone 601.649.3031.

\* Deadline for applying is **AUGUST 18, 2025.**

***A few past projects of LJC Project Teams***

Dog Park at Mason Park  
Habitat House  
Exercise Equipment at Howard Tech Park  
Bus Stop Pavilions  
Splashpad at Laurel Sportsplex  
Pavilion & Restrooms at Ellisville State School  
Welcome to Laurel Mural  
Future Leaders of Jones County  
Leontyne Price Park  
Walking Path at Ellisville State School  
Merchant Park Beautification  
Central Avenue Clock  
Leontyne Price Music Park  
Boston Park Clean-up  
Beautification Projects

***2025/2026 SCHEDULE***

Application Due	Aug. 18
Orientation/Ice Breaker/Dinner	Sept. 10
Retreat	Sept 11-12
Session 1	Oct. 1
Session 2	Nov. 5
Fundraiser	TBD
Session 3	Jan. 7
Session 4	Feb. 4
Session 5	March 4
Session 6	April 1
Graduation	May 5

*Monthly session topics could vary. Locations will be announced when confirmed.*



All applications are subject to confidential evaluation. Applicants not selected are notified by letter.

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Must be typed or neatly printed. Must include a recent photograph.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
First Middle Last

Name you want used: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ City of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Length of time in Jones County: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

If married, spouse's name: \_\_\_\_\_ No. of children \_\_\_\_\_ Ages \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Hobbies: \_\_\_\_\_

### EMPLOYMENT

Present Employer: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Began: \_\_\_\_\_

Supervisor Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Present Title or Responsibility: \_\_\_\_\_ Since (date): \_\_\_\_\_

Previous Employment (Account for all periods including active military duty. Place in reverse chronological order):

Employer	Title or Responsibility	from	To
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

### REFERENCES

Name two persons in Jones County not related to you as references for the selection committee to contact:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

*P.O. Box 527, Laurel, Mississippi 39441 O: (601) 649-3031 F: (601) 428-2047 [www.jonescounty.com](http://www.jonescounty.com)  
The Community Development Foundation of Jones County is an approved 501 (c) 3, non-profit charitable corporation.  
The program is sponsored in part by CSpire.*



### COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

List Key community, civic, professional, religious, business, social, or other organizations of which you have been a member in the last five years.

Organization	Official Position Held	Approximate Date of Membership

Special Honors or Awards for leadership activities: \_\_\_\_\_

Elected Public Offices (include dates of terms of office, location): \_\_\_\_\_

What do you consider to be your most notable achievement to date? \_\_\_\_\_

One of the goals of LJC is to build a network of community leaders who can identify community problems and opportunities and then individually or cooperatively develop solutions.

Please explain what you hope to gain if selected to participate in LJC.

What do you feel to be the most significant problems facing the Jones County area?

What do you feel needs to be done to address the above issue? \_\_\_\_\_



### SPONSOR/EMPLOYER COMMITMENT

This application has the full approval of this firm and the applicant has our full support, which includes the time required to participate in the LJC program, and (if agreed), includes paying his or her tuition, to be paid prior to the retreat.

We also understand that not all applicants can be accepted for this program in any given year, and that all applicants are held confidential.

Company: \_\_\_\_\_ Company Representative: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### APPLICANT COMMITMENT

LJC is a planned learning experience and requires attendance at ALL meetings which include an orientation/dinner, retreat, and monthly full-day sessions. Attendance is required at all meetings and absences for any reason other than an extreme emergency could result in being removed from the program. Make-up assignments will be issued for any missed sessions. Class members are expected to participate in all class projects and team meetings. The tuition fee and/or scholarship fee must be paid in full prior to the retreat and will not be refundable at any point after the retreat.

Tuition fee for the program is **\$600** payable no later than the retreat. Will your company pay the cost? ☐ Yes ☐ No  
(Scholarships are available on a limited basis to those who have demonstrated need, and have been approved by the Community Development Foundation of Jones County)

If your company is not paying, who will be responsible for your tuition? \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to request a scholarship. ☐ Yes ☐ No

Attach a separate document detailing your needs for receiving a whole or partial scholarship. I understand if I receive a scholarship, I am responsible for the \$100 scholarship fee which must be paid prior to the opening retreat. ☐ Yes ☐ No

Are you applying for a full \$600 scholarship or a partial ½ \$300 scholarship ☐ Full ☐ Partial

### APPLICANT PLEDGE

1. I wish to participate in Leadership Jones County.
2. I have the full support of my employer for the time required to participate.
3. I will be able to attend all sessions and understand any unexcused absence means being removed from the program, and there will be no refund of any payments. I understand make-up assignments will be issued for any missed sessions.
4. I will not use the contents of the sessions or statements made therein for the purpose of any news coverage.
5. I will not use the name of Leadership Jones County in a political campaign to imply endorsement of Leadership Jones County, The Community Development Foundation of Jones County, The Economic Development Authority of Jones County, or the Jones County Chamber of Commerce.
6. I understand my payment for the **\$600** tuition fee or the **\$100** scholarship fee is due and payable before the retreat. Failure to meet this deadline may result in removal from the program.
7. I will participate in a group project, in all aspects; selection of project, planning and implementing the project, and presenting an oral presentation of the project at graduation.
8. I will adhere to all Federal, State and Local Covid-19 guidelines.

Applicant Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Please fully complete this application and return to [shelleya@edajones.com](mailto:shelleya@edajones.com)

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