



For Immediate Release: June 20, 2023

The Adel-Cook and Berrien County Chambers of Commerce are currently taking applications for LINC 2023-2024. LINC is a partnership between neighboring communities to provide a leadership program for developing and sustaining leadership in our region. This program uses the recently updated University of Georgia Fanning Institute *Community Leadership Program* which has a proven track record of success. Embedded in this curriculum is the belief that people must continuously develop their skills and knowledge to be effective leaders.

LINC's comprehensive program consists of six sessions intended to give new and emerging leaders a foundation for leadership development. A typical day of LINC training will include one of the six module presentations in the morning, lunch, and then spending the afternoon on various community visits designed to reinforce that morning's lesson. Class sessions will rotate between Berrien and Cook Counties each month to allow participants to see what each community has to offer.

LINC will require a total commitment to the program of 7 full days and one evening over a period of eight months. Each day typically starts at 8:00 a.m. and ends by 5:00 p.m.

LINC is limited to only 24 participants. An application is available at each Chamber and online at [www.adelcookchamber.org](http://www.adelcookchamber.org). Applications should be returned no later than July 20<sup>th</sup> to be considered. As a member of either Chamber of Commerce, your investment for the course is only \$475. The investment for non-chamber members is \$575. This investment includes all costs for the eight-month program including speakers, scheduled meals, materials, field trips, and graduation. Once selected, program fees must be paid in full by August 31st in order to participate in the class.

We urge your participation in LINC! We believe it will have a positive impact on both you and our communities. If you have questions, contact the Adel-Cook Chamber at 896-2281 or the Berrien Chamber at 229-686-5123.

Sincerely,

*Heather Green*

Heather Green, Adel-Cook President

*Lisa Smart*

Lisa Smart, Berrien County Exec Director



Guided by the belief that leadership is key to a community's economic success, the Adel-Cook and Berrien County Chamber's have again partnered with UGA's J.W. Fanning Institute to provide updated curriculum and training for session facilitators for the 2023-2024 class. LINC consists of six-day long sessions (1 each month) designed to expand your personal leadership skills, as well as provide exposure to resources, assets and other leaders in both communities. This is a unique opportunity for participants to learn more about their neighboring community and be the first class for this new program.

**APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION**

*All applications are confidential, and selection is anonymous.* Please provide sufficient information for the Selection Committee to make a determination of your eligibility based on your current skills and commitment to community involvement and growth.

*Complete only those items that apply to you. Leave others blank.*

**I. BASIC INFORMATION**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Last First MI Name Called

Spouse's Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Last First MI Name Called

Home Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
City County State Zip Code

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Male/Female \_\_\_\_\_ Race \_\_\_\_\_

Present Employer \_\_\_\_\_

Business Address \_\_\_\_\_

Bus. Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Bus. Fax # \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

How long have you lived and/or worked in Berrien/Cook County? \_\_\_\_\_

**II. PRESENT EMPLOYMENT**

Present Title or Position \_\_\_\_\_

Briefly describe your responsibilities in your employment \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**III. BUSINESS/PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS (IF ANY)**

Do not include civic organizations, public office, or political activities.

Name of Group	Position Held	Period of Affiliation
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

**IV. COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT**

Please include civic, religious, political, government, social, or other activities and your involvement in these activities. Do not include business/professional activities.

Name of Group	Position Held	Period of Affiliation
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

**V. ACTIVITIES DURING SCHOOL YEARS**

Educational background

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Activities, offices, and recognition for special contributions

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**VI. COMMITMENT**

What do you consider your leadership strengths? \_\_\_\_\_

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Weaknesses? \_\_\_\_\_

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What are you hoping to gain by participating in LINC? \_\_\_\_\_

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What do you feel you can contribute to LINC? \_\_\_\_\_

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As a potential leader in Berrien/Cook County, what are your major concerns? \_\_\_\_\_

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What goals have you set for yourself? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Have you discussed your nomination with your employer and do you have the full support of your employer and spouse (if any) for the time required participating in LINC?

YES  NO      Employer's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Successful completion of the LINC class shall mean attendance at the initial retreat and completion of at least (5) of the (6) sessions. A participant can participate in the graduation exercises without meeting attendance requirements, but will receive a certificate of participation instead of a plaque of completion. Do you fully understand and agree to meet these criteria?

YES  NO

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**Limited scholarships will be awarded.**

Would you like to be considered for a scholarship?  YES  NO

Would you still be able to participate in LINC if you do not receive a scholarship?

YES  NO

**LINC Session Dates**

Session	Date(s)*	Time*
Kick Off Retreat	Sept 14	8-5
Session #1	Oct 4	8-5
Session #2	Nov 9	8-5
Session #3	Jan11	8-5
Session #4	Feb 8	8-5
Session #5	Mar 21	8-5
Session #6	Apr 11	8-5
Graduation Celebration	Apr 11	6:30 pm

*\*Dates and times of each session are subject to change.*

**Application must be returned by July 20, 2023.**

Applications should be mailed to: LINC

Adel-Cook County Chamber of Commerce  
100 S. Hutchinson Avenue, Adel, GA 31620



# NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS

## Community Leadership Program 2023-2024

### Contacts

**Adel-Cook Chamber**  
Heather Green, President

**Phone**  
229-896-2281

**Address**  
100 S Hutchinson Ave  
Adel, GA 31620

**Email**  
[heather.green@adelcookchamber.org](mailto:heather.green@adelcookchamber.org)

**Berrien County Chamber**  
Lisa Smart, Executive Director

**Phone**  
229-686-5123

**Address**  
PO Box 217  
Nashville, GA 31639

**Email**  
[berrienchamber.lisa@windstream.net](mailto:berrienchamber.lisa@windstream.net)

### Facilitated By



J.W. Fanning Institute for Leadership Development  
UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA

### Program Outline

As we work towards finalizing the program schedule, please note that once the session dates are set and advertising starts, they are "set in stone". However, community "Best Of" tour locations are subject to change and can be amended, if needed.

### Session Schedule

#### **September 14 - Opening Retreat & Emergenetics**

Kickoff Retreat, Reed Bingham State Park  
UGA to review testing resulting  
Team Building activities

#### **October 4 - Communicating Effectively**

Hosted by Berrien County

#### **November 9 - Multigenerational Leadership**

Hosted by Cook County

#### **January 11 - Collaboration & Group Decision Making**

Hosted by Berrien County

#### **February 8 - Conflict Management**

Hosted by Cook County

#### **March 21 - Inclusive Leadership**

Hosted by Berrien County

#### **April 11 - Leading Change & LINC Graduation**

Hosted by Cook County - Session  
Held in Berrien County - Graduation