

Leadership program seeks students

■ The Institute for Community Leadership teaches skills for those who want to serve on government or nonprofit group boards.



Cumberland Matters
Jon Soles

The Institute for Community Leadership is seeking interested people for its 2012-13 class.

The program is free and geared toward working adults interested in serving on local nonprofit and government boards.

From churches to local government, membership on a board or committee is instrumental in developing community leaders.

For example, Cumberland County has 38 appointed boards, commissions and committees, many of which have vacancies.

Even if you don't think of yourself as a leader now, the program can help you.

It is more important that you care about our community and take the initiative to get involved, according to the institute's executive director, Renarta Clanton Moyd.

"It gives people the opportunity to bring about positive changes in their community and to hone their skills as leaders and ultimately, to have a voice," Moyd said.

"Many participants who originally didn't think they had leadership skills realize that they are capable of being a good leader," she

said.

The program follows a school schedule, with classes held in September, October, November, January, February, March and April.

The 2011-12 class graduated April 17.

Sessions are on the third Tuesday of the month from 6 to 9 p.m.

Topics covered include decision-making, interpersonal skills, leadership styles, communication, teamwork, parliamentary procedure, legal matters, and financial issues.

Each session focuses on a particular area of community service to include nonprofit service agencies; city and county government; arts and cultural organizations; and schools and colleges.

"It's a good opportunity for professionals, but it is also a good opportunity for those who may not have a post-secondary degree," Moyd said. "ICL is for anyone in our community who wants to have a voice and who has some great

ideas to bring to the table; someone who wants to be a part of the key community decision making."

Sponsors for the institute are city of Fayetteville, Cumberland County, Cumberland County Schools, Fayetteville State University, Fayetteville Technical Community College and Methodist

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University.

Anyone interested in participating in the Institute for Community Leadership is encouraged to apply by the July 11 deadline.

Applications are available on the website at leadership4us.org/index.htm.