



JCCI *FORWARD*
SPRING 2002

FINAL REPORT
Issue Forums and Workshops

Presented to:

JCCI *FORWARD* MEMBERS
JCCI BOARD OF DIRECTORS
CITIZENS OF JACKSONVILLE

Sponsors

The Community Foundation
Jacksonville University
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***Forward* is the exciting new branch of JCCI designed to provide emerging leaders (age 25-45) with the information, tools, and venue they need to create positive change in the Northeast Florida community. *Forward's* core business is policy-level discussion wherein leadership development occurs. *Forward* empowers and spurs individuals to take action.**

Forward's core program is comprised of two major components. **Issue-Forum Discussion Groups** offer participants a venue to interact with respected community leaders and resource experts on issues of concern to Northeast Florida's citizens. Participants explore issues critical to the community's growth, seek understanding of related problems, and come to consensus on proposed action plans that can be implemented locally. **Educational workshops** offer a foundation for leadership development, an understanding of community trusteeship, and an appreciation for Jacksonville's history and governmental structure.

During the 2002 program year, issue-forum groups met with key individuals and devised group action plans consistent with their respective forum topics. Over 160 individuals participated in the issue-forum process, which lasted approximately four months. Additionally, over 50 individuals attended the half-day interactive, educational seminar on **Jacksonville's History and Government**.

ISSUE FORUM SUMMARIES

BUSINESS CLIMATE AND ECONOMIC TRENDS

Forging our Future: Business as a Partner in Education

This forum explored how businesses are currently shaping our future workforce, what Jacksonville businesses can do to meet the needs of our changing economy, and how businesses can partner with schools to make students more successful.

Key findings:

- Lack of emphasis on career exploration and awareness for trade industries.
- Lack of a structured process to encourage and engage business partners with local education.
- Lack of a global, collaborative strategy of those striving to partner business with education.

Action plan:

Forum members will **adopt a Career Academy** and develop a process to become involved by offering to assist with speakers bureaus for career awareness, becoming mentors, internships (positions for Students), and externships (positions for Teachers).

It was the consensus of the group that the lack of a working process to encourage and assist businesses in getting involved with the public schools was the biggest challenge facing the community. However, it was also recognized that such a task would be too large to be addressed by any action taken by the committee itself.

The committee will recruit up to 20 volunteers to participate in the action plan development and design phase during the summer of 2002, and will work to implement the plan starting with the new school year.

This action plan will allow the committee members the opportunity to gain valuable insight and experience to put toward further development of a working model that can be shared with others.

COMMUNITY LEADERS AND RESOURCE EXPERTS

Jerry Mallot; Jacksonville Chamber of Commerce,
Cornerstone

Danny Burns; Peterson Career Academy

Chris Force; Wolfson Career Academy

Raleigh Sapp; Clay County Districts Schools

Dr. John Porter; National Center on Education and the
Economy, Washington D.C.

Mike Israel; ATS

Candace Moody; WorkSource

Lad Daniels; First Coast Manufacturer's Association

Lee Arsenault; Northeast Florida Builders Association

Billie Nimnicht; Jacksonville Auto Dealers Association
Charles Cold; Bank of America
Carol Quay; HCA Healthcare, Memorial Hospital
Bob Baldwin; Jacksonville Chamber of Commerce,
Small Business Division

Bonnie Barnes; Presentation Resources Inc.
Lori Cheatham; Florida Association of Nurse
Administrators
Jamie Davis; Recruitmax Software

ENRICHING THE COMMUNITY

Developing Downtown as an Entertainment and Cultural Center

This forum explored how our community can utilize Jacksonville's Super Bowl as an opportunity to establish a permanent downtown entertainment district. The forum analyzed the current strategy for Jacksonville and sought other opportunities for solidifying Downtown as an entertainment and cultural hot spot.

Key findings:

- There is no advocacy group working to change negative perceptions (parking, safety and activities available) of Downtown.
- There is a lack of political support concerning the many needed changes to the current Downtown liquor and zoning codes.
- There is a lack of communication between the active downtown groups and the surrounding communities.

Action plan:

The plan is **to form a Downtown advocacy group** that addresses the identified gaps and needs of a vital downtown and promotes the creation of a Downtown cultural/entertainment district.

The advocacy group has been formed and has adopted the name 'Downtown Now'. Downtown Now's *draft* mission is to nurture the creation of a downtown cultural/entertainment district through advocacy, education and political action.

Through careful planning the group will establish short and long-term goals that will be shared with the current active downtown groups and the new incoming residents.

COMMUNITY LEADERS AND RESOURCE EXPERTS

Al Battle; Downtown Development Authority
Terry Lorince; Downtown Vision Inc.
Mike Weinstein; Jacksonville Super Bowl Host
Committee
Mike Kelly; Tampa Super Bowl Host Committee
Fernando Noriega; City of Tampa

Bill Fountain; City of West Palm Beach
Lise Sundrla; City of Savannah
Teresa O'Donnell Price; City of Jacksonville,
Special Events Department
Robert Leverock Jr.; Gator Bowl Association

Michael Stewart; Jacksonville Convention and Visitor's Bureau
John Kiddy; Jacksonville Landing and Rouse Company

Bobi McGinnis; St. Johns River City Band
Matt Carlucci; Jacksonville City Council President

POLITICAL LEADERSHIP AND CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

Pathways to Power: Moving Younger Adults into Political Leadership Roles

This forum explored the various leadership opportunities by which younger adults can develop and enrich Jacksonville's political landscape. It discussed the ramifications of various political leadership roles, including power, influence, and progress.

Key findings:

- Be prepared. Partner your passion with knowledge of your issue.
- Learn to friendraise and fundraise.
- Get involved in a campaign by volunteering.
- Don't bite off more than you can chew. Only commit to what you can fulfill.

Action plan:

The committee will use the Issue Forum meeting summaries as a basis for a **resource guide/report** to assist individuals interested in learning the 'Pathways to Power'. The many valuable tips and 'how to' information that the committee learned will be accessible to anyone who has a desire to enter political life, either as a candidate or a volunteer.

Once this information is reorganized, it will be available on the JCCI *Forward* webpage. A hard copy will be mailed to all resource speakers and a news release to raise awareness of the guide/report will be written and sent to all major media contacts. A recommendation for *Forward* to co-host a future mayoral debate was also brought before the JCCI *Forward* Executive Committee.

COMMUNITY LEADERS AND RESOURCE EXPERTS

Mayor John Delaney; City of Jacksonville
Michael Tolbert; CSX
Ron Littlepage; Florida Times-Union
Paul Harden; Attorney
Martha Barrett; Duval County School Board and Bank of America
Michael Munz; The Dalton Group
Paula Weatherby; Paula Weatherby Consulting

Clyde Collins; Duval County Democratic Party
Tom Slade; Duval County Republican Party
Bill Brinton; Rogers, Towers, Bailey, Jones and Gay, P.A.
Rodney Hurst; Civil Rights Leader
Celia Miller; Good Neighbor MANIA
Michael Hightower; BlueCross BlueShield of Florida
Bucky Clarkson; The Clarkson Company

Teala Milton; JEA
Reggie Fullwood; Jacksonville City Councilman
Suzanne Jenkins; Jacksonville City Councilwoman

Matt Carlucci; Jacksonville City Council President
Art Graham; Jacksonville Beach City Councilman

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP SERIES

On March 15th, 2002 JCCI *Forward* hosted its second workshop on Jacksonville's History and Government. The workshop, titled '**Seeing the Future in Downtown's Past**', examined the City's role in preserving historic structures and sites in downtown Jacksonville.

The half-day seminar included an introduction at City Hall by Council President **Matt Carlucci**, a meeting with the City Council Task Force on Historic Preservation and Revitalization, a guided tour of historic properties by tour guide **Joel McEachin**, and a panel discussion moderated by WJCT's **Caroline Tetschner**. The panelists included Downtown Development Authority's Managing Director **Al Battle**, Historic Preservation and Revitalization Task Force Chair Councilman **Jim Overton**, commercial real estate developer **Mike Langton**, and Jacksonville Historical Society Executive Director **Emily Lisska**.

The workshop was a success with over fifty of Northeast Florida's emerging leaders attending. The Leadership Development Workshop was made possible by the generous sponsorship of **Jacksonville University**. Other sponsors for the event included The Jacksonville City Council, Jacksonville Electric Authority, Jacksonville Historical Society, Jacksonville Transportation Authority, the Clarkson Company and Tidbits. A workshop on *Trusteeship and Philanthropy*, will be held in early October 2002.

Leadership Development Workshop Resource Participants

Al Battle; Downtown Development Authority
Matt Carlucci; Jacksonville City Council President
Mike Langton; Developer
Emily Lisska; Jacksonville Historical Society
Joel McEachin; City of Jacksonville
Jim Overton; Jacksonville City Councilman
Caroline Tetschner; WJCT 89.9

John Daigle, Jr., Jacksonville University
Workshop Coordinator

Stay Tuned...

As this year of JCCI *Forward* has drawn to a close, the JCCI *Forward* Executive Committee is already planning its next series of issue forums and educational workshops. Topic selections for next year's Issue Forums are slated for July 2002. Current JCCI *Forward* members and the general public are encouraged to participate in the 2002-03 JCCI *Forward* process. More information can be found on the JCCI website at: <http://www.jcci.org/forward>.

JCCI FORWARD PARTICIPANTS

Forum groups met biweekly for four months. They received information from knowledgeable resource people and additional written materials provided by JCCI *Forward* staff. We congratulate them for their efforts, civic involvement, and advocacy.

Executive Committee

Bob Snell; Chair
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Arlisa Jackson; Recruitment Vice Co-chair
Mitch Velasco; Recruitment Vice Co-chair
Jill Johnson; Social Vice Chair
Brian Smith; Leadership Development Workshop Vice Chair

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Jennifer Ashenfelder
Stephan Avery
Kimberly Barnes
Claudine Brown
Paula Chaon
Bill Gasset
Dawn Gilman

Mike Helton
Mike Israel
Rudy Jamison
Jill Jinks
Brian Keeney
Alan Ketchum
Alexander Koster
Tramy Lam
Carla Marlier

Victor Melone
Billie Nimnicht
A.D. Roberts
Marc Rubinstein
Heather Schuler
Justin Terry
Jane Wahl
Tayloe White

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Susan Evatte
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Sherry Hogan
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Andrew Jaffa
Sylvia Jaffa
George Kinghorn
Bonnie Knight
C. Davis Knight

Brian Lemmey
Shawn LeNoble
Jay Magee
Caroline Miller
Eileen Raynor
Mark Rinaman
Joe Snowberger
Jason Thiel
Mac Truque
W. Harvey Williams

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Lori Bilello
Ed Birk
OK Sun Burks
Michael Connolly
Dan Davis
Ramon Day
Michael DelRocco
Don Dempsey
Ray Egbert, III
Kay Ehas
Dwight Faircloth

Lisa Felts
Fionnuala Geoghegan
David Goldstein
Arthur Graham
Deno Hicks
Michelle Hodgkin
Amy Hays Holliman
Vincent Jackson
Rudy Jamison
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Carla Marlier
Daniel Merkan

Joe Montano
Karl Pelletier
Patricia Ponder
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Jennifer Sugar
Justin Terry
Jarrod Turner
Mitch Velasco
San White
Judy Youngblood
Tania Yount

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John Daigle, Jr.

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