About JCCI Forward
Established in July of 2000, JCCI Forward is an initiative of Jacksonville Community Council, Inc. (JCCI) that seeks to engage men and women ages 25-45 in civic involvement and to prepare them for their future roles as community leaders. JCCI Forward is an ideal way to interact with city leaders, to experience leadership development, and to build a network of friends and associates who all share the common goal of improving our community.

Mission
The mission of JCCI Forward is to provide a dynamic forum for developing leaders and community-minded individuals to identify and discuss issues facing Northeast Florida and to strive for solutions.

Activities & Events
JCCI Forward provides the information, tools, and resources needed to develop strong leadership skills and to help affect positive change in our community. Like JCCI, JCCI Forward hosts its own community forums and workshops, all with the three-fold aim of studying the issues which are central to our community’s growth, providing an opportunity to meet, interact and work with our community’s existing leadership structure, and focusing on the skills critical to assuming a leadership role in our community’s future.

Issue Forums
Issue Forums 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.

Leadership Development Workshops
Leadership Development Workshops are half-day seminars devoted to keeping JCCI Forward members involved, engaged, and connected. These workshops offer a foundation for leadership skills by allowing members to study important community issues in a dynamic setting, while interacting with expert resource speakers.

Training Sessions
Training sessions offer JCCI Forward participants opportunities to learn and improve their leadership skills, such as facilitation, consensus-building, and how to run effective meetings.

Leadership Opportunities
While JCCI Forward is supported by JCCI, it maintains an Executive Committee and several established committees that offer opportunities for individuals to get involved and hold leadership positions. Additionally, Issue Forum Management Teams provide participants with hands-on planning experience.

Other Events
Networking Socials allow members to connect with each other, strengthen relationships, and learn more about JCCI Forward. Mystery Guest Lunches provide participants with access to local leaders in the intimate setting of lunch with a community leader. Food For Thought gatherings offer an additional way for members to connect, network, and discuss community issues.
Downtown...Greentown?

This issue forum examined downtown Jacksonville's green space, studied the costs and benefits of green space areas, investigated what other communities have done, and explored opportunities that may exist for expanding green space in downtown Jacksonville.

Action Plan:
Committee members will form an advocacy group in order to focus their efforts on the issue of Jacksonville’s downtown green space. Other members of the community are welcomed and encouraged to join in these efforts as well. The group will work to educate the community about green space and will coordinate a charrette to provide community leaders, citizens, and other interested parties the opportunity to discuss the growth of Jacksonville's downtown green space.

Forum Participants:
(Bold Names = Management Team)

Vitina Pellot, Chair
Martin Edwards, Vice Chair

John Allmand
Oliver Barakat
Elissa Brockmeier
Phil Bruce
Cara Connolly
Eugene Damaso
Christopher Davis
Lew Fabrick
Nathan Fabrick
Sarah Gay
Lynn Gilley
Tom Gilley
Barbara Goodman
Erin Gornto
Jennifer Gornto

Neil Gornto
Ron Gould
Catherine Hajcak
Erin Moody Isaac
Matthew Isaac
Jay Johnson
Melissa Johnson
Charlene Kingsnorth
Kathleen Klein
Brian Lee
Eric Lenard
Terry Lorince
Jennifer Mansfield
Mike McCollum
Emily Melick

Jeremy Miller
John Nooney
Jessica Osterer
Dorothy Pate
Becky Schaefer
Shannon Scheffer
Noah Standridge
Leonard Stevens
Patrick Thompson
Steve Tool
Paul Tutwiler
Lauren Weedon
Rhonda Williams
Marlo Zarka

Resource Speakers:
Phil Bruce, Parks & Recreation, City of Jacksonville
Ed Burr, LandMar Group
Jack Diamond, Rink Design Partnership
Lara Diettrich, Planning and Development, City of Jacksonville
Susan Grandin, Jacksonville Office, Trust for Public Land
Peter Harnik, Trust for Public Land
Michael Herzberg, Planning and Development, City of Jacksonville

Sean Kelly, Planning and Development, City of Jacksonville
Ed Lehman, NE FL Regional Council
Terry Lorince, Downtown Vision, Inc
Ted Pappas, PBV Architects
Chief David Stevens, Jacksonville Sheriff’s Office
Susie Wiles, Office of the Mayor, City of Jacksonville
Carol Worsham, HDR
**Issue Forum**
(Note: Please refer to individual issue forum reports for respective key findings.)

**The Underground Connection**

This issue forum examined overhead and underground utilities in Jacksonville, explored the benefits and challenges of overhead and underground utilities including those related to storm outages and neighborhood improvement, looked at how other cities handle utilities and related costs, and considered the options for Jacksonville.

**Action Plan:**

Committee members will inform the community about its findings by sharing the final report with the Jacksonville community and with various specific entities, including: City Council, the Mayor, the City Planning Advisory Councils, JEA, Comcast, and BellSouth. In addition, committee members will research other ways to share the report with the public, such as through links on relevant websites. These information-sharing efforts will seek to encourage community leaders, service companies, and citizens to develop a greater common understanding of the many facets of utilities in Jacksonville and how to best move forward.

**Forum Participants:**

*(Bold Names = Management Team)*

**Michael Connolly,** Chair  
**Rosalind Marshall,** Vice Chair  
Alonza Jamaal Anderson  
Peggy Barber  
Mike Barile  
Lee Brown  
Stu Burgess  
Reginald Caldwell II  
Frank Carbone  
Kevin Feldt  
Christal Fish  
Matthew Harris  
Laura Herzog  
Jenny Huang  
Charlene Kingsnorth  
Brian Mills  
John Otterson  
Patty Otterson  
**Karl Pelletier**  
Sabina Pryce-Jones  
Marvin Reese  
Leonard Stevens  
**Anita Sullivan**  
Jim Varian  
**Hamid Zahir**

**Resource Speakers:**

Mark Belton, *BellSouth*  
William D. Brinton, *citizen*  
Carol Ann Colbert, *Davis Islands Civic Assn.*  
Robert Freeman, *Bryant Miller & Olive P.A.*  
Suzanne Jenkins, *JaxPride*  
George Moore, *Clean Energy and Research Program, USF*  
Marlene Murphy-Roach, JEA  
Greg Perrine, JEA  
Leigh Rassler, *JaxPride*  
Marty Senterfitt, *Emergency Preparedness, City of Jacksonville*  
Bill Watson, Comcast  
Hamid Zahir, JEA
**Issue Forum**
(Note: Please refer to individual issue forum reports for respective key findings.)

**Forward Thinking: How to Effect Change in Jacksonville**

This issue forum explored how positive change happens in Jacksonville, including government processes, and how to create and lead positive change using skills such as identifying and leveraging resources, taking initiative, and building relationships with individuals and groups.

**Action Plan:**

The group developed *personal action plans*, discussing how what they had learned would apply to them or had served as a call to action. The information learned from resource people highlighted specific and different training needs for each individual. While JCCI can bring in outstanding external resources to help in action plan development, these assets must be leveraged and *Forward* must inventory and develop its own internal expertise.

**Forum Participants:**

*(Bold Names = Management Team)*

Art Graham, Co-chair
Amy Hays Holliman, Co-chair

John Allmand
Christine Allmand
Jordan Boss
**Dan Davis**
Brian Fuller
Sarah Gay
Fionnuala Geoghegan
Jennifer Gortno
**Melissa Gross-Arnold**
James Holt
Jill Jinks
Jay Johnson
Melissa Johnson

Leslie Kirkwood
Georgia MacLean
Charles K. "Chuck" Mann
Heather McEachen
Jeremy Miller
Ju'Coby Pittman-Peele
Eileen Raynor
Dan Richard
**Scott Shine**
**Jim Varian**
Valerie Williams
Stephen "Ken" Wilson

**Resource Speakers:**

Matt Carlucci, *Former Jacksonville City Council President*
Sandy Golding, *Beaches Watch*
Mike Langton, *Former State Legislator*
Andy Wojcicki, *Board Member, St. Johns River Keeper*

William D. Brinton, *Leader of three citizen initiatives amending city charter*
Diane Kerr, *North Riverside Community Development Corp.*
Leadership Development Workshops

Closing the Deal: The Art & Science of Persuasion

November 4, 2004

This half-day seminar provided a unique opportunity to hear local leaders share their professional knowledge and personal experiences about persuasion, negotiation, and positive influence. Fifty attendees heard opening speaker Dr. Suzanne Montgomery (Montgomery, Copley, & Associates) who set the stage for two panels that included Martha Barrett (Chair, Duval County School Board), Elaine Brown (City Council President), Hank Coxe (Bedell Law Firm and 2006-07 President of the Florida Bar Association), Carlton Jones (President, Renaissance Design Build Group), Jim McCollum (BellSouth Regional Director of Corporate and External Affairs), and David Sillick (Publisher, Jacksonville Business Journal).

Tapping into Your Entrepreneurial Spirit

May 11, 2005

During this half-day seminar, local leaders shared their perspectives on the skills and qualities of the entrepreneurial spirit (such as visioning, risk-taking, and using resources effectively) that can enhance professional and personal endeavors in any arena. Nearly fifty attendees heard opening speakers Charles “Bucky” Clarkson (The Clarkson Group) and Alan Rossiter (Enterprise North Florida). Attendees then enjoyed a one-hour panel session of successful entrepreneurs from varied industries who are peers of JCCI Forward members: Sandy Bartow (Jacksonville Women’s Business Center), Jane Craven (JMOMA), Chad Munsey (The Grotto), Shaleen Shah (Seventhman), and Jermyn Shannon-El (Blacksonville). Rounding out the program were breakout sessions when participants met with community leaders Preston Haskell and Mike Shad who have been successful over the long term as entrepreneurs and as investors in the entrepreneurial process.
Other Activities

Training Sessions

Leadership Skills Training Sessions held in February 2004 and May & June 2005 helped participants learn facilitation and consensus-building skills, tips on running effective meetings, and networking skills. Resource speakers included Lois Chepenik (former JCCI Executive Director), Skip Cramer (current JCCI Executive Director), GinaMaria Jerome (trainer, speaker, and author), and Jonathan Lever (formerly of the Nonprofit Center of Northeast Florida).

National Make a Difference Day

October 23, 2004

JCCI Forward participants teamed up with Jacksonville University students in a National Make a Difference Day project for the Housing Partnership of Jacksonville. Volunteers enjoyed a day outside as they helped to paint a house, build a stairway railing, and do some light yard work for a Housing Partnership client.

Social Events

A variety of social events held throughout the year offered additional opportunities to JCCI Forward participants. Networking Socials allowed members to connect with each other, strengthen relationships, and learn more about JCCI Forward. Mystery Guest Lunches provided participants with access to local leaders in the intimate setting of lunch with Executive Director Skip Cramer and a local community leader as the "mystery guest". Food For Thought gatherings gave participants the opportunity to network and discuss topics of the day, such as the media’s role in political division, the Better Jacksonville Plan, and Super Bowl XXXIX. Events took place in different locations around the city in order to provide varied opportunities to participants.

Stay Tuned...

JCCI Forward is planning its upcoming calendar year, including its next series of Issue Forums and workshops. Current JCCI Forward members and the general public are encouraged to participate in the 2005-2006 events and activities. More information can be found on the JCCI Forward website at: http://www.jcci.org/forward.
Major Community Supporter

The City of Jacksonville

Support for Individual Activities

Issue Forums

Downtown...Greentown?
The Jacksonville Bank
Office Environments & Services (OE&S)

Forward Thinking: How to Effect Change in Jacksonville
Bank of America

Leadership Development Workshops

Closing the Deal: The Art & Science of Persuasion
Jacksonville Airport Authority

Tapping into Your Entrepreneurial Spirit
AmSouth Bank

Social Events
Amsterdam Sky Cafe
Drayton’s in the Seminole Club
Mongo’s Flat Hot Grill
Presser, Lahnen & Edelman CPA
The Grape

In-Kind Contributions
Kent Jennings Brockwell
Cendant Mortgage
The Clarkson Company
Clearwire
ImprovJacksonville
Jacksonville Jaguars Foundation
J Crew
Jessica McClintock
WJCT

Thank you to all volunteers, resource speakers, and additional supporters for donating their time and resources throughout the year.
## 2004-2005 JCCI *Forward* Committees

### Executive Committee
- **Eric "Brian" Smith, Jr.**, Chair
- **Kay Ehas**, Chair-elect & Vice Chair Issue Forums
- **Fionnuala Geoghegan**, Treasurer
- **Perri Cohen**, Vice Chair Socials
- **Dawn Gilman**, Vice Chair Action Plans
- **Abel Harding**, Vice Chair Recruitment
- **Amy Harrell**, Vice Chair Communication & Technology
- **Martin Harrell**, Vice Chair Leadership Development Workshops
- **James Holt**, Vice Chair Fundraising
- **Jill Jinks**, Vice Chair Nomination Process
- **Earl Johnson, Jr.**, Immediate Past Chair

### Action Plans Committee
- **Dawn Gilman**, Chair

### Communications & Technology Committee
- **Amy Harrell**, Chair
- **Brant Boatright**, Dan Fryer
- **Jay Magee**, Bobby Phillips

### Fundraising Committee
- **James Holt**, Chair
- **Kay Ehas**, Oliver Barakat
- **Fionnuala Geoghegan**, Michelle Barth (ex-officio)
- **Bill Kwapii**, Carla Marlier
- **Melissa Gross-Arnold**, Al Ocasio

### Leadership Development Workshops Committee
- **Martin Harrell**, Chair
- **Heather McEachen**, Dan Appelo
- **Mitchell Velasco**, Peggy Barber
- **Lauren Weedon**, Allison Graff
- **Rachel Wical**, Lauren Weedon

### Nomination Process Committee
- **Jill Jinks**, Chair
- **Adrienne Conrad**, Lee Brown
- **Fionnuala Geoghegan**, Eric "Brian" Smith, Jr. (ex-officio)

### Recruitment Committee
- **Abel Harding**, Chair
- **Michael Connolly**, Jordan Boss
- **Lisa Felts**, Elexia Coleman-Moss
- **Jennifer Gornto**, Jill Jinks

### Social Committee
- **Perri Cohen**, Chair
- **Jennifer Gornto**, Denise DuBose
- **Ashley Hays**, Marilyn Galan
- **Janice Johnson**, Renée Lavallee
- **John Thompson**, Melanie White

### Issue Forums
- See pages 3-5.

#### JCCI Board VP Forward Development
- **Michael Boylan**, WJCT

#### JCCI Staff
- **Executive Director**: Charles R. “Skip” Cramer
- **Associate Director**: Ben Warner
- **Forward Planner**: Anne-Marie Logrippo
- **Development Director**: Cheryl Murphy
- **Finance Director**: Michelle Simkulet
- **Communications Directors**: Laurie DeWitt, Jennifer Parsons, Scott Sanborn
- **Administrative Assistants**: Chandra Echols and Esther Gaido