

**Our State: Building an Inclusive Arkansas**  
**A Leadership Diversity Institute for Emerging State Leaders**  
**A joint project of Just Communities of Central and Northwest Arkansas**

**Application for Participation**

**Instructions**

*Type or print in black ink. Please complete each section fully and limit answers to the space available. Applications must be signed by applicant and employer/sponsor and returned to Attn. OurState, JCCA, 1400 West Markham, Ste. 405, Little Rock, AR 72201, by May 11, 2007. Application must contain a recent photograph suitable for use in publication and for publicity, and must be accompanied by two letters of recommendation from individuals who can speak to applicant's ability to meet selection criteria. Only one letter may be submitted by an employer or co-worker. The application becomes the property of Just Communities and will remain confidential. If you have any questions regarding these forms, please call Ruth Shepherd at 501-372-5129 or Rod Jeffries at 479-927-3055.*

*Because we want OurState participants to represent the diverse groups in Arkansas, we request the following information:*

**I. Personal Data**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Name Preferred on Nametag \_\_\_\_\_

Age \_\_\_\_\_ Male Female Race \_\_\_\_\_ Faith Group \_\_\_\_\_

Employer \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_ Employed Since \_\_\_\_\_

Company Address \_\_\_\_\_

Company Phone \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

## **II. Background**

Attach the following information: (can be in the form of a resume)

- Employment (since graduation from high school or college through current; please include employment responsibilities)
- Business/Professional Affiliations (include professional/trade associations, civic clubs or other professional activities)
- Civic/Community/Volunteer Affiliations (include civic, religious, political, government, social, athletic or other activities)
- Special Awards or Honors (include career or civic/community awards)
- Education (include high school, college and post graduate)

## **III. Current Community Involvement**

What do you believe are the two most significant issues regarding diversity facing the State of Arkansas at this time?

Drawing from your life experiences, describe an example of your community involvement or volunteerism.

## Participant Commitment

- Participants must agree to attend the entire retreat.
- Participants must have an open mind and be willing to truthfully explore difficult topics with the aim of developing new insights and new relationships.

*I have completed the application form, and I understand my personal commitment to being a part of OurState.*

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## V. Tuition

If accepted into OurState, you or your employer/sponsor will be billed for the tuition fee of \$500. Tuition must be paid in full by May 20, 2007.

Will your employer/sponsor pay the entire tuition fee? Yes No

If not, who will pay your tuition fee? \_\_\_\_\_

*(If your employer is not paying your tuition, you are encouraged to seek a sponsor. Scholarship funds are limited, but you may request information by contacting Ruth Shepherd at 501-372-5129 or [rshepherd@justcommunities.org](mailto:rshepherd@justcommunities.org) or Rod Jeffries at 479-927-3055 or [rjeffries@justcommunities-nwa.org](mailto:rjeffries@justcommunities-nwa.org).)*

## VI. Employer Commitment (If applicable)

This application has the approval of this organization and the applicant has our full support, which includes the time required (away from work) to participate.

Firm \_\_\_\_\_

Name and Title of Employer/Sponsor \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Employer/Sponsor \_\_\_\_\_

Application should be completed and mailed to:

Attn. OurState, JCCA, 1400 West Markham, Suite 405, Little Rock, AR 72201

Deadline for submitting applications is May 11, 2007.

Checklist for application:

- Application Form with Signatures
- Photo for publication
- Background Information
- 2 letters of support