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September 27, 2012

DHS/Division of Community Service and Nonprofit Support
P.O. Box 1437, Slot S230
Little Rock, AR 72203-1437

RE: Arkansas Volunteer Community of the Year Submission

Enclosed is the submittal for Fayetteville, Arkansas. Thank you for all you do for The People of Arkansas.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lindsley Smith".

Lindsley Smith
Communication Director
City of Fayetteville
113 W. Mountain
Fayetteville, AR 72701



DHS/DCSNS

Department of Human Services Division of Community Service and Nonprofit Support
2012

ARKANSAS VOLUNTEER COMMUNITY OF THE YEAR AWARDS

Nomination Cover Sheet

DEADLINE: September 30, 2012

NOMINEE (Please type or print)

Community Name City of Fayetteville Population 73,580

County Washington

Mayor's Name Lionel Jordan

Mayor's Address 113 W. Mountain
Fayetteville, AR 72701

Mayor's Daytime Phone 479-575-8331 Email mayor@ci.fayetteville.ar.us

State District Officials: Senator(s) Sue Madison

Representative(s) Uvalde Lindsey, Charlie Collins, Greg Leding

Has your community reported its volunteer hours to the Economic Impact of Arkansas

Volunteers for 2011? Yes No

NOMINATOR (Please type or print)

Name Lindsley Smith, Communication Director

Address 113 W. Mountain
Fayetteville, AR 72701

Daytime Phone 479-575-8328 Email lsmith@ci.fayetteville.ar.us

Date 9-25-2012

Signature of Nominator Lindsley Smith

NOMINATIONS MUST CONFORM TO GUIDELINE CRITERIA OR THEY WILL NOT BE SUBMITTED TO THE SELECTION COMMITTEE. All nominations will be judged on guideline criteria and supplementary material. All nominations become the property of the DHS Division of Community Service and Nonprofit Support and will not be returned to the nominee. **Please note: Because of processing and tracking complications, FAXED nominations cannot be accepted.**

See Next Page for Guideline Criteria

More than forty-one percent of Fayetteville residents volunteered to benefit the Fayetteville community and her people in 2011. There were over 30,000 active volunteers in Fayetteville who contributed over 557, 000 hours in the last year. This is community building community through volunteerism. Community volunteerism has benefitted Fayetteville's economy—its creative economy, its historic preservation economy, its green economy, its tourism economy, its health economy, and helped make Fayetteville a beautiful and thriving city, even during this tough economic recession. It is during the recession that the community banding together to volunteer time and skills says the most. It is during the tough times that communities need volunteers the most, and Fayetteville met our challenges head on. Many did so by not taking time away from their families, but integrating the family in the volunteer activities. These many volunteer hours constitutes not only community building, it constitutes family building and increased community connections and bonding.

Volunteers worked to clean streams and lakes, do streamside protection, eliminate hunger and homelessness; educate people of all ages and abilities, care for those in need with a variety of needs and variety of solutions, serve on many boards and commissions, organize and run many festivals in which profits go back into the community through non-profit entities, and ensure the health of our environment and economy for future generations. The economic difficulties of the last few years seems to have made our community even stronger through increased civic involvement and more people stepping up to volunteer their time and skills. Volunteers in Fayetteville perform essential acts that otherwise would not be possible. Those acts vary from teaching children theater (Arts Live Theatre) to coming together as a community to get Fayetteville certified as our State's first Certified Wildlife Habitat, to providing needed medical care (LifeSource International, Washington Regional Cancer Support Home, and Fayetteville Free Clinic). Volunteers help people become employed through organizations like Life Styles, Inc. and Leadership Fayetteville programs. They educate people, young and old, about healthy lifestyles - keeping active and eating healthy through Let's Move Fayetteville, Consolidated School Health, and senior meal

and exercise programs. If there was a need that wasn't being addressed, volunteers have formed a group to start addressing it, like the Feed Fayetteville group (helping to assure healthy choices in food pantries) and the Trail Trekkers (monitor trails and report problems and assist trail users). The City of Fayetteville began a "Volunteer Spotlight" series to highlight a volunteer each month by creating a one-minute video about the volunteer's service to the community, and Mayor Lioneld Jordan presents the highlighted volunteer with a certificate of appreciation, and a picture of that presentation is published in the City's newsletter Fayetteville Forward.

The selfless work of the tens of thousands of people in Fayetteville touched every person in our community last year, either directly or indirectly. Tens of thousands of hours were donated to making and/or keeping our community clean, green and beautiful. Arts and culture in Fayetteville also benefited from tens of thousands of volunteer hours this past year. Increasing diversity, inclusion, justice, and education; and benefitting youths through sports and recreation, education and literacy, and providing them safe places and activities—these are only a few activities that garnered over 300,000 volunteer hours. Of these hours, the Illinois River watershed alone partnership reported 2,000 people donating 12,150 hours; and the Fayetteville Public Schools reported 1,550 people donating 73,000 hours to the school and community. The multiple programs of the University of Arkansas Chancellor's Office had over 10,000 people volunteer for projects and events through that office, which produced 83,000 volunteer hours.

These are tough times, and demand for services have increased while resources have become stretched, and many have had to learn how to accomplish more with fewer resources. But our volunteers and organizations found creative ways to meet their missions and innovative ways to use their resources. Organizations formed more partnerships for projects, events, and services. New events such as Fest of All were successful because of the partnerships of numerous volunteer organizations, like Fayetteville Forward Inclusion Group, Senior Center, and the Omni Center for Peace, Justice and Ecology. The Block Avenue

businesses came together to create a new festival for Fayetteville that drew thousands of people to this street in Downtown Fayetteville, a festival that was recently highlighted in USA Today College.

The efforts of our volunteers and community working together have resulted in recognition and rewards to encourage more of the same and sustain these essential community programs. Fayetteville Forward is still going strong—a citizen-initiated movement to move the city forward economically by building partnerships and opportunities for smart growth, donating hundreds of volunteer hours a month. Many other organizations have been successful at leveraging their volunteer force to gain funding and other resources they need to provide their essential services to the community. The Fayetteville Public School District began a program, run by culinary arts students volunteering to help teach families healthy cooking. Those are just a few of the numerous examples of volunteers and organizations working together to ensure the needs of the community continue to be met.

We also have a tremendous resource in Fayetteville with the University of Arkansas, in which students, staff, and faculty provide thousands and thousands of volunteer hours to our community every year. Fayetteville has been named a Volunteer Community of the Year for the State of Arkansas for the last three years. Each year over 25,000 volunteers donate more than 500,000 hours to our community - with this past year's numbers increasing. It is clear that in the collection of these hours many of the volunteer hours by many entities have not been collected. The goal of the City of Fayetteville in the next year is to increase the encouragement of entities to collect and report their volunteer hours. There are many churches in which hundreds of hours are donated to the community from each church that can be collected, and organizations such as Rotary and Lion's Club. Thousands of hours were not recorded when residents of Fayetteville stepped up to assist neighbors in Northwest Arkansas and Missouri hit by the devastating tornados of 2011. Fayetteville is certainly a volunteer city again, and it is thanks to the people of Fayetteville for the successes of our city, and their service above self greatly deserve this honor.

Fayetteville Forward

FALL 2011

VOL.6 NO.3

September is Celebrate Volunteers Month

Volunteers are an essential part of our community. That's why the City of Fayetteville and Mayor Lioneld Jordan celebrate our volunteer community during the month of September. Help us show our appreciation for all the volunteers in our community.

2010
Community
Volunteer
Celebration



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Fayetteville
ARKANSAS

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113 West Mountain • Fayetteville, AR 72701

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MAYOR'S CORNER

It is volunteer appreciation month! I thank the tens of thousands of people in Fayetteville who have contributed their valuable time to help improve the quality of life for so many in Fayetteville, help homeless animals find a home, improve our environment, prepare or bring meals to those facing food insecurity issues, assisting our great medical facilities and staff with the care of people and facilities, volunteer coaching of sporting activities in Fayetteville, volunteer work organizing and running a festival, building soft trails, creating a piece of art to benefit a non-profit fundraiser, serve as a road crossing guard, and so many other volunteer activities.

This is also the time in which all Fayetteville organizations and individuals are encouraged to submit their volunteer hours and activities for the last year to the City of Fayetteville, which is compiling the volunteer hours for Fayetteville to submit to the Arkansas Department of Human Services Division of Community Service & Nonprofit Support.

Each September, cities in Arkansas submit their city's nomination with compiled volunteer hours and activities for the year to collect that data and be considered for the Annual Volunteer Community of the Year Awards. These awards are co-sponsored by the Arkansas Municipal League, the Governor's Office, and DHS Division of Volunteerism. These awards honor Arkansas cities that have outstanding citizen volunteerism.

Fayetteville has outstanding citizen volunteerism each year. If you have not submitted your volunteer hours for the past year, I ask you to contact the City of Fayetteville now with the number of volunteer hours and types of activities you have donated over the past year. The staff member to contact with that information or questions is Julie McQuade, the City of Fayetteville Community Outreach Coordinator, and you may reach her at jmcquade@ci.fayetteville.ar.us or 575-8302. Julie needs all submissions of hours and a brief statement of the type of volunteerism donated by September 16, 2011 to get it included in the Fayetteville nomination.

Fayetteville continues to stand as an example for other cities in the state with more than 500,000 community volunteer hours for two years in a row. These hours have never totaled all of the hours actually donated in the city; however, our goal each year is to get as close to all of the hours contributed as possible, but we need the community to provide that information so it can be included. Please let us know your information for this nomination so that we can include your volunteer contributions in the Fayetteville nomination.

I love this city, and I thank you for all you do to help make Fayetteville such a great place to live, work, and play.

*Lioneld Jordan,
Mayor*

Watch the new series from
The Government Channel -
Mayor's Corner:
select below

Dara Sanders
Historic Preservation

**Sonia Davis-Guiterrez
& Christopher Spencer**
Creative Economy

Julie McQuade
Community Link

Marilyn Heifner
Advertising
& Promotion

Cory Whorton
Business License
Program

Anne Shelley
Public Access
Television

Sherri Napier
Senior Activity &
Wellness Center

Rhonda Adams
City Council - Ward 4

Matthew Petty
City Council - Ward 2

Feedback

Newsletter-specific
comments can be sent to:
Julie McQuade,
Newsletter Editor and
Community Outreach
Coordinator
(479) 575-8302
jmcquade@ci.fayetteville.ar.us

Contact Mayor Lioneld Jordan
or Communication Director
Lindsley Smith with your ques-
tions or concerns.

Mayor Lioneld Jordan
(479) 575-8331
majord@ci.fayetteville.ar.us

Lindsley Smith,
Communication Director
(479) 575-8330
lfsmith@ci.fayetteville.ar.us

Parks & Recreation Volunteer Activities

Submitted by Lisa Netherland, Park Horticulturist

Volunteers do make a difference!

That's exactly what they will be doing on September 24th when the City participates in National Public Lands Day (NPLD). NPLD is the nation's largest, single-day volunteer event for public lands in the United States. This is a great match for our community because NPLD supports the Let's Move! initiative and Fayetteville is a Let's Move! City. Planned projects include planting a rain garden at Wilson Park and native habitat restoration activities along Clabber Creek Trail.

Fayetteville will be partnering with the Illinois River Watershed Partnership (IRWP) and the Changing Courses: A Native Plant Study initiative to construct the rain garden along Mud Creek at Wilson Park.

The Clabber Creek restoration project was initiated in 2010 by citizens in the Clabber Creek subdivision. Working with Parks and Recreation staff, volunteers have removed invasive plants, planted native trees and shrubs and applied mulch. Activities for NPLD will include removing invasive plants, fallen limbs and mulching. In October, native tree and shrub species will be planted.

SIGN UP TO BE A VOLUNTEER TODAY!



National Public Lands Day
A National Environmental Education Foundation Program

FAYETTEVILLE NEEDS YOU: *Seventy Homes Needed to Achieve Certification*

Submitted by John Coleman, Director of Strategic Planning and Sustainability

In 2010, the City of Fayetteville's Environmental Action Committee, led by Terri Lane, set a goal to become the first certified community in Arkansas under the National Wildlife Federation's (NWF) Community Wildlife Habitat Project. Over the course of the past year, eight schools, twenty-four parks, 130 houses, and a host of businesses have self-certified following the checklist outlined by NWF. Terri and a team of volunteers has constructed a rain garden at Butterfield Elementary, held education seminars at the Library, and delivered numerous public presentations.

Partnerships with CH2MHILL, the firm that manages the City's wastewater treatment facilities, and the Fayetteville Natural Heritage Association has allowed them to develop educational brochures and expand the scope and reach of the program. At this point, the community has greatly exceeded the requirements for certification in education, community projects, and administrative benchmarks. The one outstanding goal for achieving community certification is eclipsing the mark of 200 homes certified. We are seventy homes short. Please take a moment to view the Community Wildlife Habitat Project website and see if your yard provides the food, water, shelter, and nesting sites necessary to qualify. It's easier than you might think. The cost for certification is \$20, but there are also opportunities to get free certification if you cannot afford the fee.

For more information contact Terri Lane (treehuggerlane@cox.net) or John Coleman (jcoleman@ci.fayetteville.ar.us).





Let's Move!

Let's Move! is a comprehensive initiative dedicated to solving the challenge of childhood obesity within a generation, so that children born today will grow up healthier and able to pursue their dreams. Combining comprehensive strategies with common sense, *Let's Move!* is about putting children on the path to a healthy future during their earliest months and years, giving parents helpful information, and fostering environments that support healthy choices. *Let's Move!* is about providing healthier foods in our schools, ensuring that every family has access to healthy, affordable food, and helping kids become more physically active.

Learn the Facts

Get Active

Eat Healthy

Take Action

Mayor Lioneld Jordan held the 1st Trail Tour on April 2, 2011. The event started at the Fayetteville Public Library and Mayor Jordan was the tour guide along the Frisco Trail leading up to Wilson Park. Families were entertained by Shaky Bugs at Wilson Park to wrap up the event.



The 2nd Trail Tour with Mayor Jordan is being scheduled for this summer. More details will be announced soon. Join Mayor Jordan for this fun event and Let's Move.



For more information about this event and the Let's Move program contact Julie McQuade at jmcquade@ci.fayetteville.ar.us.

Get Involved Portal

Are you looking for ways to get involved in the community?

We've made it a little easier for you. The Community Link is an online community for finding out about volunteer opportunities, community events and projects, discussing ideas and innovation, and much more.

The volunteer opportunities, events, and other information on the Community Link is growing all the time.



Getting Started on the Community Link

Here are some tips for getting started.

1. You do not have to register to get information from the Community Link. Registration is only required if you would like to make comments, post events or content. We welcome all community members and organizations to join us and contribute to the Community Link. This website is for everyone. For more information go to About page, User Guidelines, or submit your questions through the Contact Us form.
2. Go to "How to Get Involved" and find groups, friends, events, or your interest are.
3. We will be offering a subscription service sometime in July 2011 for registered users. The service will allow you to subscribe to be notified when there is activity for a specific category such as Emergencies, Local Food, etc. You will be able to be notified by email or by wireless text message.

For more information about the Community Link contact Julie McQuade, Community Outreach Coordinator, at (479) 575-8302 or jmcquade@ci.fayetteville.ar.us.

<http://portal.accessfayetteville.org/>

For more Tips for Getting Started click [HERE](#).