DEADLINE: FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2012

Attach the application form to a one to four page double-spaced typed description of the program/initiative. The description may not exceed four pages in length. You should respond to each of the following questions in your description:

1. Brief summary of the program/initiative, including:
   • Main purpose and goals
   • What need it addresses
   • How and when it was developed and implemented

2. Details of the program’s operation
   • How the program is financed
   • How the program is staffed

3. The current and expected future impact of the program/initiative (including specific results and examples of its success).

4. How the program is innovative and applies new methods, techniques or procedures that are not commonly used.

5. How citizens, community groups, other governmental entities, nonprofit organizations or businesses were involved in development and implementation.

6. Specific examples of how the program/initiative could be adapted and replicated in other counties.

7. Provide any other supplemental / additional information if applicable.

Applicants may include up to four supplemental attachments, such as:
• Photographs, videos, or CD-ROMs
• Press clippings, brochures, or other promotional materials
• Reports or fact sheets documenting results/data

Applicants must submit one copy of the application form, the one to four page program description and any supplemental materials by the deadline.
All entries must be received on Friday, November 2, 2012. No late entries will be considered.

Email or mail applications to: Georgia County Excellence Awards
Attn: Schuyler Harding
Association County Commissioners of Georgia
50 Hurt Plaza
Suite 1000
Atlanta, GA 30303
sharding@accg.org

You may also access this application and its accompanying materials at www.accg.org
Eligibility Standards and Criteria

Award Designations

A total of six awards will be presented. One award will be given from each of the six categories: Community Planning / Visioning; Financial Management; Health and Human Services; Organizational Efficiency / Operations; Public Safety; Infrastructure Development / Transportation / Water Management.

Eligibility Standards

1. Any Georgia county is eligible to submit an award application.
2. Individual counties may submit a maximum of 4 applications for various programs/initiatives, or combine several projects that share a common theme into one application. A county is eligible for only one award per year.
3. A county may submit a regional program for consideration that includes multiple counties within one program/initiative.
4. Any county elected official or county employee may submit the application with the signature of the chief elected official.
5. A key component must have been implemented after January 2009, and the program/initiative must have been in operation long enough to have produced some demonstrable results. Key components include budgetary decision making and staff assignments.
6. The application must demonstrate that county officials and/or staff had a vested involvement in developing and implementing the program/initiative.

Selection Criteria

An independent panel of judges will score applications based on the six criteria for a maximum of 100 points.

(Criteria 1: Up to 5 points can be awarded for each objective met for a maximum of 25 points)

1. The program/initiative meets one or more of the following objectives:
   - Improves the quality or the administration of county programs
   - Addresses important problems and/or meets specific needs in the community
   - Offers improved services to county residents
   - Enhances overall community quality of life
   - Can be adapted and replicated in other counties

(Criteria 2-6: Will be scored on a scale of 1 to 15 (for a maximum of 75 points))

2. The program/initiative was cost effective and/or utilized creative funding sources.
3. The program/initiative is innovative and applies new methods, techniques or procedures that are not commonly used.
4. The program/initiative has produced measurable results (e.g. cost savings, improved service delivery, etc.) and promises to have long term, sustainable benefit for the community.
5. The development and implementation of the program/initiative involved community members and/or engaged nongovernmental groups and organizations as partners.
6. The program/initiative promotes intergovernmental cooperation and coordination in addressing shared problems.
DEADLINE: NOVEMBER 2, 2012

Application Form

County: ________________________________________________________________

Title of the program/initiative: __________________________________________

Category
Select the category that most accurately fits your program’s description.

__ Community Planning / Visioning
__ Financial Management
__ Health and Human Services
__ Public Safety
__ Organizational Efficiency / Operations
__ Infrastructure Development / Transportation / Water Management

Contact Information

Name _____________________________ Title ______________________________

Department __________________________________________________________

Address ______________________________________________________________

City/Zip ________________________ Telephone ___________________________

Fax ____________________________ Email ________________________________

Signature of Chief Elected Official

Name________________________________________ Title___________________________

Signature ________________________________

Should you have questions, please contact:
Schuyler Harding     Kathleen Bowen
sharding@accg.org; 404.522.5022   kbowen@accg.org; 404.522.5022