



**STATE OF ARKANSAS**

**MIKE BEEBE  
GOVERNOR**

May 27, 2009

Dear Community Leader:

Governor Mike Beebe is pleased to announce that recommendations are now being requested from all Arkansas state representatives, senators, and congressional members, for qualified individuals to participate in the Delta Leadership Institute (DLI). Sponsored by the Delta Regional Authority, in partnership with the University of Alabama's College of Continuing Studies, the DLI is a serious one-year program, designed to assemble committed community leaders who will work to provide solutions for the challenges that exist in the Delta.

The DLI's mission is to develop a corps of leaders with a regional perspective, with participants working in teams to solve "real-world" problems faced by those in the Delta. Too often, the region is characterized only by high poverty, high unemployment levels, low educational attainment, a loss of skilled labor, and a general lack of hope. The DLI wants to ensure that communities in the eight states it serves have the civic infrastructure, organizations, and knowledge base necessary for economic growth. Each DLI participant is required to attend all five sessions located in various cities throughout the Delta footprint. Most important is the orientation in September of 2009 and the graduation in June of 2010. The participants will receive a stipend for hotel costs, and mileage reimbursements, and the DLI will cover a percentage of their meals. To learn more about the program, please visit the Web site, [www.deltaleadership.ua.edu](http://www.deltaleadership.ua.edu).

On July 1, the Governor will nominate five individuals and two alternates from the Arkansas Delta to participate. A recommendation package must be received by June 19, and should include a letter of interest from the applicant along with a resume, and a letter of recommendation from the appropriate elected official. With their help, we will be able to select distinguished candidates who will proudly represent Governor Beebe and the State of Arkansas and gain knowledge through their experience in the program to bring back to your area.

Those interested in being recommended to participate in the DLI should contact their representative, senator, or congressional member. Potential candidates may also contact Jean Noble, [jnoble@arkansasedc.com](mailto:jnoble@arkansasedc.com), at 501-682-7389 for further assistance. Thank you for your support in this process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Masingill".

Chris Masingill  
DRA Designee and Alternate