



## **AZ LeaderForce**

### *Frequently Asked Questions*

#### **What is AZ LeaderForce?**

AZ LeaderForce is an initiative of the Collaboration for a New Century (the Collaboration). The Collaboration is a Valley-based non-profit organization that rallies political, business and other stakeholders around important quality of life issues. AZ LeaderForce provides the framework to develop a network of compassionate community leaders (“Coaches”) and human service partners (“Blue Ribbon” agencies) that are taking action. By 2020, the Collaboration hopes to engage more than 400 community leaders through AZ LeaderForce who will work with proven programs that will positively impact more than 500,000 people.

#### **What is a “Blue Ribbon” Agency?**

Every year, the Collaboration identifies six Blue Ribbon non-profit agencies that have high-potential to positively impact the community, but need a little leadership guidance. These agencies are chosen to participate based on their track record for being innovative, community-based, holistic, collaborative, and outcome-focused. Each agency must also fit into one of six human service categories: child development, youth mentoring, affordable housing, job training, family support and affordable health care.

#### **What is an AZ LeaderForce Coach?**

An AZ LeaderForce Coach is a business or civic leader interested in sharing their expertise with a Blue Ribbon non-profit agency to help improve and expand the agency’s services. The Collaboration partners four or five AZ LeaderForce Coaches with a Blue Ribbon agency depending on the Coach’s expertise and the agency’s needs. These Coaches form a team that will be assisted and guided by staff from the Collaboration and the University of Phoenix.

#### **What is my role on an AZ LeaderForce Team?**

An AZ LeaderForce Coach assists the agency by evaluating the organization and sharing their expertise to help enhance a particular service or program. The type of service or program can vary based on the agency’s need, but examples include help with strategic planning, process improvements, marketing, staff and board development, technology, and finances.

#### **What will I gain from being an AZ LeaderForce Coach?**

Previous AZ LeaderForce participants have stated that being a Coach provided a way for them to make a difference in the community while maximizing their

time and investment. Coaches will also have the opportunity to interact with other successful community leaders and receive training on advanced leadership concepts by faculty from the University of Phoenix and other guest speakers.

**What is the time commitment as an AZ LeaderForce Coach?**

AZ LeaderForce is a year-long program that formally meets five times throughout the year. Coaches will also have the opportunity to spend time with their teams and non-profit agency partner between meetings.

**What is the cost to participate in AZ LeaderForce?**

There is no cost to you - just the commitment of your time and expertise. The University of Phoenix is underwriting a major portion of the expenses.

**Where and when are the meetings?**

The meetings for 2008 will be held at the University of Phoenix campus at 4605 E. Elwood St. on Friday, April 4 and Saturdays, May 10, June 14, Oct. 18, Dec. 6.

**What is my commitment after the year as an AZ LeaderForce Coach?**

After the year-long engagement, AZ LeaderForce Coaches and Blue Ribbon agencies become alumni that form the foundation for future leadership gatherings coordinated by the Collaboration for a New Century.

If you're interested in becoming a Coach or have additional questions, please contact Steve Capobres, Executive Director of The Collaboration for a New Century, at 602.496.1335 or [steve@thecollab.org](mailto:steve@thecollab.org)