

# **Grassroots Leadership College Spring Semester 2004**

## **January 22<sup>nd</sup>: Kick-off**

**Goal:** Introduce coaches and developing leaders to the Grassroots Leadership College program, provide an opportunity for students to provide input for upcoming class sessions, and begin process of building relationships.

## **January 31<sup>st</sup> “Importance of Personal Values”**

**Goal:** Understand the importance of self knowledge and its role as foundational for action toward positive social change.

### **“Self as Leader”**

**Goal:** Building on the experience of “The Importance of Personal Values”, “Self as Leader” will help students better understand and leverage their individual strengths and challenges as leaders. Topics will address participants’ stylistic preferences, philosophies and motivation.

## **February 5<sup>th</sup> “Building a Community Agenda”**

**Goal:** Community leaders need to be able to help a community or community organization make decisions together that address an important issue, or that establish a shared vision. This session will help participants build understanding of, and skill in, participatory decision-making process so that community decisions reflect shared priorities and broad support.

## **February 19<sup>th</sup> “Diversity”**

[Note: Although this topic will receive concentrated focus in this session, we see it as an integral part of the entire training sequence, and will make a point of incorporating issues of diversity in each of the other sessions.]

**Goal:** This session will focus on working across racial lines in creating strong, vibrant alliances, neighborhood associations, and community groups.

## **March 4<sup>th</sup> “Recruiting and Retaining Members and Volunteers”**

**Goal:** Understand key issues and learn tools for recruiting, engaging, and keeping volunteers and organization members.

## **March 18<sup>th</sup> “Running Effective Meetings”**

**Goal:** In this session, we will learn basic tactics to encourage good group process for accomplishing goals and engaging organization members.



phone 608-441-0085

email [coordinator@leadershipcollege.org](mailto:coordinator@leadershipcollege.org)

**April 1<sup>st</sup> “Transforming Conflict”**

**Goal:** Students will learn methods to seek out and welcome conflicting views, practice listening skills, acknowledge people’s upset feelings while defusing personal attacks and de-escalating responses, handle their own defensiveness, and seek underlying common ground.

**April 15<sup>th</sup> “Working with Power”**

**Goal:** Understand why different power systems should be approached in distinct ways; practice some basic approaches; understand how the City of Madison (officially and unofficially) dealt with a particular situation.

**April 24<sup>th</sup> Two Sessions chosen by students**

**April 29<sup>th</sup> Organizational Development**

**Goal:** Participants will learn how to improve the effectiveness of their groups using tools such as strategic planning and quality improvement to identify and respond to internal issues and challenges.

**May 13<sup>th</sup> GRADUATION CELEBRATION!**



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