



**What people are saying about
The LeaderShape® Institute...**
(in 2012)

The week that I spent at LeaderShape was one of the best and most important times of my life. It was motivating and refreshing to be put into an environment of openness, support, and encouragement for my passions and dreams. Before I went to LeaderShape, I honestly was not sure of a plan for my life. I was in school trying to pick a major that would simply make money instead of one that would make me happy and I was listening to the opinions of others about matters on which I needed to make my own decisions. Attending LeaderShape made me realize that it is important for me to make decisions that are best for me instead of always comparing my goals, talents and accomplishments to those of others, which made me feel as though I was not good enough. I realized that it is ok for my to be myself and reach for my own goals. It also put my values into perspective and helped to realize that being unsure of what the future holds is ok. At the end of the week, LeaderShape gave me a new view on life and a new motivation to go after all of my goals. It was truly an experience that I will never forget. I left LeaderShape with lifelong friends and the confidence to be myself.

*Shannon Walker
University of Alabama Tuscaloosa*

After attending the LeaderShape Institute, I've realized that I've learned that I have the power to change the world, and it is as simple as that. I've learned that I have the vision, the power and the ability to alter the world for the better...I have decided that I want to be the kind of person who leads a life with integrity and strives to make the world a better place.

*Lauren Snyder
Millersville University*

My experience at LeaderShape will stay with me for the rest of my days here on earth. I have learned so much about myself and others. If only the world mirrored the people at LeaderShape and what it stands for. I believe one day it will and everyone will live with such integrity and core values.

*Tatiana Toussaint
Georgia Perimeter College*

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My favorite part of the week was meeting amazing leaders from around the country and making really strong and close connections with others. I have made lifelong friends. It was a good experience to be challenged by those around me and pushed out of my comfort zone to get to know myself and those around me better.

*Sarah Mills
Rollins College*

One thing that I did not expect from LeaderShape was how much I would learn about myself. The institute helped me put a lot of things into perspective as I realized what I was truly passionate about. Part of the curriculum is to develop a vision. I, originally, thought that my vision would be about being the president of my fraternity. I did not expect that my vision would be about creating awareness about becoming a bone marrow donor for leukemia patients. This week showed me how important this issue is to me and gave me the confidence to make a difference in the world through this vision...the thing that separates LeaderShape from other leadership conferences is the people. I learned as much from the other participants and facilitators as I did from the actual curriculum. To see how passionate the other participants were about their organizations and visions was truly inspiring to me. Even though I have only known them for a short while, these peers are exactly the type of people that I want to emulate in my own life.

*Brian Takao
Loyola Marymount University*

LeaderShape truly was the opportunity of a lifetime. My college career has transformed me into a person I am proud to be. The knowledge and relationships I made last week have inspired me to dream again.

*Alison Sibley
Texas State University*

There are many reasons why I appreciate the opportunity to attend LeaderShape. The most significant reward was the clarity to my vision. I have always been passionate about advocating for women, but I struggled to identify my ideal role in the movement. While at LeaderShape, I finally discovered how I could enact global change for women – by teaching women how to become empowered. I believe that everything happens for a reason, and so it was no accident that this breakthrough occurred during my time at LeaderShape. The conference instilled possibility in my mission. I have always heard the question, “What would you do if you could not fail?” At last this question makes sense to me as I realize the meaning of having a healthy disregard for the impossible. It is about pursuing your mission in life despite the odds and obstacles because you believe in your mission above all else.

*Mary Angeline Rohweder
Widener University*

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After my experience this past week, not only have I forged many valuable friendships, I am now prepared to face the challenges of pursuing my vision for the future and believe wholeheartedly that I can, and will, change the world. These are powerful principles to instill in young people.

*Elena Stutzer
University of Alaska-Anchorage*

I want to learn more about/from these new friends – my family cluster gave me an amazing sample and insight into understanding and learning from new people – being open to new views and perspectives that I may not have had before. I loved the personal conversations I had in my family cluster about our stories, morals, and visions – we definitely grew closer each and every day!

My most important take away from LeaderShape, other than making life long connections with my new friends, is the revisions, positive feedback and constructive criticism I received from the other LeaderShapers. They helped me evolve my ideas and passion, and helped me create outlines and manageable goals aimed towards achieving the solutions stated in my vision.

What I gained at LeaderShape is definitely worth spreading and implementing, both personally and in my community. I have gained lifelong friendships in less than a week! I have gained intellectual connections with people who want to change the world with me. Through each others' support, our visions will never rest a day on this planet...

*Mainza Moono
University of Missouri-Columbia*

After attending The LeaderShape Institute, I've realized that I've learned both the type of leader I am and the possibilities that lie in my future. The LeaderShape Institute taught me to have a healthy disregard for the impossible. It also taught me how to manage my individual goals through action and planning.

*Lexi Ragsdale
University of Missouri Columbia*

It has been one of my most memorable learning experiences. I not only built relationships and learned from my environment, but I also created clear goals and visions for the future.

Now, after completing the Institute I clearly understand why there is such a big and strong community of LeaderShape graduates and I am determined to contribute to this community through my goals and aspirations.

*Nazar Zhdan
Ohio Wesleyan University*

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During my LeaderShape experience I was pushed to be honest and vulnerable. In return I was able to find my confidence and passion in life. I truly lived in a small community for seven days where everyone was honest, respectful and open. I feel so lucky to have been shown this environment and find this strength in myself.

*Allie Medellin
Indiana University*

I was challenged at LeaderShape to think bigger than myself or my organization. I have realized that my values align with my vision by staying true to my core values.

*Megan Mackie
University of North Carolina Wilmington*

LeaderShape provides the perfect environment for growth and development. I feel as though this has been the BEST leadership development I have ever been to, and I am going to try and bring what I have learned back to my school, Drake University. I feel as though LeaderShape not only helped me as a leader, but me as a person, and especially my self-confidence.

*Eric Liu
Drake University*

I spent last week enjoying a new city, making new friends, and expanding my knowledge of becoming a better leader at the LeaderShape conference in Tahoe, California. Understanding that being a leader not only entails leading with confidence, but also leading with integrity was something I truly focused on during my week at LeaderShape. I was able to create a vision for the future that I believe will and can better our world.

*Jessica Krzeminski
Texas Women's University*

In the final session, "Staying in Action," we took time to reflect on the past week and commit to bringing LeaderShape back into our daily lives. The biggest aspect I took away from this week was knowing that I can do this. Although it sounds like a cliché, I have the power to do anything I set my mind to. I have often struggled with self-doubt and not believing I had any power to make a difference, but The LeaderShape Institute erased these ideas from my mind. I now have a healthy disregard for the impossible, and I cannot wait to spread these ideas to UAH (University of Alabama- Huntsville).

*Morgan A. Gilley
University of Alabama-Huntsville*

After learning about living with integrity, I now understand the importance of identifying my core values and following them. I'm eager to share my knowledge with other students.

*Hannah Gilbert
Tulane University*

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I guess LeaderShape benefitted me in three ways. One, it gave me friends that will last for a long time, one in particular who changed my life. Two, it showed me to go into things with an open mind and finally, it showed me that there are people in the world that care, that want you to succeed, even if they don't meet their goals. It showed me 63 other individuals just trying to make the world a better place. So this has motivated me to take CRAK back to my campus and show them what LeaderShape showed me and that is "I'M WORTH IT!"

*Lacey York
Southeast Missouri State University*

My time at LeaderShape allowed me to meet many great people and get in touch with the way I wish to bring about positive change in the world. I am proud to be a part of this community of change agents, supporting and challenging one another to live in a world of possibility! I am proud to say, I am LeaderShape!

*Aminah K. Woods
Maryville University*

It was inspiring to see such a diverse collection of students – all with a different vision of how they wanted to change the world – working together to better themselves. I made many lifelong friends and connections during my week at LeaderShape, and I consider it an invaluable part of my life experience.

*Benny Dorris
Southeast Missouri State University*

I had the opportunity to attend the conference at Allerton in Champaign, IL and had an amazing and life changing experience. I met some fantastic individuals and grew a lot myself. Without LeaderShape I'm not sure I could coordinate my vision down to manageable steps and make it seem possible. I can't wait to bring all I have learned back to my school, Drake University, in hopes of inspiring others.

*Breanna Thompson
Drake University*

Throughout LeaderShape, I met some wonderful and inspiring people and got the chance to take a break and think about what I am passionate about! Also, I learned the importance of being a good listener and a good follower as well as a good leader.

*Avery Bourne
Columbia College*

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I was able to experience a truly unforgettable week and was able to meet some truly amazing peers from all over the country! LeaderShape taught me how to channel the things I am passionate about into a vision. My vision involves Junior Achievement and teaching our nation's young people the importance of business skills and financial independence. I also learned many great tips to develop my leadership skills and ways to improve how I interact with people who have leadership styles that are different than mine. I know that these are tips that I can utilize daily as I go through college and finish my degree.

*Alison M. Beasley
University of Alabama*

LeaderShape provided me with the ideal opportunity to discover my vision for the world, bolster my self-confidence, connect with passionate students from all across the U.S, and greatly improve my leadership skills. As I sat on the plane back to Pittsburgh, I felt so proud of all I accomplished at LeaderShape and was completely refreshed in my outlook on life.

*Nicole Werwie
Chatham University*

I guess I can say that I did not truly understand how amazing of an opportunity I had until it became a reality! I developed personally and as a leader, making great friends and learning valuable lessons along the way. I can go back to my organizations now and not only will I contribute, but I will also educate. I will make others more diverse in being diverse myself. I will spread my compassion and loving influence as far as it will stretch, and I will make the choice to be happy and my utmost best at whatever I try to accomplish, hoping that being the best version of myself will encourage others to do the same. I really did connect with a lot of people this week and I was able to gain a number of tips and ideas that will continue to circulate in my head throughout my life.

*Micheal Torres
Emporia State University*

After attending the LeaderShape Institute, I've realized that I've learned a lot about myself. I found that even though I am highly independent and love to prove that I can get the job done by myself, it is very important to work with others to achieve any goals you have set for yourself or your organization. I found that going through this program made me stop and think about who I was and what I found important. Some of the things you found out were a bit frightening. But the beauty of LeaderShape was that there were other people going through the same thing that I could talk to. I found that if I stay close to my core values and worked towards creating a better and brighter future with honesty, integrity, and loyalty. It is amazing what possibilities open up.

*Angiola Gabriel
Kalamazoo College*

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