



What people are saying about The LeaderShape® Institute... (in 2004)

“LeaderShape was one of the most amazing things I have ever experienced. I wasn’t quite sure what to expect, and to be quite honest, couldn’t understand what all the fuss was about. However, my attitude was quickly reversed!

I learned many things during my week at LeaderShape. I learned what leadership meant and what it did not mean. I learned how to lead strongly with integrity. I learned that there are other people like me, who believe in the possibility of leading with integrity instead of with dishonesty. I learned what is truly important to me when it comes to leading. I learned that it is okay to have a different opinion and that I should not hesitate to give my input.

I can without doubt say that I am changed by my LeaderShape experience. Before I came to LeaderShape, I was skeptical. When it came time to go home, I didn’t want to leave. I had met so many wonderful people and learned so much about life and leading. I could have stayed at The LeaderShape Institute for the rest of the year! However, knowing that I had to leave, I went back into my life with a renewed sense of self-esteem, enthusiasm, and a genuine desire to change the world.”

Marcy Johnson
Delta Sigma Pi

“Some of the greatest moments of the week were being entrenched in such a diverse group of people from all over the world and opening my eyes to new facets of cultures and values. It was astounding to me to change my thinking and realize that racism does not exist everywhere. I also made wonderful friends and was inspired by the will and courage of some of them. It was beautiful to see such a collection of good attitudes, and it was so encouraging to know that there are so many other young people who share the same ideas and values about being leaders. How satisfying!”

Matthew Shelley Sutherland
Southern Methodist University

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“The knowledge I gained, the vision I created, and the friendships I made are priceless and will stay with me all my life.”

Amber Prange
Rollins College

“I was allowed to attend and be a part of the best leadership program in the world. The experience was so amazing that I couldn’t believe it. I learned more in those six days than I ever have about myself.”

Ryan Smith
Emporia State University

“LeaderShape taught me what it means to distinguish oneself as an exemplary leader through maintaining personal values, interacting with others, and leading with integrity. It dramatically changed the way in which I define leadership and the uses to which it can be put. I learned a great deal about myself (strengths and weaknesses, self-worth, self-motivation, etc.), as well as a great deal about others. And I personally feel that the latter is the more valuable lesson.

By nature, I am a very strong-willed individual with a slight case of “tunnel vision.” LeaderShape changed that aspect of my self. It gave me a fresh, new perspective on interacting with other individuals by teaching me to dispose of my stereotypes and prejudices so that I might better see the value of their input and talents. Already, these lessons have taken effect. I now approach people not only with an open mind, but also with a *genuine* interest in what they have to say or what they think of a given situation.

I am happy to say that I did not leave The LeaderShape Institute as the same person I was when I arrived six days prior. At the end of our six-day conference, I left with a renewed sense of hope in myself, as well as a renewed sense of hope in others. The two, in my mind, go hand-in-hand if one is to be successful as a leader.

As I said before, it might be difficult to visualize how far the effects of your contribution will reach. Even so, it is something that is very thrilling to imagine. Let me assure you that I met some amazing individuals during those six days. With their collective level of intelligence, adeptness, and heart, the montage of future leaders that they form is quite a sight to behold – thanks to LeaderShape and people like you, who nourish their capabilities and believe in their visions.”

Kathleen Pennepacker
Moravian College

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“Prior to my experience I thought that there was only one type of leader and that I didn’t really fit that description because I am extremely shy. LeaderShape taught me that I was wrong and that there are all different kinds of leaders, even quiet ones! I learned how to take a simple thought and transform it into a concrete vision, complete with a plan and ‘blueprint’ to look back on whenever I may get side-tracked.”

Monica Saenz
Southern Methodist University

“LeaderShape had been one of the defining moments of my life. I learned, experienced, visioned, felt, and did more things in six days, that I would ever have imagined in my wildest dreams.

LeaderShape has not only provided me the tools in the form of leadership and implementation strategies, but also has more importantly given me the backing and support of sixty friends from around the USA and the world who believe in me and my vision.

What made LeaderShape so truly special and stand out from other leadership conferences that I have attended in the past, was how open we were to ourselves and sixty new people. LeaderShape’s theme of ‘leading with integrity’ would never have been possible if we were not true to ourselves first.”

Melroy Atkins
Dominican University

“I learned that trusting others also leads to amazing accomplishments and that there are other students out there that care as much as me for the world. I learned who I am as a leader, saw how I’ve grown and how I can make a difference in the world. LeaderShape changed my life.”

Megan Rice
UNLV

“Attending an intensive week at The LeaderShape Institute was an exhilarating experience of a lifetime.

Simulating the realities of life through various activities, it brought making every individual count and make real-life decisions in harmony. LeaderShape strongly encouraged me to ‘be’ the change, and never hesitate to follow my vision.”

Kantesh Balani
Florida International University

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“I have participated in, and facilitated several leadership programs, but I have never come close to the experience of LeaderShape.

LeaderShape was a very enlightening and refreshing experience for me. I was amazed not only at the great deal of fun I had while gaining such valuable skills, but also with the incredible people I met. It was astonishing to see how well all of us got along. To see nearly sixty people, all with such diverse backgrounds and leadership levels, connect so well. I think we all taught each other, just as much as I learned from others, we all had so many different insights and such great knowledge to offer. As much as I gained from the LeaderShape curriculum, I truly think I learned from the other participants and the relationships we built.

Perhaps the greatest thing I obtained from this experience is the realization that I actually am a leader. Although I have taken very active roles in our campus community I have never before seen myself as a leader. In fact, my sole objective in attending LeaderShape was merely to see, at least a glimpse in myself, of what so many others seem to see. I wanted to see what it was that motivated so many others to promote me within my leadership positions.

I also learned one valuable lesson that I hadn't been able to grasp before; and that is that a person doesn't have to carry a big title or have many followers to be a leader, a person merely has to follow their heart to direct positive change.

The program (The LeaderShape Institute) is designed to help students learn what took me nearly six years to realize, that every person is a leader and is capable of making a difference.”

Shae Prosser
UNLV

“The entire week was crammed with invaluable leadership material; each day at The LeaderShape Institute changed my life in some way.

Creating a vision not only helped me to focus my leadership abilities on the things that truly matter to me, but it also taught me a valuable process for setting and achieving high goals.

Attending LeaderShape has been one of the most amazing things I've ever done.”

Scott Porter
Kettering University

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“At The LeaderShape Institute I realized many things, but most importantly, I realized that sometimes the hardest thing is just to be yourself and share your inner most workings with someone else. Once you do, the possibilities are endless. Through all the group activities I learned to be both a leader, but more so a follower – learning to really listen to what others have to say and take charge when the time is right.”

Tia Larese
Ursinus College

“First and foremost, thank you for helping to make LeaderShape not just possible, but a reality for students and leaders like me.

Personally, when I left for LeaderShape, I would have been the last person to characterize myself as a leader, but LeaderShape showed me otherwise.

I myself, have to admit that when I came to LeaderShape, I had nothing in mind, no goals, no aspirations, nothing. I came to LeaderShape not knowing what to expect and got much more than I bargained for.

I told them I had no vision, they gave me one. I told them I had no defining attributes to contribute, I was forced to find them. I told them I had no potential, they made me find it. I told them I could never be a leader, they wouldn't believe it. When I say “they” and “them,” I'm not just talking about the facilitators, but the other students as well. The greatest part of the experience was being around other students who actually would help you back up when you fall. LeaderShape gave me many gifts, but the greatest for me is something called confidence. This is something I've lacked for a very long time.”

Joshua Silberman
American University

“Words can not begin to describe how amazing the experience was for me.”

Angela Kokanos
Robert Morris University

“After attending The LeaderShape Institute, I've realized that I've learned other students from around the country share the same vision as I do. Whether it is the community, Greek Life, inner leadership skills, or personal values, we all have a vision. By attending The LeaderShape Institute, I hope that I can help others as much as they will help me pursue my vision.”

Dwayne Madison
North Carolina Central University

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“The LeaderShape Institute was, to say the least, a reawakening of my goal in life and my vision for the world.

After attending LeaderShape, I realized the true value of one person and the power of all. I now know that your future, mine, and that of my children, will be a positive one, because there are so many people who are working towards making it so.”

Marlene Quincoces
Florida International University

“I never knew that you could meet so many people that could be your best friend.”

Mike Lisitza
UNLV

“This has been an unbelievable experience that has let me step out of my so called ‘comfort zone’ and be who I am, while being able to relate to so many different people in completely different ways. The interaction and listening to everyone’s views has made me become more open-minded and willing to try new things without being so critical. The week was a lot to take in at one time, but to look back on it I wish I could relive it again and again.”

Renee Hill
Pace University

“It was a life-changing week. The LeaderShape Institute not only taught me new techniques and different characteristics of leading, but more importantly it shaped me as a person. I will always remember this experience and be thankful. Whether it was ideas, support, inspiration, or connections, I feel as if I ‘cheated’ everyone by taking so much from the conference and fellow participants.

I admit that I had pondered whether or not this conference would be any different than any other leadership seminar. BUT IT WAS DIFFERENT! I did take away something as a leader on campus and in the community, but I feel I took away more as a person. Being more humble, less selfish, and listening to others were just a few things I felt I was able to work on.”

Paul Holze
University of Illinois

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“The entire experience was one that was truly unique from ANYTHING I have ever, or probably will ever, experience again. I went in knowing absolutely nothing about what I was getting myself into. I was unsure about my decision to go, and part of me was afraid I would simply be wasting my time. I convinced myself though, that I couldn’t back out, and positive experience or not, I was going. After arriving, I was delighted to learn that almost all of the participants were just as curious about the week as I was. The curiosity and nervousness quickly became excitement and learning as each day seemed more thrilling than the last. I can honestly say I was blown away by all that I learned about myself, my goals, and how to implement them. The LeaderShape Institute, without question, has been one of the best, most influential, and inspiring experiences of my life, and I sincerely hope it will remain a positive learning experience for many many more students!”

Rachel Poppe
Syracuse University

“Over the course of the six day event, I was able to make leaps and bounds in not only my understanding of the key principles of leadership, but also in my motivation. Never have I been placed in a situation where I’m surrounded by students who are leaders in their field, a word class faculty who genuinely cares for our learning, and surroundings that foster a supportive and educational environment. Thanks to this program, I now know how I want our group to work, what I want us to accomplish, and how we’ll go about both of those.”

Ben Kiel
St. Ambrose University

“I was expecting a week filled with leadership simulations, games, and inspirational speeches about, well, leading people. In actuality, I learned to dream of an ideal world, and was inspired and supported by my fellow participants to believe that that world was attainable.”

Jennifer Simpkins
UNC-Greensboro

“I have never before experienced so much personal development in one week – in fact, I believe I developed more this past week than I have developed in my final years as an undergraduate student at the University of Cincinnati. I am still amazed at how much I grew and learned during that short six-day period.”

Matthew Carlin
Alpha Tau Omega Fraternity

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“On our campus, we have a problem with apathy – no one wants to get involved or step up and be a leader. Honestly, I was guilty of this to some extent. One of the main things that I gained from this week is to have ‘a healthy disregard for the impossible.’ This means that I should never be afraid to try new things or discard an idea, for improvement or change. Life is always changing and improvements need to be made to keep up. In order to do this, there needs to be a strong leadership presence. This week of LeaderShape helped mold me towards becoming a strong leader.”

Jonathan Miller
Millikin University

“After attending The LeaderShape Institute, I’ve realized that I’ve learned to be a better person and that I need to stand up for what I believe in at all times. After all one voice can make a difference in an entire community.”

Mahilaire John
Pace University

“After attending The LeaderShape Institute, I’ve realized that I’ve learned life-long lessons that I will use for the rest of my life. I’ve realized that I can do anything I want to if I’m passionate about my vision and determined to succeed. The techniques for setting goals is something that I feel I’ll be able to implement both this fall on campus and in fifty years. With everything that has happened at The LeaderShape Institute, I feel totally motivated for the future and grateful for having this opportunity.”

Adam Cobb
University of Illinois

“After attending The LeaderShape Institute, I have realized that I’ve learned a lot about the person I was, and about the person I want to become. This was definitely an amazing, life-changing experience, and I am so fortunate to have been give the chance to experience it.”

Maureen Stanton
College of St. Mary

“I am reassured that with institutions like LeaderShape that there is a bright future for our generation. I look forward to applying my knowledge to my every day life.”

Brent Bauknecht
Mount Union College

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“Before LeaderShape, I never considered myself a leader. Sure, I had leadership positions at church and completed The Leadership Academy through my high school, but I never realized the influence I had on people and the power I had to make a difference. Even if I wanted to change or improve something, I never believed I could or that it would matter. The odds were always stacked against me. I was too overwhelmed and never knew where to start.

I had been to leadership development workshops and conferences before and I didn't expect LeaderShape to be any different. I didn't know what to expect, but part of me thought I did. But I sat there in the station telling myself that my college wouldn't invest money in a waste of time and reminding myself that the LeaderShape alumni I met said it is a life-changing experience.

It's so hard to articulate my experience in a way that people could begin to understand it. LeaderShape was the most amazing week I've ever experienced...and that statement doesn't even do it justice. The moment I arrived, the atmosphere was very comfortable and everybody spoke to me like I was an old friend.”

During the week, I developed skills that will not only be useful as a leader, but also as a person in my daily routine of life.

LeaderShape didn't teach me how to be a leader; it taught me that I AM A LEADER and what it means to be a leader. I was already 'kind of' a leader, but LeaderShape solidified it...LeaderShape solidified me.

Upon my return from LeaderShape, I realized that the odds really are stacked against me and I am still overwhelmed. But now I'm instilled with the hope, aspiration, and motivation I need to accomplish my vision, which I developed during the week. And I decided to start it right here on campus.”

Jill Aparo
Elmhurst College

“After this week of eye-opening experiences, I can honestly say that I have never had so much self-confidence and belief in my dreams. (LeaderShape) is a great investment, because the ideas produced from this collection of great minds will one day make this world a better place.”

Peter Cunha
Moravian College

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“I will never forget what I learned, but more importantly, I will never forget the lasting relationships I made while at The LeaderShape Institute.”

Heather Gribble
Boise State University

“After attending The LeaderShape Institute, I’ve realized how much influence I can personally make and the importance for me to take action. I also learned the importance of helping other help themselves. My experience at LeaderShape has guided me to further understand myself and to give me a better understanding of how I can make the world a better place. In church, I learned that God created the Earth in 7 days. At LeaderShape, I learned that I had the power to change it in 6.”

Jim Heckman
Student Body President
Widener University

“I learned so much about myself as well as others while I was there. The lifetime relationships I have built and the things I have learned are priceless. I was exposed to what my leadership style is and that one can learn a lot more, by listening to others, rather than taking control, which I tend to do.”

Lindsay Young
Providence College

“Upon leaving The LeaderShape Institute, we were reminded to ‘be gentle’ with those who have yet to experience LeaderShape. Being back for two days, I now understand what was meant. It is so difficult to describe the experience. Words do not suffice to describe the bonds I formed with my fellow participants, and articulating the emotions and reactions from the learning exercises that go on at LeaderShape is quite a challenge. However, I am confident that I am a better leader because of it, and I’ve learned a good deal about myself and met some amazing people.”

Kirk Walda
Indiana University

“I truly believe that LeaderShape educates and helps young people realize their dreams and gives them the tools to make it happen. I feel empowered with all the skills I have learned here.”

Erin Gaynor
Chapman University

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“I did not quite know what to expect from the week. I did not originally know anyone at the conference and I did not know what they were going to be saying about leadership. Within the first day, I knew that this was going to be a stretching (in a good way) experience that would challenge who I was. LeaderShape ended up being one of the best things that I have had the opportunity to complete during my college life.

We encouraged each other in our strengths and challenged each other in weaknesses. There was measurable success within each of our lives. In my case, I needed to work on stepping out in confidence and speaking with authority. I often water down what I’m thinking and down play what I’m saying as if it is insignificant. By the end of the week, I was giving my opinions with no apologies.

I received a priceless education at LeaderShape. It has affected the core of my being and has raised my standards in leadership and integrity.”

Brian Bustos
University of Missouri-Kansas City

“It was intense, challenging, and fun, and it is for these very same reasons that my life has been impacted in such a powerful way. I feel so much more focused and confident about who I am, who I want to be, and how to get there. I have been brought back to the core truths about leadership, reminded of my values, and have received more clarity about my vision and purpose for life. To sum it all up, The LeaderShape Institute was an awesome experience.”

Molly Fitzpatrick
DePaul University

“I seriously had one of the best experiences of my life during the six short days of The LeaderShape Institute.”

Adam Schwartz
University of Illinois

“I learned that the impossible is possible and that everything works out better when people work together for a common goal. I learned to look for resources in places I never thought I’d find them. I realized that I need to make a better effort to include those I’m working with. I know the knowledge I learned at LeaderShape will never end. I know to achieve my dreams, I will need to live with integrity, work with others, and dream big while taking small steps.”

Chandra Johnson
University of Iowa

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“Though it sounds cliché, I left The LeaderShape Institute a changed person. I had attended leadership development programs in the past and fully expected LeaderShape to be very similar to what I had seen in the past. To my surprise, the program was different from anything I had previously experienced. There is obviously something special about this program and it is apparent to anyone who talks to a LeaderShape alum afterwards.”

Alex Hermann
Marquette University

“Attending The LeaderShape Institute has helped me comprehend the reality of my vision. I learned that I am able to inspire others and to better mold them into greater leaders. I was also able to share my perspectives on different issues, while actively listening and leading with veracity.”

Magdalene Kamanga-Sollo
Mount Union College

“During LeaderShape, I learned better what kind of leader I want to be and the steps I need to take to accomplish this goal. I learned that I could be a better leader by being a better active listener.

LeaderShape was, without a doubt, on of the best weeks of my life and I thank you so much for helping me along a path of self-discovery. I look forward to continuing to lead, sustaining a high level of integrity while effecting positive change.”

Michael Stadnisky
Clemson University

“After attending The LeaderShape Institute, I’ve realized I’ve learned that I do not need to be afraid to take on new challenges in order to obtain positive change. Through the experiences I’ve had at LeaderShape, I learned not only the techniques of being an effective leader but also the skills of being a positive person in order to live an effective life. Being at The LeaderShape Institute has been one of the most amazing and great experiences of my life.”

Emily Swann
South Dakota State University

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“I wasn’t really sure what to expect out of LeaderShape. I had been to plenty of previous leadership conferences, and I figured that I had heard pretty much everything. By the end of the week, I had had such a great experience that it was tough leaving everyone behind and heading back into the real world. The distinguishing factor of LeaderShape was the atmosphere at the institute. As a friend so aptly put it, ‘I’ve never been to a conference before where people had such a *craving* to reach out.’ LeaderShape really is a once-in-a-lifetime experience, and one that I will never forget.”

Chris Deal
Iowa State University

“After attending LeaderShape, I’ve realized that I’ve learned that I am a proven leader with the power to inspire. I’ve found a new confidence that will shine through in every activity I am involved with. I really had a chance to develop my vision for my organization and strategize an implementation plan.”

Brea Thompson
Student Body President
Washington State University

“The experience is one that will not be forgotten.”

Nicholas McCoy
University of Missouri

“I have no doubt in my mind that my LeaderShape experience will be invaluable to me throughout my life, in personal interaction and current and future leadership projects alike.

My week at LeaderShape taught me a great deal so it’s hard to try to sum it up in a paragraph. I was expecting a program that, like other leadership programs, taught organizational skills and the technical aspects of being a leader. Thankfully, I gained so much more for LeaderShape through the program’s focus on leading with integrity and community values. The ideals I’ve learned and the focus on changing oneself before changing the world will stick with me forever. During my week at LeaderShape I found the personal reflection and deep soul-searching extremely valuable and hope to one day have another opportunity to bring my passions to light in such a supportive community.”

Risa Payant
University of British Columbia

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“The opportunity to be with other young people for an intensive week of leadership and personal development doesn’t present itself very often. LeaderShape challenges the way everybody thinks, and provides the avenues to change those ways if they aren’t for the best. I can only say that LeaderShape was one of the greatest experiences I have ever participated in. I can hardly think of how to even explain it.”

Erik Ward
Student Body President
Warren College

“The LeaderShape Institute has made me realize many things about myself as a leader and as an individual. I learned that even though I am a strong leader, sometimes it is important to be a follower in order to ensure positive teamwork. One of the most important lessons I learned while I was at LeaderShape is that even though I may not live to see my vision come true, it is the people I impact along the way that is most important. It is the people that I influence to continue to work toward my vision that makes the difference in the world. Attending The LeaderShape Institute has given me the courage, confidence, and leadership skills needed to help start to make this vision a reality.”

Amanda Cushing
Syracuse University

“Most people have the opportunity to meet admirable individuals once in a while, but there is a place where you can meet them all: The LeaderShape Institute.”

Juan Villegas
University of Connecticut

“After attending The LeaderShape Institute, I have realized that I have learned so much about myself personally. I learned how to constructively analyze my actions, emotions, and thoughts. I have searched deep within myself to get a better understanding of who I am, what I want to be, and how to get there. I believe that this experience at LeaderShape has dramatically changed my life for the better. The dynamics of The LeaderShape Institute are unlike those that I have ever seen.”

Ellen Stallcup
Texas Christian University

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“I wish the week hadn’t come to an end and I wish I could go back again next summer. It is such an indescribable feeling and experience to go through. LeaderShape gave me the power to believe in myself and it gave me more strength as a leader at my school.”

Colette Hanna
Pace University

“Reflecting back on my time at The LeaderShape Institute I feel like it really helped me to find out who I was. In life I think that we often put up masks to present a self that we know will safely be accepted. The environment was safe and inviting for me to honestly present myself. I found out that my true self would be accepted by those around me. This realization has me feeling liberated and confident as I can now focus my energy on what I can do rather than what others think.

Another great lesson that I will take from The LeaderShape Institute is the value of diversity in leadership. It is such a great asset to have leaders who do things in different ways. That diversity opens up a world of possibilities. Before I went to LeaderShape I was often critical of other styles of leadership, but now I see how they can help me.”

Gage Osthoff
Colorado State University

“Throughout the week, I was forced to open my eyes to many things that I never realized before.”

Katherine Searing
Chapman University

“LeaderShape was unlike any other leadership conference that I ever attended. Instead of focusing on time management skills, planning projects, etc. it focused on leading with integrity and finding one’s inner self. I am very fortunate to have had this opportunity to develop these skills as a college student and not later in life. I am very proud to call myself a LeaderShape alum. LeaderShape was very beneficial and its impact will be with me for the rest of my life.”

Benjamin Pegg
Robert Morris University

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“The experience itself is indescribable! The things I learned about myself and about how to lead with integrity will stay with me for the rest of my life.”

Courtney Lyman
Ball State University

“LeaderShape truly was a life-changing experience. I have learned that leadership starts from within. An individual must be happy with their self before he/she can lead others. I have also learned never to settle. Because people settle we have problems and as an individual if I am not trying to fix the problem I am adding to it. I must live my life by my values, and never sacrifice my integrity. LeaderShape has also taught me to focus my energy on what I am passionate about.”

Melinda Ratcliff
Brenau University

“I recently completed my LeaderShape experience and I cannot even compare it to any other type of leadership development program. The whole week was phenomenal, and I feel very privileged to have experienced it. I am thankful I had this opportunity to make myself a better leader, and I will always remember the lessons I learned at LeaderShape.”

Matthew Hilgendorf
Kettering University

“I have left driven to turn a vision into reality and know that there are a whole group of people cheering me on.”

Lauren Smith
Drake University

“After attending The LeaderShape Institute, I realized that I am more creative than I make myself out to be. I also have come to know that I can and will have a lasting impact on my school. Also, I am aware that by bringing my vision to reality I can impact people’s lives and influence them to do just the same. With the aid of The LeaderShape Institute, I now see my goals and vision clearly, and I know that it is only a matter of when it happens, now how or if.”

John Carullo
Student Body President
Rowan University

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“The environment at The LeaderShape Institute was very accepting and supportive and enabled me to grow tremendously as a person and a leader. This experience was invaluable and is something I will never forget.”

Jane Renner
Creighton University

“To be honest, I had the best time of my life and I want to thank you for giving me the opportunity to be a part of this program. I learned so much about myself, that I can truly say that I am a different person now. I realize now that I have the strength to make a difference. I have discovered that people do believe in me, that they listen to what I have to say, and that they support me. I could tell that everybody was there for the right reason, to make a difference in the world.

LeaderShape is a wonderful program where young adults go beyond what they are and use all of their potential to help others. The experience at LeaderShape taught me what it’s like to be a leader with integrity. It is hard to express in words what I experienced and what this program has done for me. I hope that other students can also be part of LeaderShape in the future. It will make a difference in the world.”

Manuela Priesemuth
College of St. Mary

“I was completely blown away by this experience and have been inspired to do my best everyday and live my life with integrity.”

Jessica Caver
Colorado State University

“My week at LeaderShape was truly one of the most amazing and insightful weeks of my life. I cannot put my experience into words, aside from ‘incredible’ and ‘amazing.’ I can honestly say that I am a better leader thanks to my week at The LeaderShape Institute.”

Catherine Bowman
Moravian College

“I cannot even describe to you the knowledge I’ve gained by attending LeaderShape. This experience is one that I will remember and cherish the rest of my life.”

Gina Sapienza
St. John Fisher College

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“After attending The LeaderShape Institute, I’ve realized how truly amazing this opportunity was. I have never been to another place which fosters growth in such an open, honest, and caring environment. Because of LeaderShape, I have met numerous people who are willing frankly to tell me how they feel and areas in which I can improve my ability to lead. I feel that I am better prepared to help my college, my community, and my country.”

Amanda D’Amico
Ursinus College

“I was able to have one of the most incredible, meaningful, experiences of my life. I have learned how to live my life with integrity, every day, and I have laid out a vision of what I hope to accomplish in my life.”

Jean Stevens
Syracuse University

“After attending The LeaderShape Institute I’ve realized how much of an impact I can make on my organization and on all the people that I come into contact with every day. It was so great to meet other people who are so passionate about impacting the world. I don’t think I have ever been with a group of people so diverse before. I also can’t remember a time that I have opened up to people so much so soon after meeting them. From the start there was a feeling of trust and openness among everyone and it really set the tone for the whole week.”

Mary Bedford
Saginaw Valley State University

“It allowed me to see what a difference each person can have if they put their mind to a task, and it showed me how even one person can truly make a difference in the world.”

Emilee Hopkins
Washington and Lee University

“I have been to several leadership conferences, but LeaderShape was a special experience. LeaderShape specifically focused on the individual, and helped me dig deeper to find my core values and passions that will define me as a leader. I developed a strong sense of confidence, responsibility, and integrity that will empower me as I face the different challenges of life.”

Emily Mueller
Utah State University

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“After attending The LeaderShape Institute I realized that I am not alone. Sometimes being a leader means taking the paths less traveled, but now I have a very large network of friends across the country that are here to support me. I have also learned that just by being myself I can inspire and provide hope to those around me.

Some of my greatest experiences this week are ones which I will carry with me for the rest of my life. I fostered meaningful relationships, was able to have discussions on issues I truly care about, and walked away with a greater sense of purpose to my life.”

Danielle Frazier
Ball State University

“I can’t even begin to let you know how much I gained from my LeaderShape experience. When I first came to the program, I just expected it to be like the other leadership programs I had participated in at school. The difference in my experience was unbelievable. In short, my unique experience at LeaderShape has helped me to hone my skills, meet new people and realize that I really am a leader. This program will continue to affect many more lives.”

Cara Swan
Rollins College

“After attending The LeaderShape Institute, I’ve realized that I’ve learned I can really do something if I set my mind to it and put the fear of failing aside. I learned that it is okay to fail and that failure just leads to better success. I also learned that I can not do everything myself; there are willing and able people who want to lend a hand and support. LeaderShape is a way to look at your life and learn how to begin to lead with integrity.”

Kimberly Walmsley
Neumann College

“LeaderShape has been, for me, a life-changing experience. Thanks to LeaderShape I have now developed a ‘healthy disregard for the impossible,’ and by doing so, I have discovered a new sense of empowerment. I can truly say that LeaderShape is both inspiring and instructional.”

Giannetti George
Trent University

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“After attending The LeaderShape Institute, I’ve realized that I’ve learned I’m a better leader than I thought I was. For the last few years I was being called a leader, but never really believed it, until LeaderShape that is. I found that leaders come in many different versions, with different styles of leading and that’s what makes life interesting. At LeaderShape I met other young people dedicated to making their communities and the world a better place for everyone, and that gave me so much hope and motivation.

The LeaderShape Institute was a life-changing event. I learned a lot about myself and met wonderful people from around the country. The LeaderShape Institute gave me a better focus and motivated me to get out there and make a difference.”

Leah Abell
University of Miami

“After attending The LeaderShape Institute, I’ve learned that it takes all kinds of people to be leaders, and each of these leaders needs a strong support system. We were challenged every day to accomplish and experience situations, goals, and changes. No where else could this same sense of community and belonging be attained. LeaderShape facilitated the means to establish bonds, connections, and relationships with people I would never have otherwise met. The faculty were committed to genuinely help every student who enters the program succeed. People were open-minded and opened themselves up to each new opportunity and person they came in contact with.”

Laura Bickert
Ursinus College

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