



2011 Be.Leadership Programme

What is the programme about?

There are many leadership training programmes on the market that develop those skills that are traditionally associated with leadership. This is not one of those. This is not a training course. It is a unique programme in New Zealand, and is based on the highly successful Leadership Victoria, Leadership Plus and Leadership New Zealand programmes that have been in operation for between 18 years (LV) to 6 years (LNZ). Each programme has produced a considerable alumni group, the members of whom are frequently identified as leaders in their respective local and national communities. We know the model works.

How is it different?

This one year programme will strengthen and promote a cohesive and significant disability leadership community. It will enhance existing leadership within Aotearoa, NZ by developing individual and collective leadership excellence in disabled people. It is an intensive programme which has been designed to suit the diversity of the disability community. The programme will allow participants to address the following learning needs:

- Develop new frames of thinking around leadership through challenging conversations with leaders;
- Participate in real-life experience through site visits and case studies
- Develop self awareness and personal leadership skills
- Build long-term relationships that will continue to develop learning
- Develop skills and networks to promote career paths and civic engagement.

This programme provides a year (23 programme days) of learning about the issues of importance to New Zealand and New Zealanders through a series of conversations and discussions with established leaders.

Approximately 20 participants, from a range of disabilities, and from diverse ethnic, geographic and sector perspectives will be selected through an application process to participate in a year of robust and rigorous conversation, reflection and in-depth inquiry. It is a year of learning through listening, questioning, and exploring different perspectives. The richness of opportunity is immediate and the leadership lessons are unique to the participants.

Participants from similar programmes in Australia and in New Zealand have been shown to: demonstrate a deeper and broader understanding of issues; inquire more widely; make different and better decisions; build relationships where they otherwise might have made assumptions which resulted in exclusion and importantly, be part of a nationwide conversation on leadership and what it can achieve. Graduates from these other programmes experience meaningful change for themselves and for the communities they represent. They report that they have increased self awareness and heightened leadership ability and that they are frequently appointed to significant leadership roles.

How will the programme work?

- All successful applicants will be provided with an outline of the programme as well as relevant information and support to assist them to plan their year when they are selected to participate
- The programme will span 23 days over 10 months, concluding each year in a graduation ceremony on December 3
- Some sessions will contain a leadership skills component
- Some sessions will contain an employment component
- Some sessions will contain a creativity component
- The yearly programme will be a mix of residential and day sessions with some social time built in to facilitate relationship building
- Each monthly 2 or 3 day programme session will focus on a topic and will consist of 4 - 6 separate sessions with established leaders on the session topic.