

COMMUNITY BUILDING

EFFECTIVE COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP

Best Practices

The following are important points to consider:

- ❖ Don't overlook youth in developing leaders. Today's youth are the leaders of tomorrow.
- ❖ Don't overlook retirees. As well as having more time to dedicate to leadership roles, they are a wealth of wisdom and experience.
- ❖ Accept the responsibility for developing effective leaders within the community and proceed to develop formal and informal mechanisms to accomplish this.
- ❖ Collaborate with other communities to develop a formal leadership development program if the community doesn't currently have the capacity to do so on its own.
- ❖ Develop an informal mechanism of continually building the leadership skills of community members. This can be accomplished through opportunities such as delegating tasks, jobs, and decisions to others, encouraging relationships between experienced and inexperienced leaders, youth and seniors, newcomers and seasoned volunteers.
- ❖ Have inexperienced leaders take on responsibilities by degrees. They can slowly progress into roles of greater responsibility as they gain skills and confidence.
- ❖ Offer leadership development opportunities to all community members. Remember, diversity is a community strength.