

## Expression of Interest form – Leadership that makes a Difference Intensive 2010

*Thank you for your interest in the Leadership Intensive. It hopes to be a place which will provide a coherent learning experience around exercising leadership, understanding our contexts, and gaining skills. The introductory leaflet provides some detail of the course, particularly the dates. Please let us know if you have not been sent a copy, and one will be forwarded to you.*

Please fill in this form as fully as you are able – contact details are important, and return it asap to Ian and Marg Robinson [idr@westnet.com.au](mailto:idr@westnet.com.au) or post to 21 Jackson Rd Karawara WA 6152. The next step is that you will be contacted by phone to talk more about your interest and what the program will entail.

<b>Name:</b>	
<b>Address :</b>	
<b>Contact Phone :</b>	
<b>Mobile :</b>	
<b>E mail :</b>	
<b>Best way / times to contact you :</b>	
<b>Why would you like to be involved in the Leadership Intensive?</b>	
<b>What are you hoping to gain from the experience?</b>	
<b>What have you mainly been involved with now, and over the last few years?</b>	

In forwarding this expression of interest I agree to participate in all organised sessions (excepting emergencies), and to pay the stated course registration fee (except if exempted). I understand that travel will be involved to organised visits, and that these may not be fully outlined prior to the program commencement. I also agree to uphold the confidentiality of the group at all times, ensuring a safe space for all.

**Name :**  
**Date :**

# INFORMATION PACK

*Leadership that Makes A Difference Intensive* is designed to help you develop a better understanding of what it may mean for you to exercise more effective and sustainable leadership in your own life, community, church or workplace.

You will explore:

- understandings of leadership, its complexities and how to help groups move forward in new directions
- The leadership strengths we ourselves bring
- Other personal strengths we have...and how best to use them
- Understanding and responding appropriately to the situations in which we find ourselves
- The importance of our personal foundations, and ways to grow them forward
- Why it is critical to balance action and contemplation
- How to be more intentional in what we do...and more sustainable in how we do it.

The program is experiential, practical and encouraging. Its design is based on holding together a good balance of action and reflection. It seeks to provide a safe but challenging space for people to explore themselves and who they are as well as what they have to contribute.

## ***Who is it for?***

- People involved in any form of leadership, formal or informal. People who want to make a difference with their lives
- Those seeking to develop new directions, new initiatives, be change agents, or better connect with communities and groups.
- Those seeking to grow and develop quality teams.
- Those responsible for equipping or supporting others in leadership
- Anybody concerned to discover more fully their sense of purpose and how best to live it out
- For those seeking to develop more sustainable patterns of leadership.

## ***Tough questions you may be asking:***

- “We need to take some new initiatives to connect with people around us. But the more I raise it the more people get anxious and defensive...”
- “I want to connect up people from different backgrounds and get them involved here. I want to make the best of being in this job. But how to start...”

- “I want to integrate what I’ve learnt with what I’m experiencing on the ground”
- “I’ve seen many leaders crash and burn...I want to grow skills for the long term”
- “I’m not sure my training has really equipped me for what I’m facing here”
- “I need a group of people outside my setting with whom to process ideas”
- “I’ve some dreams I’d like to explore but don’t know where to start or if I have what it takes. I don’t want to make a fool of myself so maybe I won’t bother...”

## **Would you find it helpful participating in an intensive to grow your leadership strengths to really make a difference?**

### ***Why would I?***

The intensive is intended to provide a coherent learning experience around exercising leadership, understanding the contexts in which we seek to make a difference, practical skills of engaging, networking and helping a group discover and grow towards its purpose.

You will gain:

- A better understanding of what it might take to exercise leadership.
- A clearer sense of the strengths you bring to the table in your workplace and community.
- A chance to refine plans, strategies and intentions via personal and group reflection.

The intensive is not simply about imparting information or ideas or “strategising”. It is intended to be a space where people can spend time with others from very different backgrounds engaging together in serious personal reflection and growth. It can also provide a mechanism for ongoing mutual support for people in critical but difficult roles, a safe space to work through issues and hopes, get feedback, and find care, encouragement and energy for what they are doing.

It provides a chance for everyone to look seriously at their own personal foundations and how to ensure that what they do is sustainable and life-giving.

Finally it is an experience and process that participants may find valuable to use to resource other leadership in their own settings

## ***What does it involve?***

The Intensive involves a diverse group of people meeting together over several programme days, spending time reflecting on what it may mean to make a difference in leadership and life.

Between April and September it will require 8 days commitment for the Intensive, all of which will be held during the working week. The programme will include:

- Visits to particular situations/communities and learning from the experiences of others
- One 2 day retreat in rural setting
- Reflecting together on leadership in a sequenced way that is as experiential as possible
- Involvement in sharing with others
- Preparatory readings, group exercises and time for self-reflection.

## **The Syllabus**

### ***What do we mean by leadership?***

- Leadership as a personal trait or skill?
- Distinguishing leadership and management.
- Distinguishing leadership and authority.
- Leading from the foot of the table.
- Leadership as an action rather than a person.
- Leadership from a group perspective...as a collection of strengths needed for its healthy functioning.
- Dealing with the complexity of leading: work avoidance; keeping to our purpose; power as an expanding pie not a scarce commodity to be held on to.

***Leadership Strengths*** needed to grow a healthy group going somewhere, or to bring about change in a group, organization, family or community.

- Engaging effectively with others (listening, networking and building trust platforms for action...based on strengths, hopes and things that energize)
- Developing shared and owned directions (looking to the future, exploring options, giving shape to shared hopes and passions, helping people find their place and contribution to those directions).
- Creating a secure base from which to move forward (quality systems, reliable clear communication, a positive environment, keeping the heat on but not too hot).
- Moving to and sustaining action (Timing, decisiveness, pacing change, persistence and holding fast, on-going learning).

### ***Growing our own leadership capacities***

- The importance of a strengths perspective: to enhance effectiveness and for our own well-being.
- Identifying our own leadership strengths
- Helping teams unlock their leadership strengths to bring about change
- Identifying other personal strengths we bring.

## ***Looking at our context***

- Understanding what is happening around us: adaptive change versus technical change.
- Listening to and understanding our communities.
- Communities as living organisms.
- The imperatives of a cross-cultural perspective.
- Responding appropriately to our context and to those around us.

## ***Sustainable leadership and personal foundations***

Our Personal foundations for leading (and living) sustainably: What we do needs to be sustainable. Physical, mental and spiritual self care needs our attention and action if we are to sustain leadership. We all need ongoing support to flourish in leadership and life. We need to cultivate a strength based approach to both our personal lives and where we contribute leadership.

- Strong spiritual foundations
- Clarity of life purpose
- A good sense of self
- Living authentically and with integrity
- Strong relational foundations
- Good balance and boundaries

**And then there is the X factor.  
Is this the right time for you to do this?**