

LEADERSHIP TRAINING ACADEMY



UNCOMMON LOVE...

UNCOMMON LEADERSHIP



A Program of the Community Development Institute

Acknowledgements

The Leadership Training Academy would like to acknowledge the following individuals and organizations for their support:

Jeanne Cuffey Tatum
Willie Hamilton
Patricia Foster
Vel Anderson-Randle
Project Sentinel
Dental Solutions
Gertrude Reagan
Jones Mortuary
Anna Oliver
JSM&F Attorneys at Law
Dental Solutions
MKM Management
Community Foundation Silicon Valley
Cecil Reeves
Wells Fargo Foundation
Atkinson Foundation
Lucile Packard Children's Hospital at Stanford
Women's Foundation
Morris Stulsaft Foundation
Vadasz Foundation
Palo Alto Weekly Holiday Fund
Atkinson Foundation
Kaiser Permanente
San Francisco Foundation
One East Palo Alto
Peninsula Community Foundation
William and Flora Hewlett Foundation



Leadership Training Academy

Dear investors in the next generation,

The Leadership Training Academy (LTA) would like to welcome and thank all reading the remarkable success stories of young leaders from East Palo Alto (EPA), California. These young adults, catalyzed by LTA's holistic leadership development model, have taken on various leadership roles and continue to enlighten themselves and others to affect positive change in their community.

LTA was founded in 1985 by Dr. Omowale Satterwhite, president of the Community Development Institute, to capture the energy of EPA's city incorporation movement and equip the next generation of community leaders. What began as a weekly government class has expanded into teaching students leadership skills through the fundamentals of civic engagement and community involvement.

LTA provides academic support services and training in the areas of health, culture, and academic and career planning. Its flagship program—the Community Government Institute (CGI)—provides hands-on learning in civic leadership through a four-day simulated experience of organizing and running a city.

Entering its 21st year, LTA is constantly refining and renewing its techniques and continues to uphold its mission to create a new generation of grassroots leaders to lead with confidence, skill and compassion.

So, how does one measure the success of an organization like the Leadership Training Academy? Simply look at rates and percentages-- compare LTA's 100% high school graduation rate to the Ravenswood City School District's 25% graduation rate¹; or compare LTA's 90% college/university attendance rate to the 10.6% of East Palo Alto residents with Bachelor's degrees or higher, or San Mateo's rate of 38.9%.² More telling than statistics, however, are the words and experiences of those who have benefited firsthand from LTA's good works.

What follows are the stories of those who can attest to being forever changed by the positive work of LTA. We hope their words will inspire your support for advancing tomorrow's leaders today.

Sincerely,

Ayodele A. Kinchen
Director, LTA

Bakari Thompson
Program Associate, LTA

¹ Haas Center for Public Service, Stanford University, 2002.

² United States Census Bureau, 2000.

LTA Alums Reflect

legacy of leadership



Hadiyah

“LTA enables young individuals to overcome negativity and make something better for themselves and their communities. I preserve the legacy of the program by continuing to be a leader in all that I do and passing the infinite knowledge gained through LTA onto those I encounter at home and abroad.”

“Oftentimes youth are forgotten in misrepresented communities like East Palo Alto. Through LTA, youth can spread knowledge to others in their communities, allowing the legacy of peace and service to live forever.”



Folami



Bakari

“LTA exposed me to a brand new way of thinking. I saw that I could not make a positive difference in other people’s lives if I could not do the same for myself.”

LTA Alums Reflect

expanded possibilities



Jamal

“I wasn’t a leader when I joined LTA—they made a leader out of me. I feel confident that wherever I go in life, I will be capable of leading in order to bring positive and lasting change.”



Erika

“LTA has helped me broaden my political awareness for my community and country. I learned about the factors that help move a city forward and ways young people can be involved in community progress.”



Khabral

“LTA provided me the lenses to see the world more clearly. I learned that even as a young person I had a voice and could affect change. LTA is a much needed program for youth to learn how to be leaders and strive beyond mediocrity.”

Community Government Institute: Leadership in Action



LTA proudly hosted its 19th Annual Community Government Institute (CGI-2006) at Stanford University, July 20-23, 2006. At CGI, youth from East Palo Alto and other Bay Area communities reside dormitory-style for four days as they learn the rudiments of local governance. During the CGI simulation, students establish their own community, elect civic officers, hire city staff, and develop city commissions. This year's camp was launched under the theme, "Uncommon Leader."

Over sixty participants, including youth and young adults, counselors, core staff, and invited speakers partook of this unforgettable, entertaining, and educational experience. The Honorable East Palo Alto Mayor Ruben Abrica greeted CGI-06 participants, wishing them the best in creating and operating their own city.

After creating and naming their own city, "Ohana Falls" (ohana meaning "togetherness"), students learned the ropes of local government and engaged in skill-building workshops, assumed leadership positions and attacked problems within their newly developed community.

Students also participated in personal development workshops led by DeAngela Burns-Wallace, Assistant Dean of Admissions at Stanford;

Greg Hodge of the Oakland Unified School Board; Dereka Blackman, Director of Leadership Excellence (Oakland); David Muhammad, Director of The Mentoring Center (Oakland); and David Lewis, Executive Director of Free At Last (EPA)—all of whom promoted academic success, healthy decision-making, self-esteem, and leadership.

Participants concluded CGI facing their family and friends in a youth-facilitated City Council meeting in East Palo Alto's Council Chambers. With the pound of the gavel, "Ohana Falls" Mayor Malik called to order the Council meeting—a collection of presentations revealing the hard work of the youth participants and a superb illustration of how they would run a city and solve community problems if given the opportunity.

CGI's activities were designed to prepare our youth participants to lead with confidence, compassion, and skill. Counselors and core staff set the bar high for this year's CGI participants and were pleased to see students display "Uncommon Leadership."

CGI-2006: Uncommon Leaders At Work



“I came to the program not knowing what to expect...I figured four days away from home? *In a college dorm?* I’m there! What really grabbed my attention was when I learned that we were creating and running our own city. I soon realized that creating and running our own city would be a lot of hard work, but it was fun...all in all, the CGI experience was an excellent opportunity for me to learn how to be successful in life and to have fun while doing it. I plan on attending the program next summer.”

- Darius Roy, CGI-2006 participant, *second from the left above*

LEADERSHIP TRAINING ACADEMY

DEVELOPING TOMORROW'S LEADERS TODAY



321 Bell Street

P.O. Box 50099

East Palo Alto, CA 94303

Phone: (650) 327.5846

Fax: (650) 327.4430

Website: www.cdi-usa.org/leadership_training.html