

About the Leadership Level 1 Course:

Course Objectives: The leadership level 1(LL 1) course is intended to train the entry level leader:

- to perform the various roles required of a leader as a member of a team
- to understand the principals strategies required to design, implement and de-brief a high quality and risk appropriate 1 day program
- to instill in participants a commitment to provide participant centered programming

The while this course is aimed at new leaders, it contains many sophisticated concepts that have not traditionally been introduced until later in a leader's career. As a result, exposure to the course has proved to be useful continuing professional development for experienced leaders, particularly those whose formal training in risk management took place more than 10 years ago.

Although the LL1 course is short it is able to achieve a great deal because it is designed to exploit these evidence-based assumptions:

- 1) For small group activities, the strategies that result in a 'high quality program' are identical to those required to create a 'risk appropriate program'.
- 2) While entry level leaders may have no prior understanding of most programming or risk management concepts, they do have considerable experience of being participants in both high and low quality programs
- 3) Experiential learning is the most effective way of synthesizing global understanding of complex processes.
- 4) A key feature of effective experiential learning is that it is the most effective way of moving 'understanding' to 'belief'.
- 5) Belief about 'how things should be' is the primary determinant of how leaders try to perform their duties

The LL1 course is completed in two stages:

- 1) Stage 1: Students read a manual that introduces key concepts and terminology. Students are also required to complete pre-course quizzes to ensure that they do read and understand the manual.
- 2) Stage 2: The course primarily consists of experiential learning modules that directly relate the concepts in the manual to the student's personal experiences of good and bad programming. This course requires 16 hrs. of instruction, typically over the course of 2 days.

What the course does not do:

While LL1 instructors are empowered to fail a participant who is clearly unprepared to lead others in natural environments, the course does not evaluate personal judgment in the field. For this reason, the course only certifies people to lead as a member of a team where best practices risk management is employed. These practices ensure that those who fail to exercise good judgment receive the supervision required to ensure high quality and risk appropriate programming is achieved.