

# LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

As leaders in business, government, education, and nonprofit organizations, we need the ability to motivate, influence, and develop individuals and groups. At GISC we believe that effective leadership begins with a deep understanding of self. Our leadership training explores the unique strengths you bring to your leadership role and enhances your skills in working with others. You grow as an individual and as a leader, able to maximize the potential and performance of yourself and your organization.

#### **OUR PHILOSOPHY**

# Foundations for Leadership Development

How do we create the foundation for living exciting, meaningful lives – for unleashing our own potential and that of the organizations in which we work? At GISC we believe a profound understanding of self and a personal mastery that continues to mature as you do is the basis of great leadership. Whether you are just beginning your career, are a seasoned professional, or a senior leader, you will find that GISC training helps you engage with intention and authenticity. Our approach to personal development sets the foundation for growth and achievement at every level of leadership and every stage of life.

## Leadership at Every Level: Building on the Foundation

GISC has taken the best of contemporary Gestalt theory and applied it across disciplines for decades. We have taught scores of change agents, helping professionals, and organizational leaders what it means to understand the heart of their true nature and expand upon it to bring out the best in themselves and others. Through this cross-disciplinary approach, our participants gain the relational leadership skills needed to run effective teams, build successful departments and divisions, and to create the outcomes their organizational vision demands.

Now, we have taken the best of GISC's approach to leadership development and supported it with modern evidence-based assessment technologies. We help participants become grounded in their strengths, offering extensive feedback in ways that are useful and that maximize learning for each individual.

Further, we have intentionally designed a series of programs that guide participants through each stage of their leadership development, offering learning opportunities and solutions for exactly where they are on their career journey, exactly where they are within their organization. These include programs in self leadership, skills for the emerging leader, team leadership and facilitation, building influence and managing change, and organizational leadership for top-level executives.

# WHY GISC LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT?

We understand you have many choices when it comes to training and development for yourself and members of your organization. Here are some of the reasons hundreds of leaders have made GISC their home for leadership development:



#### You take the learning home

At GISC we believe that interaction and practice are what make learning stick. In our programs you will enjoy experiential learning at its best. Yes, there will be presentations on concepts and theory, but these are balanced with engaging discussions, lively debate, paired conversations, and small-group activities designed for maximum impact in a short time. You will have the opportunity to practice new ways of seeing, working, doing – and being – so that you take the learning home with you.

# We speak Gestalt

There's generic leadership development and there's "Gestalt" – a wholistic approach grounded in an established psychology of learning and growth – not in a stance of fixing what is broken. But don't let the word scare you. Our brand of contemporary Gestalt, developed by respected leaders in the field of organizational development, is one that values both the strategic and the relational aspects of leadership. We show you how to move from "what is" in the here-and-now to a future you envision through building trust and awareness, appreciating the strengths you bring to your leadership, and expanding your range and ability through practice and experimentation. Simply put, Gestalt offers leaders a framework for viewing the world and a common language for working with the challenges we all face.

#### We know you

At GISC we're all about relationship – and have many that go back decades. But even if you're new to GISC, when you walk in the door or join us online you become part of GISC's worldwide learning community. We may be "international," drawing participants from all over the globe, but many people describe GISC as "home." Our classes are small, creating an environment of connection, community, and professional support. Our faculty get to know you, and you to get to know your classmates – building relationships that often continue long after your program ends.

### We work at your scale

Our sweet-spot is working with leaders from small- to midsized companies. Our programs focus on the challenges and needs of organizations of this size, meaning you won't feel overwhelmed or out of place, the way you might at trainings designed for complex multinational corporations. This doesn't mean you won't benefit from a GISC program if you're part of a larger organization – we believe what we teach is relevant to all leaders – but you won't get lost in complex scenarios or simulations geared to large global enterprises.



#### Our faculty have been there

Our faculty are not typically academics nor researchers, but real-world leaders and professionals with extensive practical experience leading others' growth and development. Each leadership program has a teaching team that pairs a Gestalt practitioner who makes their living helping others learn and grow (our professional trainers, consultants, and coaches) with a faculty member that knows the challenges of leadership first-hand (current and former organizational leaders).

#### You're safe here

We think it goes without saying, but we'll say it anyway. At GISC, we work hard to make sure you feel safe to explore and learn new things. After all, that's why you're here. GISC is a place you can drop your guard, be yourself, and explore new aspects of yourself without all the pressures of the real world. In our classroom and breakout rooms, we believe we're all responsible for creating a positive learning environment, where comparison and competition give way to challenge and support so that you are energized to explore new ways of seeing, doing and being.

#### We get you

One size does not fit all. Our training is appropriate for a wide range of leaders, but it is different for everyone. You are unique, and we believe you don't need to fit into a mold to be a leader. You do need awareness, skill and leadership presence, but our programs help you become grounded in your strengths – and aware of how you might overuse them – and then build on them to create your own personal brand of leadership.

#### An accessible and inspiring location

While we are happy to bring our training programs into your organization and to cities around the world, we invite you to train with us at our new accessible conference space in Downtown Boston - minutes from Logan Airport and South Station. For deep learning and personal growth, we believe it's ideal to disconnect from your usual demands to create space to think and process. On program breaks, you can walk the Rose Kennedy Greenway, stroll along the Harborwalk, and explore Boston's vibrant Seaport or wonderful restaurants with classmates nearby – and enjoy the results that come from new vistas, in-person connection, and time to reflect.

#### It works

In addition to the many individual leaders and professionals who have benefitted from our programs, the following organizations are among our clients: AECOM, Corning, Comcast, IKEA, AgriBank, Bank of Canada, Rockland Trust, Allstate Insurance, Delhaize America, Cotuit Center for the Arts, Cape Cod Commercial Fishermen's Alliance, NYU Langone Medical Center, Camden Coalition of Healthcare Providers, and Southcentral Foundation.

Organizations tell us they benefit from leaders who can positively impact both organizational culture and the bottom line; that they see increased employee satisfaction and retention when leadership develops and uses talent effectively; and that they are better able to respond to rapid shifts in the environment when leaders know how to manage change.

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Transforming the way you live and work in the world

