

Program Goal 4: Graduates are prepared to provide leadership for a range of client groups and program outcomes.

Within the PFL course, before we went out into the field, we spent a few weeks in the classroom learning about the different models of leadership. We also read the book *Leadership and Self Deception* in order to get a better understanding of the complex roles a leader must assume. Also in PFL my LOD partner, Wesley, has a very similar leadership style as I do. We both have a very laid back approach when it comes to leadership. During our planning phase and also in the moment it drove me crazy waiting for either of us to step up and take charge. But without the structured class time in PFL I would not have been able to effectively apply leadership models during our time in the field.

For example at the 4-H congress, during the Advanced Facilitation class, we were facilitating 4 different groups throughout the day. The leadership styles I applied and used to facilitate varied from group to group, if I felt the group had somewhat of a grasp on the topic I would use a more laissez-faire style approach. If the group needed more supervision or assistance, I would apply a more authoritarian style of leadership.

Effectively facilitating group effectiveness became very evident to me during the Youth Group Program. What we didn't know before hand was that not all of the students were familiar with each other. So maximizing team effectiveness was a struggle. It was evident that not all of the members of the group were comfortable with each other. We ended up finding a common ground among group members to maximize their effectiveness with each other.

During Wesley and Myself LOD we exhibited effective problem solving, decision-making, and communication skills. Our morning lesson went as planned, but after this lesson everything became stressful. Our plan was to spend the afternoon at the Palisades climbing. Well a problem arose the logistics relating to entry fees and getting to the Palisades we assumed had been taken care of. When in the role of a leader, never assume. We ended up solving the problem. After communicating with each other we decided that I would contact Palisades and find out directions and the fees associated with entry, while Wesley was to arrange all the equipment that was needed once we arrived. Once we arrived Wesley and I communicated with each other as to who would stay up top and set up anchors, and who would take and manage the group to the base of the climb.

During phase II of the PFL course my patrol group exhibited effective leadership with it camp to the logistics associated with completing the program file. We spent a lot of time with each other communicating and determining the roles each of us would be assuming. We made the decision to split up the program file workload amongst various members of the group, which worked well because it was a very time consuming process. In the end because of the effective communication, and decision making skills that we exhibited/implemented we were able to complete the program file in a timely manner.

This summer in my practicum I was able to apply the ethical principle of LNT to my backpacking programs. A majority of my campers were from big cities and had never been in the mountains. It was quite obvious they didn't know how to

ethically act either. I had many repeat campers on back-to-back camping trips. On the second trip the campers attended it was quite obvious that after my LNT lessons that they were more confident in living up to the LNT principles my lessons.

Attached is one of my LNT lessons

Also this past summer during staff training week of my practicum we had Bob Ditter, renowned child psychologist, as a guest speaker. He came to speak on some of the ethical issues involved with working/living with campers. I was able to apply the concepts he shared with us as the summer progressed. At the American Camp Association National Conference, spring 2014, I attended a breakout session with Chris Thurber, another renowned child psychologist, see ACA reflection, and learned new concepts that I will make use of this summer in my internship.

As this summer internship approaches I look forward to the opportunities to apply leadership models, facilitate various groups, effectively solve problems, and continue to apply ethical principles.