

FHCACA Florida Leaders 2016

By Suzanne Mission, ADC
FHCACA Florida Leadership Chair
TimberRidge Rehab and Nursing

The history behind the "Leaders Program" actually started at AHCA, then FHCA and it was instituted at FHCACA by Mary Anne Favale in 2012. Mary Anne, had a vision and knew that this would be a great opportunity for activity professionals to stand up and be recognized in the important role they play every day. This program seeks to identify, develop and train current and future members as leaders for our association and our profession. The program works to assist members to improve their personal and professional leadership skills.

Each member commits to a full year in the program, reading, discussing, attending meetings, developing and sharing skills. It takes strong commitment, the ability to juggle priorities, good relationships within the facilities where they work and an ability to work towards potential opportunities for all. It helps identify leaders who want to grow with the association and take ownership in helping us succeed.

I was so excited when I heard that this program was coming to FHCACA. I knew I had to be a part of this wonderful program. I jumped at the chance and submitted my application. I loved every bit of this program and I am proud to say I graduated in 2013.

We all know it is so important for all professionals to know that being a positive leader will create a positive and productive team. For me, going through this Leadership program, I was able to become more optimistic, more resilient more accepting and more driven by purpose. For me I wanted to be the "Driver of Positive Change" and I was honored when FHCACA asked me to lead the next generation of leaders.

Here is what some of the students had to say.

"Reading these books it reminded me that change is the only thing we can count on, and that we need each other and our varied strength to survive. It is ok to get ideas from odd places and think outside the box, and it might be the key to our success."

Jennifer Hayter, CMT, ACC
Boyside Health and Rehab

"These books give me much insight in looking at things in a more positive way. Positive individuals are received by others better and seem to get tasks accomplished in a timelier manner. I will put to use the information gained from these books in my personal as well as professional life."

John Collins, CTRS, ACC/EDU
President, Collins Healthcare Education

"The books were a great choice. They made me rethink how I deal with the issues we may encounter in our line of work. They helped me with ways to deal with the "Negative" people and keep my eyes on the prize."

Eliza Mae Natteal, ADC
Cypress Cove Care Center

"The books that we read were amazing. These books helped me to let others help in solving problems and to listen to new ideas. I have really had to take a hard look and make some changes in my life. I am in the process of finding my "Vision". When I do I will then share with others. I want to thank everyone in class for sharing their experiences."

Sandra A. Roy ADC, MC
Magnolia Gardens

Our goal is for the program graduates to reach out and mentor others to increase their involvement in our association and to encourage members to go to the next level. We have the responsibility and opportunity to guide the next generation of activity professionals to ensure they have passion, knowledge and commitment needed to provide the highest quality of care. We must have devoted members to carry FHCACA into the future.