Leading the Way

Outline

Description
This module looks at leadership as a way of thinking about your role and the important work you do on behalf of children and families. You'll learn about the importance of self-awareness and understanding your core values as you identify your unique leadership style. You'll be introduced to a model of facilitative leadership as a way to empower staff and support shared decision making at your center. And you'll learn how to apply the principles of effective leadership to create a compelling vision for your program, become an agent of change, walk the talk of ethical behavior, and embrace the paradoxes inherent in your role.

Objectives
After completing Leading the Way, you will be able to:
- Describe the skills and competencies required for effective leadership
- Examine the values and beliefs that shape your leadership behavior
- Assess your unique leadership style
- Identify ways to use the authority and influence of your role to empower others
- Recognize the ethical dilemmas that are part of your job
- Create a compelling vision for your organization

Content

I. Introduction
   A. Importance of the topic
   B. Module goals and objectives
   C. Overview of content

II. Leadership—Defining the Elusive
   A. Five perspectives
   B. Leadership as the exercise of influence
   C. Shared decision making

III. The Starting Point—Know Thyself
   A. The importance of self-awareness
   B. Digging deep—clarifying values and beliefs
   C. What’s your style?

IV. Leadership in Action
   A. Connecting the dots…values…mission…vision
   B. What does it mean to “walk the talk”?
   C. Embracing the paradoxes of leadership

IV. A Final Word