

Objective #10

1. My role within the cohort is congruent with who I am and that is as supporter and encourager of others. I believe that I chose this role because that is what I do naturally, and I have also been ascribed this role by those who know me better because others do sense my approachability.
2. My leadership qualities include responsibility, dependability, and diligence to get tasks completed on time. I also possess a strong work ethic.
3. The leadership roles I have taken in the cohort and don't take depend on what group I am in. If I am in a group with a strong leader, I will sit back, do my part, and follow someone else's lead (encouraging them along the way); if I am in a group who aren't as organized, I will jump in and take the lead to get things done. I am pretty flexible and comfortable in either role.
4. The possibilities of leadership in the cohort now are to keep focused until we finish the race. I do my best on a one-on-one basis to keep everyone looking ahead on the prize before us. The risks of leadership in any group are of being put down and criticized. I have learned that the more successful you are, the more criticism there will be. My philosophy is shake it off and keep working toward the goal. We are almost there, cohort!

One other word about my personal leadership skills. I hope that I have been a leader by example. I hope that none of my cohort will go through a crises in mid-life similiar to mine; but if in the future you do, or you know someone who has gone through a similar situation, you will be able to say that you remember this woman in her 50s who came back to school, rebuilt her life, and turned negatives into positives! I have followed the advice of Dr. Radu when she told me in the beginning of the program "that I would grow, but to remain true to myself."

Joan,

I believe that you are a very caring, loving, intelligent, and strong willed woman. You have come so far from a situation that could have broke you down yet you are still here and in my opinion it is what has pushed you to become more motivated and dedicated to doing this type of work. In this cohort I have noticed leadership qualities in you. You make sure things get completed and you always have encouraging words to help this group move forward.

Brandy

Joan,

I must say that my admiration for you continues to grow. I cannot imagine coming back to school years after I had already graduated to in a sense start over. There has to be deep determination and motivation to take on the challenges that you have over the last couple of years. Even in the difficult times you manage to stay positive. True character is a reflection of yourself when a crisis occurs and you Joanie Bear have class.

Jen

Joan,

You are an encourager and supporter of this group but I have witnessed your leadership abilities and I think that you are a great leader because you care and want your group to succeed. I have learned alot from you and I will always be thankful to my new friend.

Adam

Joan,

I think our group effort on the Immersion Project was one of my favorite assignments. You were so easy to work with and our work ethics are similiar so it was a great team effort. I see you as a quiet leader-one who leads by example. I have watched you embrace all the diverse people in our class and accept us all equally for who we are. You have a lot of wisdom to offer and I appreciate you sharing your knowledge with all of us.

Linda

JoanieBear,

On a personal note, I'd like to let you know that sometimes I see you as a second mother. You are always there to lend an ear, give a hug, or share a laugh with. It isn't your age that makes me think of you like a mother, but as you assessed in your role, it is your nurturing spirit.

Before I even read your post where you mentioned that you lead by example, that is exactly what I was going to say to you! You give your best on every assignment and you always keep asking, asking, asking until you understand something. That kind of perseverance really challenges me to keep going, do my best and to speak-up when I have a question, too.

I know that you have taken active leadership roles outside of this cohort, like in Adult Scholars or at Chattanooga State, so know you have the talent and skills to be successful leader.

You really have grown so much and opened your mind to so many new ideas; I am so proud of you.

Beth