



Guidelines for “Your Leadership

Story”

Summary:

Your “final project” of the Leadership Development Initiative is to write and publish an overview of your own leadership journey.

Goals:

Reflecting and writing your story brings power to your experience. We anticipate you will discover new insights in the process, and see aspects of yourself that you may not have seen before. As with any publication, it will inform, illustrate, and document a situation. You will describe your journey, the results of your efforts, and the response from your own environment. We are hoping that you will be willing to share not just your successes but also the challenges you experienced along the way, the lessons you learned and how these informed your leadership skills and behaviors to advance the field of palliative care in your context. It is likely that others who read your work will learn from your perspectives and wisdom, and be encouraged by your willingness to work to overcome the many obstacles in your path. Your document will serve to model and inspire physicians and other members of the interdisciplinary team in settings like yours. It will build a sense of community. Your struggles and theirs are often the same.

We thank you for all your inspiration and courage to grow yourself as a leader. As you work to advance Palliative Care, you are profoundly changing the lives of patients, families and communities all over the world.

Here are common questions that may help frame your story:

- What is your specialty or subspecialty?
- What were the opportunities and challenges that led you to the field of palliative care?
- What were your initial challenges and how did you overcome them?
- What barriers did you encounter? Were you able to overcome them? How?
- How did you focus and continue to move forward, even though there may have been difficulties?
- Looking back, would you have done anything differently?
- You are now mentoring and shaping the field the Hospice and Palliative Care. What are your hopes and dreams for the field of Hospice and Palliative Care?
- What wisdom would you like to pass on to other Palliative Care professionals?