

DEFINITION OF A “LEADER”

A “leader” is one who inspires others to follow. A leader is someone who guides us by his or her example and advises us from his or her own personal experience. A leader is a mentor who teaches us “the tricks of the trade.” A leader must be wise in the use of power and never compromise the beliefs of the group.



(Graphics of a large stick-person pointing the way ahead on a giant arrow-shaped table that is being carried by smaller stick-people who will follow the large person wherever s/he leads – depicting the quality of leadership. This graphic is not available in Braille.)

QUALITIES OF A LEADER

- **Must be a strong self-advocate**
- **Shows self-confidence but is never cocky or arrogant**
- **Has a vision of what the world should be**
- **Takes the initiative to start things happening**
- **Can motivate or convince others – willing to delegate**
- **Is knowledgeable about the issues - willing to learn**
- **Is willing to take on added responsibilities - detail oriented – has good follow-through skills**
- **Is able to see different sides of the issue, and is willing to take a stand on an issue even if others disagree**
- **Understands the values of the group and influences others based on those values**
- **Is willing to compromise in actions, not in principles**
- **Is able to figure out who the "key-players" are and can “get to them”**
- **Is able to see the consequences of actions, and accepts them**
- **Can see "the big picture"**