

# Leadership MATTERS COURSE

## Brief report of LMC in USA 2017

Diane Ludwig of Women's Refuge: *"For me this course was a God-sent"*



In Orlando the 93<sup>rd</sup> Leadership Matters Course was held, since David Cummings and a team of Wycliffe trainers first delivered the training to a group of OM leaders in 1995. It took place in Florida, 22 years after that first one. Again David Cummings was part of it. The initial idea was to have it filled with mission leaders. This did not entirely come true; however we felt that it was a 'God thing' nonetheless, 'priceless' and as one put it: 'worth all the money'.

### Date and venue

The course took place from 5 till 18 November 2017 in Orlando, Florida, USA.

The venue was the *Life Enrichment Center*, 4991 Picciola Rd., Fruitland Park, FL 34731, situated 58 miles from the Orlando International airport (MCO). It served us well, being away from busy city life, next to a big lake and on a large property with lots of nature and trees around.

The course took place with the close cooperation and support from the Wycliffe US office in Orlando. Wycliffe has 3.400 Americans serving with them.

### Team of trainers

The team was made up of Reniel Nebab (CAMACOP), David Cummings (WBT), Jeff and Susana Turnbough (FWBMI), Joop (lead trainer) and Annie Strietman (OM), Ken Graham (CMA), Deb Borland (WBT), Pete Kluck (WBT), Lynn Rees (WH) and Roger Lang (CMA). Of these, six would have been entitled to serve as the lead trainer (and would have done much better than I did) and only two were first time trainers.

The travel cost covered by the trainers themselves or their agencies, roughly amounted to 6.350 \$.

Participants paid 1.300 \$US each.

### Participants

We had 28 mature and eager participants, with one of them only participating for the first week. But she was something else: a lady of 80 years of age, a pioneer in ministry to women, with 4 kids, 22 grandkids and 25 great grandkids. She was incredibly appreciative of what she learned. We knew beforehand that she would not be able to be with us for the second week. The day following the LMC, she would have a celebration banquet for her handing over the leadership to Diane, her successor who also was a participant. For them the course came very timely! Another participant with Pioneers had to be absent for a few days.

Of the 28 participants, eight were with Wycliffe, seven with OM, five with Global Partners, one with CMA, two with Free Will Baptists, one with Frontier International, two with Pioneers and two with Women's Refuge.

### Responses from participants

Straight from the very beginning, the enthusiasm was great. Already after the first three days, we as trainers were overwhelmed by the highlights that were shared. I noted some, like: the diversity of participants, the

getting to know each other, the first management workshop was a hit, storytelling was loved, the appreciation for the team of trainers was great, the devotions terrific, the different ways of learning and the talk on shepherding, the fellowship and the insights into affirmations. One said: *"It is wonderful to learn to go deeper in conversations and to have such a wonderful group of people to do it with"*. Adam the chief engineer of the OM ship Logos Hope assured us that he felt *"this training is worth all the money"*! The highlights shared in the large group during the last morning were of a rare quality.

In the response forms filled in on the last day, the following statements were made:

- *"I believe every missionary should be requested to go through LMC. It is extremely well thought through and practical."* (Don Matchett with FWBIM)
- *"This training changed everything for me. The confidence I now have, along with the skills I gained are transformational."* (Jo Haag with WBT)
- *"The course manual will be one book on my shelf that will be referenced again and again."* (Dough Haag WBT)
- *"This training helps me to dream again and even appreciate the pain and suffering. I wish I had done this many years ago!"* (Flavio de Lima with Logos Hope)
- *"So often in ministry we are put into leadership, without any input or training, knowing how to go about it. LMC is immensely valuable."* (Arielle Trantham with OM)
- *"I really feel I'm going home a new person. I learned so much personally and professionally. I can apply this in my life and ministry."* (Maya Gilles with Global Partners)
- *"This course will help me attain a whole new level of effectiveness and confidence in my ministry."* (Carl Gilles with Global Partners)
- *"I can honestly say that this training is life changing for me."* (Partice Hunt with WBT)
- *"This LMC has changed the way I look at leadership."* (Andy Rothgens with Logos Hope)
- *"This input is going to take our department unity to the next level."* (Adam Dawson, chief engineer on Logos Hope)
- *"I feel equipped to serve better. The interweaving of the various topics makes for a strong package."* (Rachel Heffield with Pioneers)
- *"It is a rewarding experience of collaborating with other leaders, while putting the knowledge into action through practice."* (Scott Reavis with WBT)
- *"This is timed perfectly as I start something new. I can implement aspects right away!"* (Nate Bunting with WBT)



Thank you each member of our 'dream team', for the sheer joy it was for me to work together with y'all and for all the love, money, time, thought, faith and energy you have put into this course. It was an amazing experience. You all did so well and gave everything you had. Each one of you was a true inspiration to the others! The success of this LMC entirely was a God things and a fruit on your hard labor! THANK YOU!

Joop Strietman.