

# Engaging LEND Trainees in a Leadership and Policy Experience

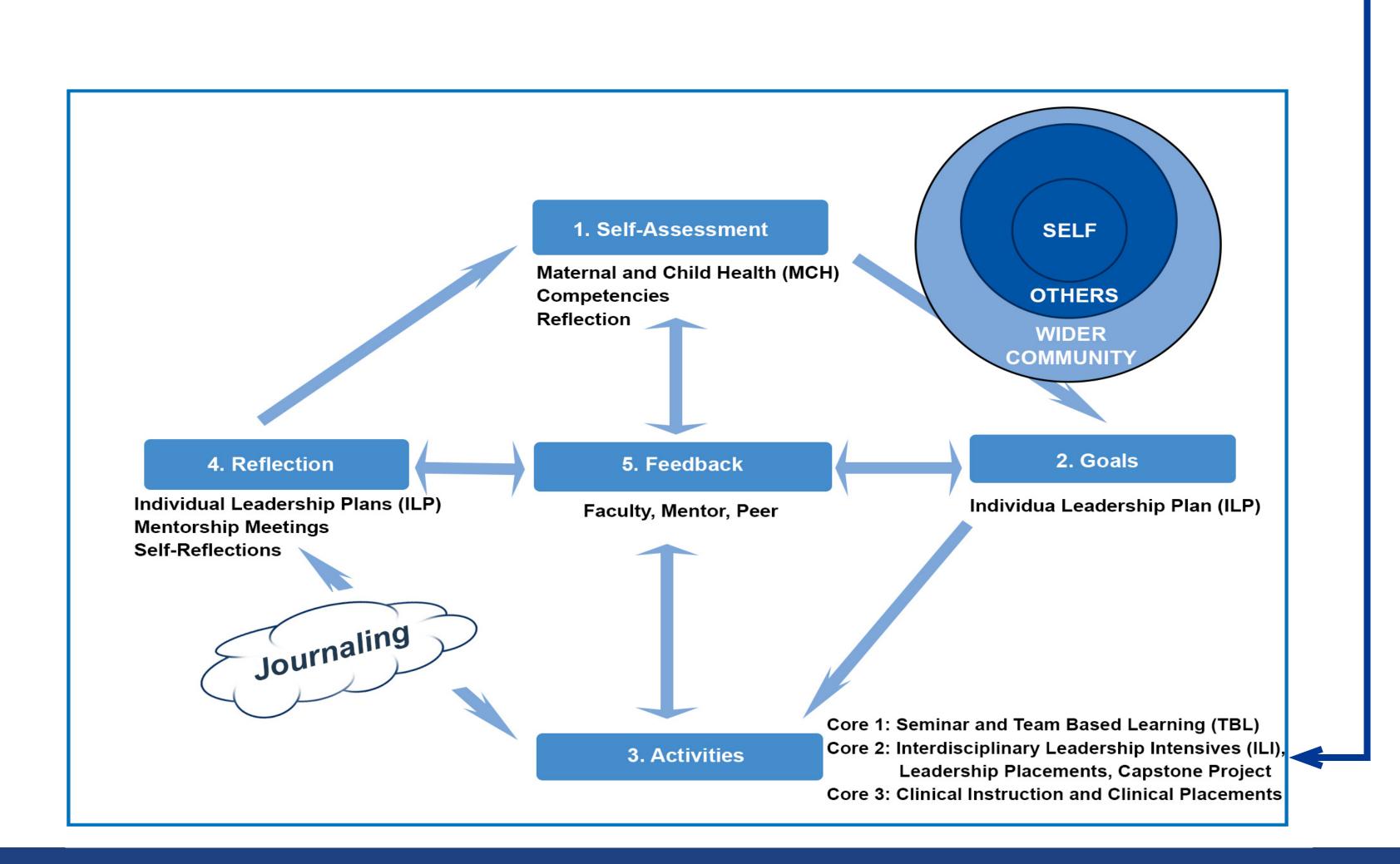
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#### Overview

Over the past five years, NH-ME LEND faculty have revised the LEND Leadership Core Curriculum to create a Leadership and Policy Experience for trainees. This poster will describe how we have refined our curriculum to create this experience and how it connects to the overall curriculum and the NH-ME Professional Development Framework.

The NH-ME LEND Professional Development Framework provides a visual depiction of the instructional methods and procedures used by the program to support trainees' professional and leadership development in the field of neurodevelopmental disabilities. The LEND Leadership Core is one "Activity" in the larger NH-ME LEND Professional Development Framework.

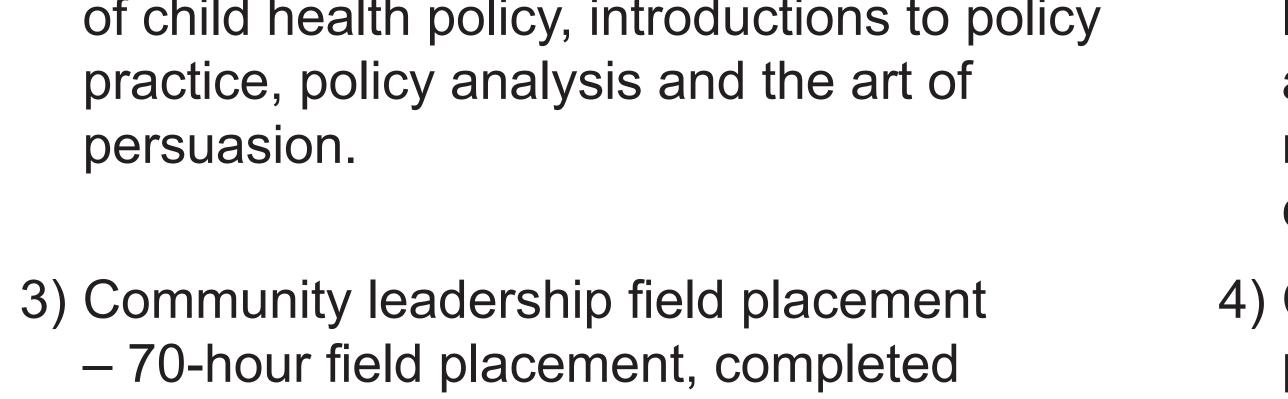


## **Leadership Training Core**

The leadership training core, focusing not only on leadership but also on policy and advocacy, consists of the following: 1) didactic training; 2) Interdisciplinary Leadership Intensive sessions; 3) community leadership field placement; 4) capstone project and presentation; and 5) a leadership and policy experience.

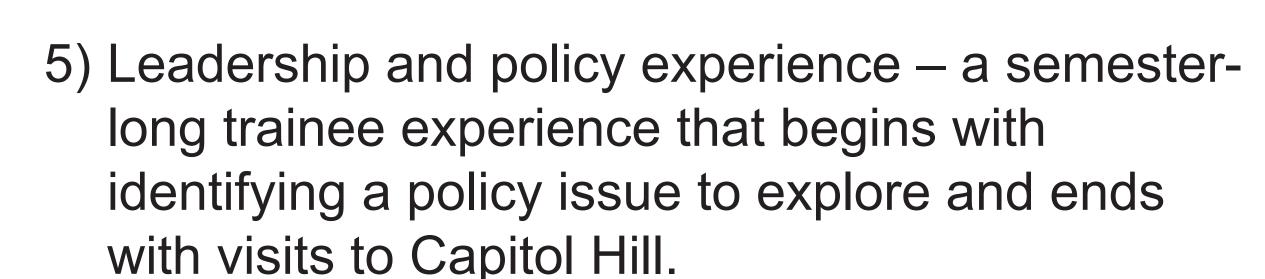


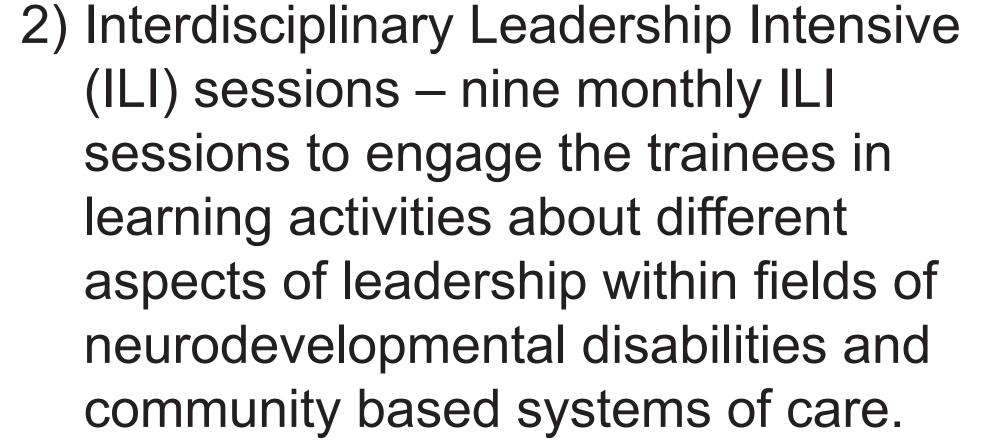
1) Didactic training – an 8-week public policy module on MCH, Title V and public health systems and policy that includes the history of child health policy, introductions to policy practice, policy analysis and the art of persuasion.

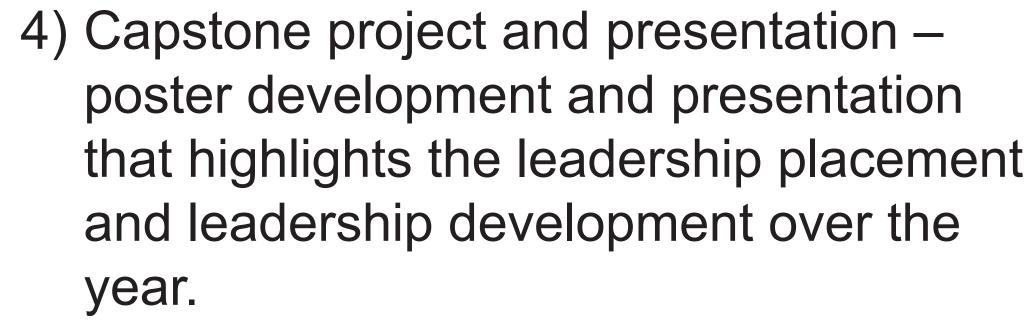


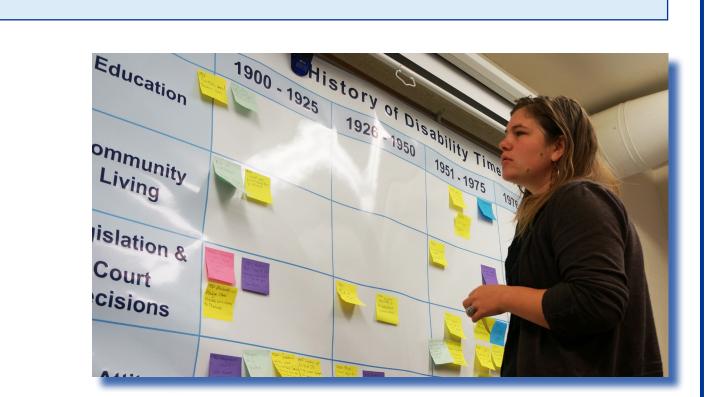


Community leadership field placement
70-hour field placement, completed
in partnership with a community-based
organization whose mission is aligned with
LEND, to provide an opportunity for trainees
to develop and apply leadership skills.











#### What We Learned

Leadership Training:

- is multifaceted, intentional and woven into all aspects of the program;
- involves examining one's knowledge, skills, personal styles, and learning new knowledge and skills to advance leadership abilities in more challenging situations.



# Leadership and Policy Experience

During this experience trainees learn about and explore many aspects of policy, leadership and advocacy from beginning to end. Over the spring semester, trainees will:

- identify a policy issue that is on the congressional agenda;
- learn the policy framework and apply to selected policy issue and conduct a policy analysis;
- engage with policy experts from NH-ME LEND and guest lecturers from AUCD Policy Team;
- develop a policy brief;
- prepare for and present the NH-ME LEND policy brief to congressional members and staffers during visits to Capitol Hill; and
- attend and actively participate in the Disability Policy Seminar, including mock hill visits.

### **Questions to Consider**

- How do we engage trainees more regularly in state and local policy efforts?
- How do we engage more LEND faculty in the leadership and policy experience?





