

# MAPs Professional Learning Groups

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MAPs Grants Professionals is offering Professional Learning Groups (PLGs) as a follow up service to our Beginning Grant Development workshops and classes. A PLG offers small group learning where the collective wisdom of the group is available to each participant using cooperative relationships as a way to increase personal capacity and creativity and improve professional practice.

## What Participants Will Experience

*Shared personal practice*-learning from others and sharing experiences which will expand the overall knowledgebase among participants. In grant terms, this translates into more effective grant proposals, better programs, and increased resources to the region.

*Shared leadership*-each participant will have the opportunity to practice leadership skills within a supportive peer-group.

*Collective creativity*-each participant will benefit from the creativity of colleagues as they grow professionally.

*Shared principles and vision*- each PLG will develop its own set of shared principles and vision based on the focus and direction of participants.

*Supportive conditions*-each participant will gain skills and knowledge while experiencing the support of other members and based on the set of shared values and group standards.

## Format of PLGs

*Group Size:* Minimum of three (3), maximum of six (6) participants plus a MAPs facilitator

*Meeting Time:* Two (2) hours per session, one (1) session per week for four (4) weeks

## What Will Participants Gain in a Professional Learning Group?

- Support for a specific project, with accountability benchmarks to improve successful completion
- Access to powerful and sustained learning
- The benefit of time that is dedicated to learning from like-minded professionals
- The benefit of continuous critical inquiry and improvement of practice
- The feeling of respect and trust developed among colleagues
- The ability and willingness to accept feedback
- The collegial relationships among resource development professionals
- Development of communication styles that will translate into other professional areas

## Participant Requirements

- Come prepared to work on a project such as a program plan or a grant application
- Commit to attend every meeting
- Willingness to share knowledge and to ask for help
- Acceptance of others; confidentiality; positive approach; active listening; responsibility for self