

EMBRACING THE HICCUP: HOW A TACL TOOLBOX SAVES THE DAY IN LEADERSHIP CLASSES



**Monroe County Chamber of Commerce/Leadership Monroe, and TACL Board Member,
Brandy Gentry, President/CEO**

In the world of leadership training, unexpected hiccups are inevitable. Whether it's a delayed speaker, a sudden change in location, or any other unforeseen circumstance, the ability to pivot gracefully is a crucial skill. But fear not! With the TACL Toolbox at your disposal on the TACL website, www.leadershiptennessee.com, navigating these bumps in the road becomes a breeze.

Picture this: you're leading a leadership class, and just as you're about to kick things off, you receive word that your keynote speaker is running late. Panic sets in momentarily, but then you

remember the trusty TACL Toolbox. Your leadership program "TACL Toolbox" should include Team building activities, group challenges, and leadership lessons – the three pillars of preparedness in any leadership setting.

First up, team building activities. These are quick, engaging exercises designed to foster camaraderie and collaboration among participants. Whether it's a simple icebreaker or a more elaborate problem-solving task, team building activities help to set a positive tone for the session and get everyone involved from the get-go.

Next, group challenges come into play. These are hands-on activities that encourage teamwork, communication, and problem-solving skills. From building a tower out of spaghetti and marshmallows to completing a scavenger hunt, group challenges inject energy and excitement into the class while reinforcing key leadership principles.

Finally, there are the leadership lessons themselves. These are mini-workshops or discussions focused on specific topics relevant to leadership development. Whether it's effective communication, decision-making, or conflict resolu-



tion, leadership lessons provide valuable insights and practical tools that participants can apply both in and out of the classroom.

But perhaps the most important aspect of your leadership program, TACL Toolbox, is its organization. Each activity or lesson is labeled with what will be accomplished and the average time it takes to complete it. This allows you to quickly assess the situation and choose the most appropriate tool for the job, ensuring that you can seamlessly fill the allotted time slot without missing a beat.

So the next time your leadership class encounters a hiccup, don't panic. Just reach for your TACL Toolbox and watch as you and your participants rise to the occasion, turning adversity into opportunity, and ultimately emerging stronger and more resilient leaders. We have some activities on our website for you just click on

www.leadershiptennessee.com/resources.

ICE BREAKER BINGO

FIND SOMEONE WHO...

Has A Birthday This Month	Has Traveled Outside the Country	Can Play An Instrument	Has a Tattoo	Can Speak a Foreign Language
Is An Only Child	Is A Lefty	Actually Flosses Their Teeth Everyday	Has A Food Allergy	Played on A School Sports Team
Watches Reality Television	Ran A Marathon		Has Met A Celebrity	Has Broken A Bone
Has Lived in Another State/Country	Hates Math	Love to Sing Karaoke	Had Braces	Has Never Seen A Star Wars Film
Has A Pet	Can Touch Their Toes	Has A Facebook Account	Dislikes Chocolate	Made A New Year's Resolution and Kept It

“Do not follow where the path may lead. Go instead where there is no path and leave a trail.”
-Ralph Waldo Emerson

Youth Leadership Lincoln and TACL Board Member, Trish Bouldin, Chair



A LOOK INSIDE THE TACL TOOLBOX

As a TACL member, or even a prospective member, do you know we have a TACL toolbox that is accessible to our members? What does that entail, you may ask? This toolbox is a collection of resources derived from leaders and leadership programs around the state. Do you want to know what some of the other youth programs are up to? We have resources in the toolbox. Interested in how to better recruit for your adult class? There's an article in there on that very topic. Our toolbox offers a variety of ins and outs from our respected leaders that can help bring your program to new and uplifted levels!

Here's a quick example of a toolbox resource. Our annual leadership conference wraps up every year with a little exercise we like to call "45 in 45". In 45 minutes, we have a quick roundfire of ideas from all attendees of go-to information from their programs. Our 45 in 45 has an

array of information that can be gleaned! Everything from out of the box get-to-know-you games to amazing speaker information to program day ideas, and so much in between!

As a leader myself I get so excited to hear from those around me! Taking over as youth chair for our program this year came unexpectedly, and I can't begin to tell you just how valuable this toolbox attribute helped.

For one of our exercises this year we tried a new tactic of a photo scavenger hunt, an idea borrowed from this very resource (kudos to our L'Evate program for the idea!).

If your program is not utilizing the TACL toolbox then you are missing out on an amazing resource that your membership brings your group. Pull up our website today and click on the Toolbox dropdown, you will not be sorry. Our awesome Board puts a lot of work into making this re-

source available and from experience I can say, it really elevates your program! A key to being a great leader is learning from the leadership around you! Enjoy the toolbox, y'all!



TACL membership is one of the best values for leadership program directors, board, alumni and service businesses/corporations with common goals. We are continually developing resources to benefit our members and the communities they serve. The success of all of our programs means a stronger leadership base not only for our communities, but a strong leadership base for Tennessee.

<https://leadershiptennessee.com/tacl>

HARNESSING THE POWER OF COMMUNITY

Greater Jackson Chamber and TACL Board Member,
Lauren Saliba, Director of Leadership Development



As members of the Tennessee Association of Community Leadership (TACL), we share a commitment to fostering positive change within our communities. Through our membership with Leadership University, our youth leadership development program, we have not only gained valuable resources but also discovered the transformative impact of community service projects.

At the heart of TACL's mission lies the belief that empowered leaders can drive meaningful progress. Through Leadership University, participants are equipped with the tools, knowledge, and inspiration needed to become catalysts for change. One of the most significant resources we have gained from TACL is an abundance of ideas for community service projects.

Through collaborative brainstorming sessions and networking opportunities, the TACL board and members have provided Leadership University with a wealth of innovative ideas to tackle pressing issues in our Jackson community.

What sets these projects apart is not just their creativity but also their tangible impact. We have had the privilege of witnessing firsthand the transformative power of community service. Whether it's partnering to help set up for our community Christmas event, supporting the annual Andrew Jackson marathon, or collaborating with The Salvation Army staff, each project leaves a lasting impression on both participants and beneficiaries alike.

The most recent Leadership University graduates helped organize donations for The Salvation Army Angel Tree project. Approximately 50 Participants, including board members, gathered one wintry Saturday morning and spent the day sorting donations and "shopping" for those less fortunate for Christmas. When it was complete, the volunteers helped support over 440 families and 1,250 angels.

Beyond the immediate benefits to our communities, these projects also serve as a vehicle for personal and professional growth. Engaging in community service allows us to develop valuable leadership skills such as communication, teamwork, and problem-solving. Moreover, it fosters a sense of fulfillment that comes from making a positive difference in the lives of others. The impact of these projects extends far beyond their duration, creating a ripple effect that reverberates throughout our communities. By inspiring others to get involved and fostering a culture of service, we lay the groundwork for a brighter, more compassionate future.

As members of TACL, we are not just individuals but a collective force for good. Through Leadership University and the myriad of community service projects it inspires, we have the opportunity to create lasting change and leave a legacy of service that will endure for generations to come.

In conclusion, involvement with TACL has been nothing short of transformative. By harnessing the power of community and embracing the spirit of service, Leadership University has gained not only valuable resources but also a profound sense of purpose. Together, let us continue to champion positive change and build stronger, more vibrant communities for all.

Contact Us



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SHARING LEADERSHIP IDEAS AND DEVELOPING A NETWORK MAKES US ALL STRONGER

**Mark your calendar for our 2024 TACL Leadership Conference,
Measuring Your Impact located in Cookeville, Tennessee
hosted by IMPACT Leadership on October 23-25. Registration is now open.
Conference Scholarships will be available for TACL dues-paying members.**

Thank you for your investment in TACL.

<https://leadershiptennessee.com/tac1>



Check Us Out Online at <https://leadershiptennessee.com/tac1>