



May 24, 2023 | KSU Benson Research and Demonstration Farm in Frankfort

Session Breakout Summary

Program Resources and Speaker Engagement

Overview

Resources and speaker engagement are foundational to delivering high-quality leadership programs. Effective programs combine diverse formats, expert insights, and participant-driven evaluations to create dynamic learning experiences. By blending local expertise with external perspectives, leadership programs can inspire growth, foster collaboration, and drive meaningful community action.

Strengths

- **Diverse Formats:** Includes retreats (e.g., three-day events), structured themes, and embedded book discussions.
- **Evaluation-Driven:** Consistent feedback through evaluations ensures program alignment with participant needs.
- **Enriching Content:**
 - Books like *Power of Positive Leadership* and *Monday Morning Leadership* enhance discussions.
 - Meyer's Briggs sessions provide personal and professional insights.
- **Service-Oriented:** Community action and service projects encourage hands-on learning.
- **Local vs. External Balance:** Engages both local leaders and external experts for broader perspectives.

Needs

- **Engaging Tools:** Activity-based learning methods such as icebreakers and team-building exercises.
- **Comprehensive Lists:** Resource directories for speakers, books, and activities.
- **Accessible Logistics:** Practical solutions like retreat locations and transportation options.

- Open Networking: Opportunities for participants to connect outside formal programming.

Recommendations

- Incorporate interactive icebreakers to boost participant engagement.
- Develop a centralized resource for speakers, books, and activity ideas.
- Use community spaces and in-kind sponsorships for cost-effective retreats.