



What is a Leaders Circle?

Leaders Circles are groups of leaders who gather to address common challenges, exchange ideas, and share solutions.

How it Works Virtually at #DSAIA2021:

When you click the link to enter the Leaders Circle, a facilitator will give a brief introduction and ground rules. Then, you will be placed into a breakout room with a groups of about six leaders. When you get to your room, each person should introduce themselves, identify their role, and the organization they work with. Any member of the group may start by describing a real issue they would like to discuss to get the conversation started. Each participant will have a total of 15 minutes. All participants share an issue or goal actions as well as provide feedback and help to others. Once you get into your groups, take a few minutes to introduce yourself (name, organization, and role).

In your Leaders Circle, each person has **15 minutes** (adjust if you have more of less than 5 people). When it is your turn:

- 3 minutes: describe/clarify your issue and goal actions, explain what you need help on
- 10 minutes: get help from others
- 2 minutes: Identify new learning, follow-up and action steps

Ground Rules:

- Sessions start and stop on time and are highly focused.
- Manage your time slot and help the circle help you.
- Actively listen when others are speaking and honor all opinions.
- Ask useful questions and keep comments succinct.
- Participate fully in the Circle
- Maintain confidentiality.

Keep it Confidential—the most important rule:

DSAIA's Leaders Circles are safe places to share experiences, concerns, and challenges. It is crucial that all information shared within the circle remain confidential.

Do You Want to join a Leaders Circle this year?

We become better leaders because we learn, connect, and challenge each other. Typically, DSAIA Leaders Circles consist of a small group who commit to meet monthly to:

- Network with colleagues who face similar challenges and opportunities
- Address real life issues and problems
- Share experiences
- Get feedback on new ideas and action plans
- Keep up with current issues
- Get support from peers

Today's Leader Circle is just a sample and we hope you will want to become a part of one for the rest of the year! Getting to know other leaders in your circle is a powerful strategy for professional development and a tremendous vehicle to get the support you need to be an effective leader. New Leaders Circles will be forming in spring 2022. If you would like to participate, go to dsaia.org and click on the Membership menu at the top of the page. You will see the Leaders Circles link and instructions to participate.