



October 14, 2011

Dear Colleague,

All across the region, organizations are feeling the pinch of the tight economy. Resources are scarce, but the demand for services is greater. Your professional skill development may be one of the items on the chopping block. Because investing in your leadership capacity is key to the success of your organization, the Southwest Initiative Foundation (SWIF) designed the Nonprofit Leader's Academy.

You are among the southwest Minnesota organizational leaders identified to participate in our third cohort of the Nonprofit Leader's Academy. The program will consist of a two-day workshop held on January 19 & 20 at Shalom Hill Farm near Windom, followed by individual coaching and a one-day workshop in the spring. Consultants from the Institute for Conservation Leadership, a nationally recognized organization dedicated to leadership training and development, will deliver the program in partnership with Southwest Initiative Foundation staff.

This investment of time will help you build skills to become an even more effective and resilient leader. Your cost to participate is a \$100 deposit, with the SWIF covering additional expenses of approximately \$1,500 per person. I have included a flyer detailing the program's objectives and approach. Please contact me if you have any questions at dianaa@swifoundation.org. The first 18 applicants will be accepted. Acceptance is on a first-come, first-served basis, so I urge you to complete and return the enclosed registration immediately.

Because the external forces that confront you as a leader will not subside, the Nonprofit Leader's Academy is an opportunity to build your internal capacity, equipping you with the skills, tools and life-changing experience to become a stronger leader now and well into the future.

We look forward to your participation.

Sincerely,

Diana Anderson,
Vice President/COO