Leadership is the art of aligning efforts across differing identities, values, and agendas. Creating effective leadership requires forging good relationships that are grounded in mutual understanding, appreciation, and commitment.

The Creative Leadership Conversations Toolkit and related Coaching Essentials train-the-trainer program is to equip individuals with powerful techniques that can be used to build leaders and leadership through coaching, mentoring, and collaborative conversations. In the two-day program, Coaching Essentials participants learn how to:

- Develop empathetic relationships
- Anchor developmental conversations in an understanding of identity and values
- Engage in deep listening
- Use inquiry and feedback to unearth and share perspectives
- Trace a path of shared commitment to a new future

The program folds together active learning and practice. Each technique taught is applied by the participants in live practice sessions that provide rich learning and create competence and confidence.

Participants in the program receive the Creative Leadership Conversations toolkit, which includes Leadership Explorer tools from the Center for Creative Leadership, overviews of essential leadership principles, and guidelines on coaching techniques.

“Relationships are all there is. Everything in the universe only exists because it is in relationship to everything else. Nothing exists in isolation. We have to stop pretending we are individuals who can go it alone. I believe we can change the world if we start listening to one another again — simple, honest, human conversation. Not mediation, negotiation, problem solving, debate, or public meetings. Simple, truthful conversations where we each have a chance to speak, we each feel heard, and we each listen well.”

~ Meg Wheatley
The Creative Leadership Conversations toolkit is the result of collaboration by a team of coaches from the Center for Creative Leadership and Coaching the Global Village, who have drawn together essential practices from decades of experience and learning. The program is part of the Leadership Beyond Boundaries effort (www.leadbeyond.org) to make leadership development more affordable and accessible to more people. For more information contact Philomena Rego (regop@ccl.org)