

PROVIDING SUPPORT TO LOCAL CHURCHES SINCE 2013

Experience growth in your ministry, longer staff tenures, and positive changes in your congregation with the Ministry Leadership Initiative Instructional Cohort Program. The program offers 300 hours of applicable learning, 100 hours of individualized coaching, hotel accommodations for out-of-town participants, all costs (including travel, registration, and meals) to national conferences, and coaching and consulting support in your local church.

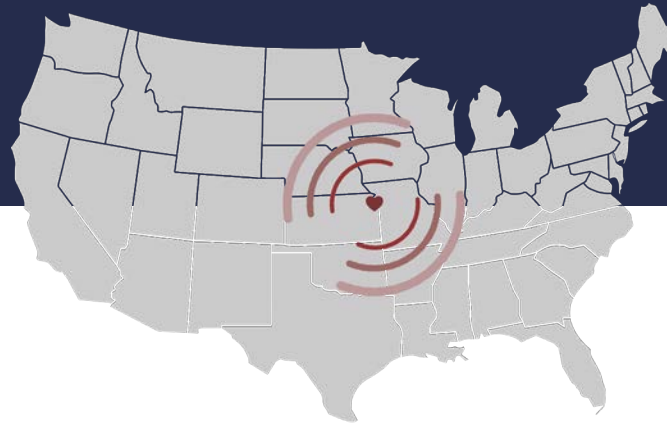


MISSION

Ministry Leadership Initiative develops authentic, intentional, and highly proficient leadership, sharing the love and grace of Jesus Christ with young people.

PURPOSE

MLI is a non-profit organization specializing in youth and children's ministry.



**BASED IN KANSAS CITY
KNOWN THROUGHOUT THE MIDWEST
HELPING CHURCHES EVERYWHERE**

ministryleading.org
[@ministryleading](https://twitter.com/ministryleading)

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MLI is a non-profit organization
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**TEACH
TRAIN
COACH
CONSULT**



Ministry LEADERSHIP INITIATIVE

INSTRUCTIONAL COHORT PROGRAM



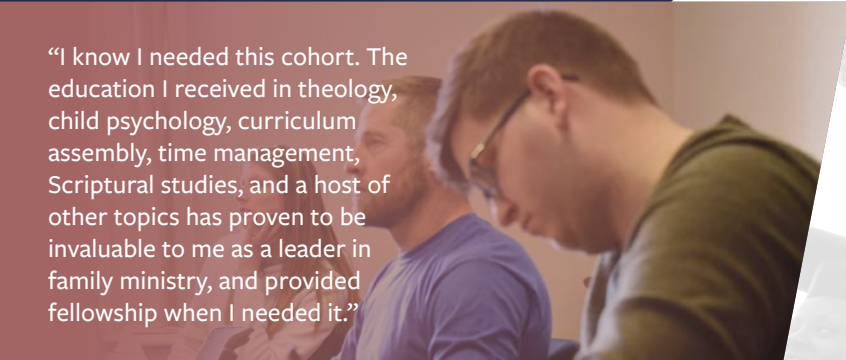
ministryleading.org



THE MLI INSTRUCTIONAL COHORT PROGRAM

MLI offers a two-year Instructional Cohort Program for youth and children's ministers, combining theological education with practical ministry training. Participating church workers enrich the lives of young people with Christian witness, contributing to the life and vitality of partnering congregations. MLI partners with churches in mainline protestant denominations to accomplish its mission of developing authentic, intentional, and highly proficient leadership, sharing the love and grace of Jesus Christ with young people.

Cohorts are comprised of youth and children's ministry leaders serving in local churches. Congregations within six hours of driving time to Kansas City are invited to participate by sending their youth and children's ministry leaders to monthly instructional retreats. A core of expert practitioners, composed of pastors, counselors, educators, and experienced church leaders provides practical ministry training. At the same time, a robust team of professors and instructors teach theological education. The program develops authentic, intentional, proficient, and theologically informed ministers, church staff, and lay leaders who serve in a variety of congregational settings. Thousands of young people and dozens of congregations benefit from this transformed leadership.



"I know I needed this cohort. The education I received in theology, child psychology, curriculum assembly, time management, Scriptural studies, and a host of other topics has proven to be invaluable to me as a leader in family ministry, and provided fellowship when I needed it."

– Ryan, commissioned by MLI in 2019

INSTRUCTION LEADS TO SUCCESS

Church leaders commissioned in the program have higher satisfaction in their jobs, so they stay longer. Youth groups and family ministry programming become more meaningful to young people and often double in size.



"I truly believe the cohort learning, coaching, conferences, and theological courses dramatically impacted the trajectory of my life. I am three years into my job now, longer than anyone has stayed in my position for a decade. I know God called me to this church and to ministry with young people, and MLI gave me the tools to succeed!"

– Jenna, commissioned by MLI in 2019

COACHING SUPPORT

Enroll in the MLI Instructional Cohort Program and be matched with an experienced ministry coach who will meet with you monthly to help develop programming, provide encouragement, and help you build a great team of volunteers.

CONFERENCES & CONSULTING

Each cohort travels to an annual ministry conference. Enrollment includes event registration, lodging, meals, and travel to hear well-known authors and speakers! Additionally, MLI consulting services, including a strategic planning assessment, are provided for churches enrolled in the program.



THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION & PRACTICAL MINISTRY TRAINING

Our cohort meets monthly with a team of academic leaders teaching 12 classes in youth and children's ministry.

SOCIAL & CULTURAL CONTEXTS OF YOUNG PEOPLE

- Introduction to Youth and Children's Ministry
- Human Development and Social Values
- Studies in Church and Culture for Young People

COMMUNICATION & LEADERSHIP IN MINISTRY

- Adaptive Leadership in Ministry
- Communicating the Gospel to Young People
- Counseling Foundations and Pastoral Care Principles

APPLICATION OF THEOLOGICAL FOUNDATIONS

- Christian Theology for Ministry with Young People
- Applications of Historical Christianity
- Intensive Study of the Old Testament
- Intensive Study of the New Testament

EFFECTIVE MINISTRY IN THE LOCAL CHURCH

- Program Design: Ministry in the Local Church
- Practicum: Application of Ministry and Soul-Tending

A NEW PATHWAY TOWARD A DEGREE

Youth and children's ministers who complete the MLI Instructional Cohort Program are eligible to receive credit from Tabor College, enabling these lay leaders a significant head start toward attaining an associate's or undergraduate degree in adaptive ministry with an emphasis on youth and children's ministry. The degree pathway is an added benefit of the program, not a requirement. Participants who already have an undergraduate degree also benefit from the MLI program by receiving extraordinary theological education and practical ministry training.

