

Weaving the Mat: Strength through Connection
Rarangahia te whāriki: Kia tuuhono kaha ai

FAMILY LEADERSHIP

PRESENTED BY JUDITH HYSLOP WITH THE SUPPORT OF
PARENTS OF VISION IMPAIRED (NZ) INC



**“LEADERSHIP IS ACTION TAKEN TO ESTABLISH
DIRECTION AND PURPOSE AMOUNGST PEOPLE”**

Michael Kendrick

LEADERSHIP CAN BE COLLECTIVE, COMMUNAL OR OTHERWISE SHARED



Collaborative approach, ie. Partnerships between professionals and families

Examples of partnerships between groups with similar interests.

- Will share how separately and jointly explored a collaborative approach particularly in the areas of health and education.
- An ongoing and interdependent relationship is invaluable.
- Through other mediums, ie. Newsletters, e-groups, facebook
- We learn from each other.

ACCESS TO QUALITY TRAINING



■ Formal:

Identify organisations in communities who offer a range of quality training opportunities. Support access to these via information on issues such as funding, personal support.

✓ Organisations – Voluntary/State sectors.

✓ Research/Educational facilities.



ACCESS TO QUALITY TRAINING



- Informal:

Informal support networks are the fundamental base from which we are given the confidence to explore and develop our personal and interpersonal skills.

These networks are a safe environment from which to explore opportunities.



SUPPORT NETWORKS SUCH AS:

✓ Family Network

✓ Parent to Parent

✓ Plunket Society (coffee mornings/play groups, parent groups)

✓ Health and disability related networks (consumer driven)

✓ Neighbours, friends, colleagues etc



RESOURCES TO FACILITATE LEADERSHIP



■ In Practical Terms:

- ✓ Access to information – must be accessible, easy to understand language and offered in alternative formats.
- ✓ Family support – support families with the information to allow them to pursue their leadership goal.
- ✓ Peer support – opportunities to develop strong reciprocal relationships with peers.
- ✓ Organisational support – support individuals and groups to identify appropriate supportive organisations to assist the journey.

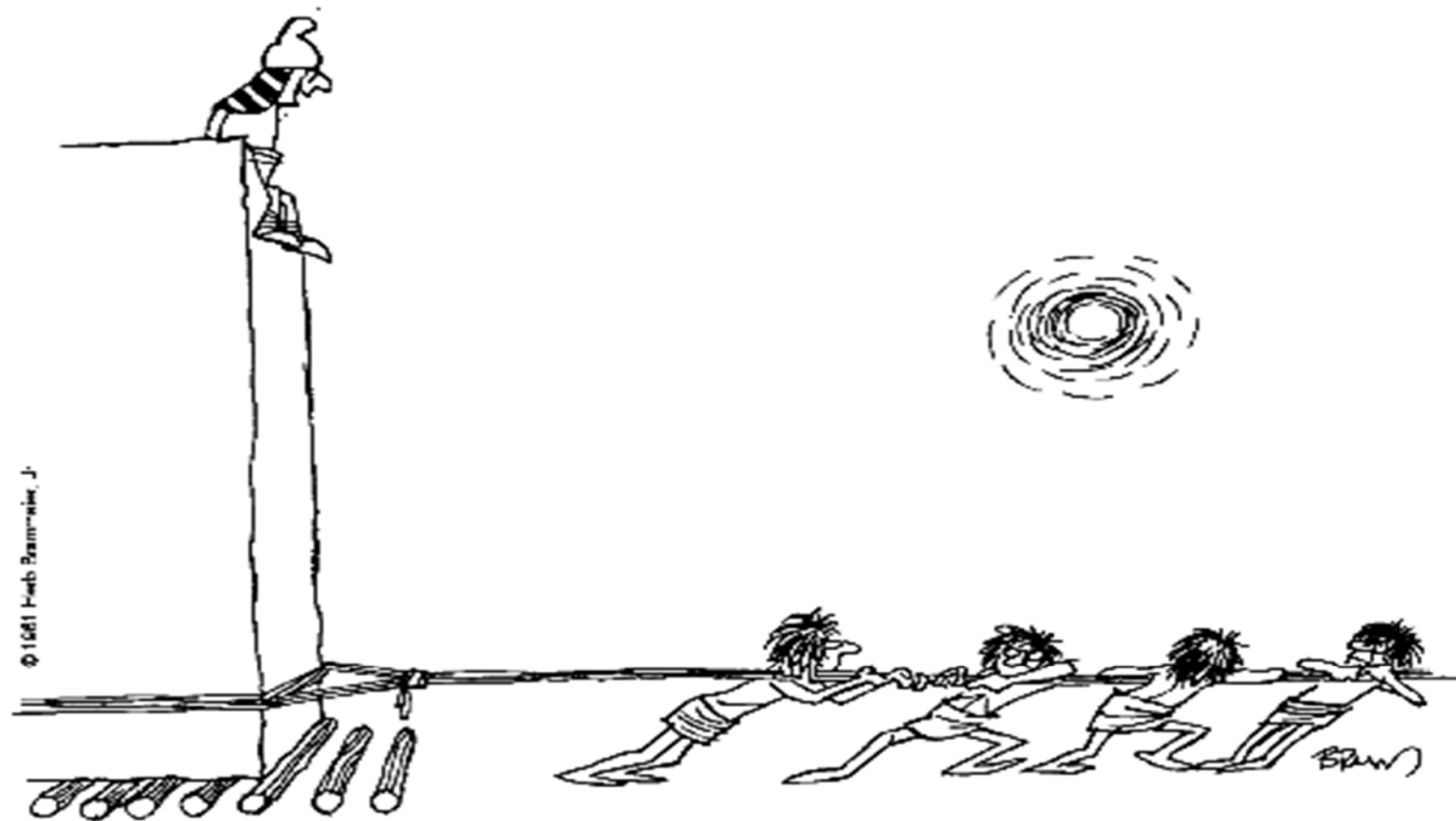
VALUING STAKEHOLDERS AS FUTURE LEADERS AT ALL LEVELS



Leadership does not necessarily happen 'from the front'

■ Valuing personal knowledge and experiences.
Begin at the beginning. Listen and appreciate the experience and acknowledge what each individual brings to any situation.

■ Organisations.
Being able to utilise organisations in partnership to achieve success in common goals.



© 1981 Herb Rasmussen, Jr.

"Believe me, fellows, everyone from the Pharaoh on down is an equally valued member of the team."

DEVELOPING AND SUPPORTING LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES



Leadership from 'within' at "grass roots"

- ✓ Identify potential leaders.
Become involved in local communities.
- ✓ Developing reciprocal relationships.
Communication, talking with people, validating their contributions.
- ✓ Encourage and support personal growth and development.



✓ Encourage and support personal growth and development.

Encouragement and example. Invite people along to relevant interest groups. Introduce them to people with similar issues.

✓ Introduce opportunities and assist in developing networks.

Be available.



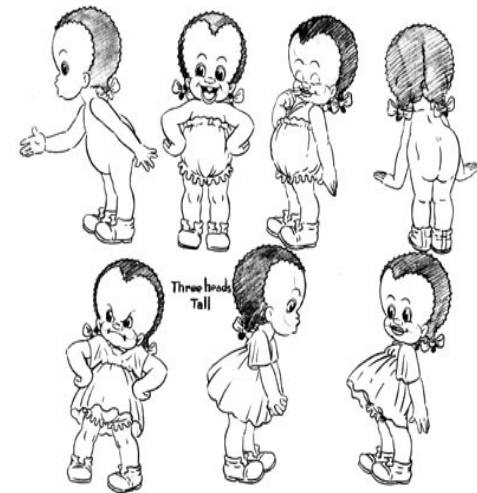
Developing and supporting leadership opportunities



- Stepping back.

Give people the support to identify issues that affect them and the tools to find their own resolutions.

Leadership is not control.



AS A RESULT OF OUR ACTIONS, WE WILL HAVE FAMILIES WHO ARE:



✓ Skilled

✓ Valued

✓ Confident


✓ Affirmed

✓ Knowledgeable

✓ Consumer driven community groups

✓ Consumers in all levels and key positions in society



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- Thanks for your time today.
 - What can you take out of what has been shared?
 - What will make a difference to you as a parent or those who support parents and their families and whanau?
 - “He aha te mea nui o te ao?”

Máku e kí atu. He tangata, he tangata, he tangata!”

- “What is the most important thing in the world?
I tell you. It is people, it is people, it is people”