

*SLC is more than an event! We trust that SLC inspires you and your students in their leadership journey. How you prepare your student leadership team will impact how much they can benefit from the experience and contribute to their communities as a result.*

### **Setting Your Vision**

Why are you and your students participating in SLC? Answering this question will guide how you work through the process of preparing your team and engaging with SLC.

- How do you hope that your school will be different as a result of having students participate in SLC?
- How will participating in SLC contribute to the mission and vision of your school?
- How does participating in SLC align with the core values of your school?
- How will participating in SLC contribute to your school's strategic goals?

### **Selecting Your Team**

It is important to carefully consider which students will participate in SLC, as not all students who are interested will be ready to benefit and contribute. Before promoting SLC to students...

- Establish a set of criteria for selection (for example: demonstrating Christian character, being involved in leadership or service).
- Determine whether or not there is a limit to the number of students you can have on your team, and if so, what that maximum number is.
- Develop an application process that is aligned to your criteria. This could include a written application, seeking referrals from teachers, an interview.

When inviting students to apply to participate in SLC...

- Share your vision for SLC in a way that inspires students to be involved.
- Outline the application process, and the reasons for the process.
- Have all of the practical details available in writing so that you don't need to spend time on them.
- Prepare a written communication for parents of prospective participants.

### **Preparing Your Team**

Once you have selected your team, begin meeting with them regularly in order to...

- Pray for and get to know one another. Establish a sense of teamwork and belonging.
- Brainstorm areas of opportunity or need in their community that they could address in their action plan. (See "Guiding the Action Plan" for more help on this).
- Address practical issues (e.g. travel arrangements, behavioural expectations).

Consider also holding a parent meeting to ensure that they understand the why and the what of SLC.

### **Funding Your Team**

While the ACSI Europe team works hard to keep the costs to a minimum, there is no getting around the fact that SLC comes with a price tag. However, this reality can be turned into a valuable leadership learning experience. While it is good for the school to invest in their student leaders by providing some of the funds needed, the students can take responsibility for the rest. Work with your student team to...

- Determine the total costs involved in participating in SLC, and how much they need to raise.
- Brainstorm ways of raising the needed funds through providing goods and services (for example; selling baked goods, washing cars) or writing letters to potential donors/sponsors.
- Select the best ideas, develop a plan, and follow through.