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**Contact:**

Debbie Walter

mediahits@comcast.net | 908-522-1677

## **NATIONAL REPORT REVEALS LEADERSHIP REVOLUTION**

*Community Leaders Define Critical Seven Steps to Success*

**Washington, D.C., April 10, 2007** — A new report released today by the Leadership for a Changing World program suggests that the United States is in the midst of a leadership revolution and outlines critical steps taken by successful community leaders. *Quantum Leadership: The Power of Community in Motion* keenly illustrates the methods and strategies that leaders use to catalyze and strengthen their communities.

“There is a leadership revolution taking place that is driven by the actions of a community instead of an individual,” said Jaime Grant of the Institute for Sustainable Communities, one of the program partners. “We call it quantum leadership because it requires a shift in thinking. Quantum leaders are not necessarily heroes or ‘born leaders.’ Rather, they know how to tap into the leader in each of us, often giving marginalized community members their first sense of possibility.”

The study is expected to be used by community leaders, philanthropists, educators and others who want to encourage and equip a new generation of leaders tackling pressing societal problems. “The research shows that this leadership is most successful when leaders create openings for community members to tap into deep sources of strength by sharing histories and finding voice,” says Jennifer Milewski, author of the report. “Quantum leaders foster resilience in the face of resistance, find allies and take time to reflect, evaluate and learn—always keeping their vision in sight.”

The new publication outlines seven strategies that quantum leaders use to catalyze and strengthen their communities. The **Seven Drivers of Quantum Leadership** reveal the process by which these leaders build a vision within a community and then make it a reality in the world at large.

The study is based on research by the Research Center for Leadership in Action at the Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service, New York University, and interviews with recipients of the Leadership for a Changing World Award. These community leaders work on multiple community and national issues including immigration, the arts, environment, unions, welfare reform and civil rights. *Quantum Leadership* is the culmination of a seven-year collaborative project of the Research Center, the Institute for Sustainable Communities and the Ford Foundation.

Individuals and organizations interested in receiving a free copy of *Quantum Leadership: The Power of Community in Motion* should visit <http://www.iscvt.org/whatsnew/quantumleadership.htm>. A downloadable PDF of the book is also available at the same URL.

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**About Leadership for a Changing World ([www.leadershipforchange.org](http://www.leadershipforchange.org))**

*Leadership for a Changing World* was launched in 2000 by the Ford Foundation, in partnership with the Advocacy Institute and the Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service at New York University. The seven-year initiative highlighted the importance of community leadership in improving people's lives through an awards program that recognized and strengthened resourceful leaders who are bringing about positive change in their communities. From 2000 to 2005, more than 7,000 grassroots leaders were nominated and awards of \$115,000 were bestowed. Awardees took part in biannual meetings with their peers and created original research on community-based leadership in cooperation with university-based researchers. Through these activities, as well as its web site and publications, the program has sparked a new dialogue about community leadership—one that encourages people to appreciate that leadership comes in many forms and from many different communities.

**LEADERSHIP FOR A CHANGING WORLD PARTNERS**

**Institute for Sustainable Communities ([www.iscvt.org](http://www.iscvt.org))**

The Institute for Sustainable Communities assumed management of the program when the Advocacy Institute, which had administered LCW since 2000, transferred its operations to ISC in October 2006. ISC helps communities in existing and emerging democracies build a better future for themselves and the world. ISC gives community leaders the tools, skills and confidence they need to improve lives and create a more peaceful, stable world. Based in Vermont and with offices in Washington, DC, Macedonia, Russia, Serbia and Ukraine, ISC has carried out more than 60 projects in 20 countries, including the United States.

**Research Center for Leadership in Action, Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service, New York University ([www.wagner.nyu.edu/leadership](http://www.wagner.nyu.edu/leadership))**

LCW's Research and Documentation component is housed at the Research Center for Leadership in Action (RCLA) based at New York University's Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service. Researchers use three parallel methodologies—cooperative inquiry, narrative inquiry and ethnography—to explore questions related to the work of social change leadership and to understand how this kind of leadership is forged and sustained. The program is committed to developing participatory approaches to research and uses collective inquiry and dialogue with LCW leaders as the core of the research process.

**Ford Foundation ([www.fordfound.org](http://www.fordfound.org))**

The Ford Foundation, established in 1936, is a private, nonprofit institution that serves as a resource for innovative people and institutions worldwide. Its goals are to strengthen democratic values, reduce poverty and injustice, promote international cooperation, and advance human achievement. A national and international philanthropy with assets of more than \$14 billion, the foundation has provided more than \$10 billion in grants and loans worldwide. The Ford Foundation maintains headquarters in New York, offices in countries in Africa and the Middle East, Asia, Latin America, and an office in Russia.