



School & Main Institute Regional, State, and National Training Institutes

A 2-3 day statewide, regional, or local training opportunity where participants immerse themselves in intensive courses that allow them to hone the skills they need to work effectively with youth and with partners.

About SMI Institutes

Institute participants can choose between 10-15 single or multi-day courses, facilitated by our outstanding faculty. Courses are highly interactive and intense. You leave able to do things you couldn't prior to your arrival. Come with current or potential partners and you'll leave with long-lasting and highly effective relationships.

Methodology & Faculty

- Small classes
- Focus on skills -- on HOW work gets done, not just awareness.
- Interactive methods that help you see different partner perspectives, share ideas, and create solutions with input from participants and coaches.
- Emphasis on how to create long-lasting community strategies.
- A diverse group of instructors from around the country, with years of community development experience at the local and national levels, in the public and private sectors
- Faculty who are deeply committed to a collaborative educational experience and who understand adult learning methods.
- **Coaching ConnectionSM** - Personalized phone, email, and fax consultation and follow-up support to help you ground the work of the Institute back home.

Because courses cover a variety of carefully selected topics, the Institute provides an ideal format for:

- Addressing specific gaps in skill or knowledge of current issues, policy changes, or effective practices.
- Providing training to a wide variety of people involved in your youth effort, from front line staff to partners and leaders.
- Enabling practitioners and policy makers to interact, learn, and plan together
- Engaging new partners

Who Participates

Individuals and teams from all walks of community life - education, business, government, youth services, workforce preparation, community development, and more. School and Main works with Institute sponsors to identify and invite your intended audience. Average number of participants is usually 225-275.

Organizing an Institute

School & Main has organized numerous institutes for regions and states around the country. We work with local co-sponsors to identify training needs, Institute themes and curriculum, location, and area expertise. We strongly believe the Institute should blend local know-how with that of skilled instructors we work with around the country.

School & Main handles all event coordination, including invitations, registration and course selection, materials, and management on site. Registration fees depend on sponsorship and have ranged from: \$50-300 for a 3-day training institute.

Course Examples

- Developing Powerful Partnerships
- Collaborative Leadership
- Managing the Tough Stuff: Managing Conflict
- Employer Engagement
- Rural Strategies
- Resource Mapping: Leveraging Your Assets
- Challenge or Chance? Working with Out-of-School Youth
- Doing More with Less - Coordination is Key
- The Art of Group Facilitation
- Policy to Practice - Using Evaluation Systems to Impact Performance
- Cultivating the Talents of Youth with Disabilities
- Case Management - The Whole Youth and Nothing but the Youth
- The Power of Involving Youth and Families
- Mentoring Matters
- Marketing Workforce Initiatives
- Hire Learning - Creating Project and Work-Based Learning Opportunities

Other Institute Activities

- Blue Plate Specials or Tea Times – short informational sessions or effective practice showcases
- Networking Reception
- A Keynote Address – local and national views on the policies and issues affecting your work.
- Individual and Team Planning Time

Call or email us for more information or visit www.schoolandmain.org to see upcoming events.

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"The Institute was not like a conference. I hate the conference format where I only get a taste of training. It went deeper and broader than any other training experience I ever had."

"I have been to trainings on this topic throughout 10 years of employment. The 'light' came on during this Institute!"