

Georgie Somerset

*“Supporting the People
who
Strengthen Our Regional
Communities”*

The Challenge for Building Stronger Communities

- Have the courage to invest in people*
- Mentor those brighter and wiser*
- Invest in human capacity*



***We need people
to keep our rural
communities strong***



Strengthening Rural Communities

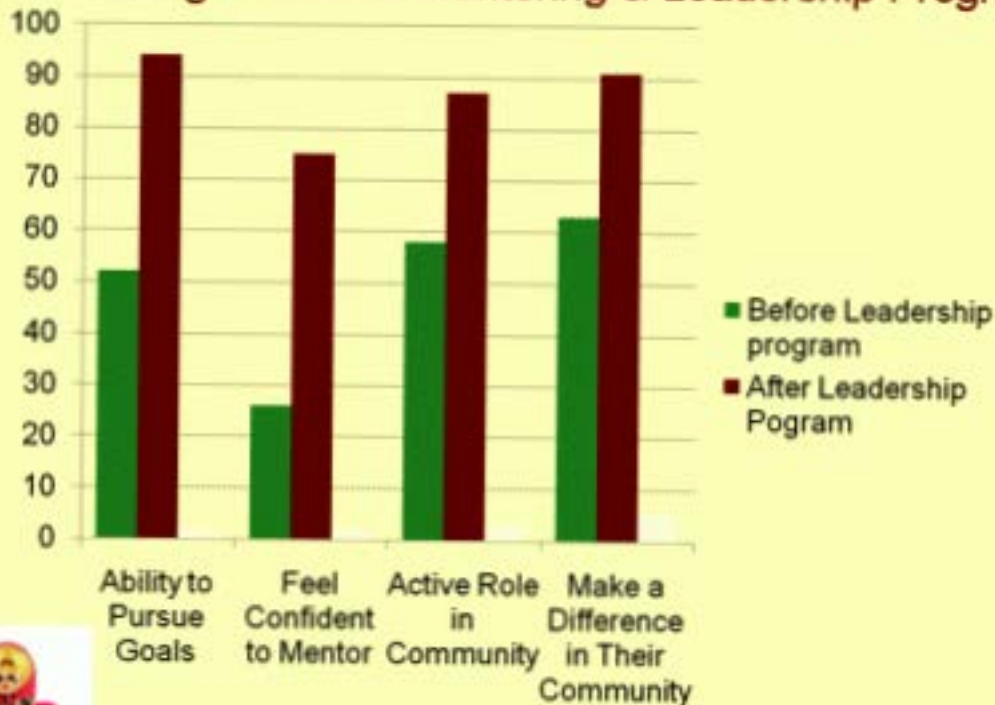
- *Investing in people*
- *Not investing in people*
- *The legacy we leave*



*What is the
return on investment
if we
invest in **people**
not **things**?*



Young Women's Mentoring & Leadership Program



Georgie Somerset
Regional Strategist

- I now realise that I do have skills I can contribute to my community.*
- I am more aware, confident and assertive in what I say and do.*
- I wanted to prove to myself that there was more to me than just being a mum.*

*Young Women Mentoring & Leadership Pilot Program
January 2008*

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Regional Strategist



Country Education Foundation of Australia

- When there's heaps of people pushing you forwards you can't go backwards."***
- A big part of getting it [the Community Scholarship] is someone saying you are doing a good job, keep going We are proud of you and you are making a difference. ...***



- Grants focussed on things – not people
- Tangibles are things – not people
- Measurables are things – not people

We invest in THINGS well – but are not encouraged to invest in people



Bricks & Mortar
vs
Human Capacity

Which will create the legacy
you are seeking in your
community?



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Thank You



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