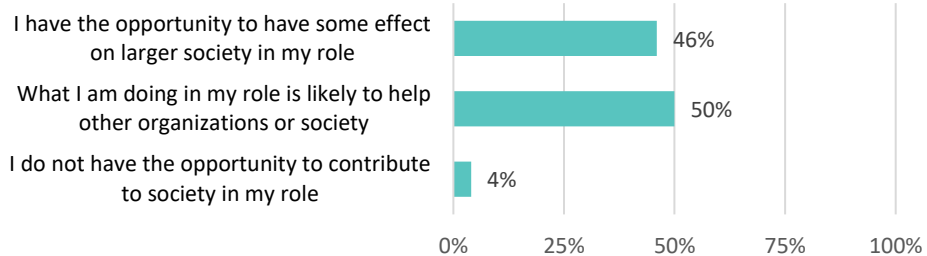




Leaders' Perceptions of How Much They Contribute to Society

The NLCDD Leadership Institute training aims to develop current and emerging leaders to contribute not only to their own organization's success, but also to promote wider systems and societal changes. Before they arrive at the training, we ask participants of Leadership Institutes about how much they think they contribute to society in their roles on our Pre-Leadership Institute Survey. Overall, most of the 197 participants from the last three years of the Leadership Institutes feel like they contribute to their organizations, but not necessarily to society. Only about 46% of participants reported they had the opportunity to have some effect on larger society in their roles.

Contributions to Society



September 16, 2025

By: **Cory Gilden**,
*Research and
Evaluation Manager*

Questions? Comments? Contact Us!

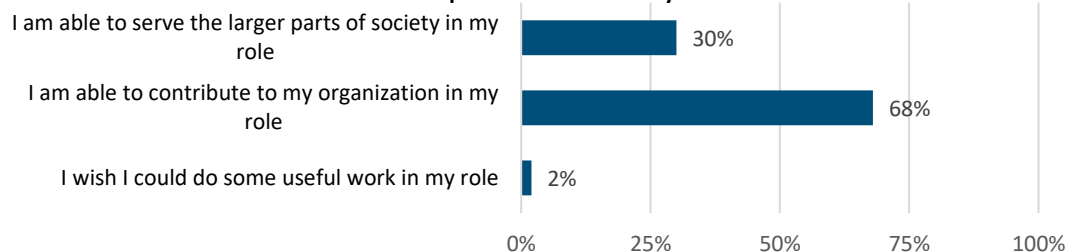
For additional information about the National Leadership Consortium's programs and research, visit www.natleadership.org.

To learn more about upcoming Leadership Institutes or workshops, email Nicole Jones at njones@natleadership.org

Contact Cory Gilden at cgilden@natleadership.org with questions related to our research.

Similarly, Leadership Institute participants come into the training confident that they are able to contribute to their organization in their roles (68%), but not necessarily able to serve the larger parts of society in their roles (30%). A small 2% with that they could do some more useful work in their roles.

Impact on Society



A critical component of the Leadership Institute is to facilitate a mental shift of participants from just dealing to what is in front of them day-to-day, to realizing the capacity they have to promote wider systems and societal change. By improving the services they offer and advocating for systemic change, leaders can contribute to increased self-determination, dignity, and a higher quality of life for the people they support, as well as helping society advance toward full realization of civil rights and full inclusion and belonging for people with IDD.