

Whenever we think of a leader, who comes to mind first? It may be a great freedom fighter, a popular politician or a renowned religious guru. All these people have some common qualities, they alter a challenging situation or a problem into an opportunity.

Leadership can be defined as mobilising people and resources towards achieving valued goals. Through knowledge and experience most people have the potential to become a leader in any given situation.

Effective leadership in the community requires skills like team building, communication, conflict resolution, negotiation and advocacy for change.

As an ASHA you often have to play the role of a leader. Hence it is important to understand the meaning of leadership and qualities, which will help you in playing your leadership roles effectively.

## Leadership means

- to be responsible
- to inspire people to follow you
- to be non-judgemental with people and transparent in your actions
- to show confidence, assertiveness, enthusiasm, passion and accountability
- to have skills for getting things done in cooperation with others