



**The Organizing Authority®**

# QUANTUM LEAP®

**NAPO Conference 2010**

*Making a difference in the community*

**Quantum Leap** provides free organizational skills training to people in life transitions who cannot afford but critically need professional organizing. Classes provide training in management of time, paper, and personal finances. NAPO professional organizers volunteer their time to provide Quantum Leap skills training either as individuals or as a local chapter initiative.

**Paris Love**  
Organize With Love, LLC

Quantum Leap is a way I give back to the community. There are individuals who 'need' us but either they don't know we exist or can't afford us. QL allows us to reach those populations that would not necessary be able utilize our services.

I volunteer with Mary's Shelter in Elberta, AL. The facility is for young ladies who are pregnant and need to get back on their feet as well as learn how to care for their newborn and themselves. I offer time management, budgeting and organizing classes to the residents.

You know we aren't taught how to manage our money, maintain a household or how to organize, so when we 'go' out into the world, many times we're clueless. Having programs like QL opens an entirely new world up to the students. They absolutely love the program.

**Beth Randall**  
Joe Organizer, LLC

It means the ability to share my knowledge and skills with those less fortunate and the ability to make a difference in someone's life.

I teach one - one hour class a month at Lamb's Fold Shelter for Women and Children: Time Management, Paper Management, Money Mgmt I, Money Mgmt II, and Organizing Principles.

My favorite story is about the woman that thanked me for a form that I had created for her to track her spending. I was so amazed that something as simple as that piece of paper made her day.

**Quantum Leap Accomplishments**

In the last year, **Quantum Leap Trainers** conducted 165 classes with 256 class hours of Quantum Leap programs, teaching organizing skills to 1452 students and impacting approximately 1340 children. Since its inception in 1997, the Quantum Leap program has conducted over 1464 hours of organizing training to 8687 students. **We invite you to become a part of our mission.**

**Sherry Lee Denton**  
The Orderly Touch Inc.

QL gives me an opportunity to give back to the community—another way to make a real difference in lives I would not ordinarily get to touch.

I offer the Paper Management/Time Management courses to two different Habitat for Humanity groups: Newnan/Coweta (Coweta County, Georgia) and Southern Crescent (Clayton County, Georgia)

It offers them training, information, and supplies they would most likely NOT have access to in such a structured and meaningful way.

**Helene Segura**  
LivingOrder San Antonio

Quantum Leap allows us to reach out into the community and help those who need our services in order to improve their lives, but cannot otherwise afford it.

I teach paper and time management classes at Dress for Success San Antonio. I also help them with clothing drives.

Most of my students did not learn organizational skills growing up. They do not know how to manage their loads of papers coming in from different state agencies or create schedules to help them get through the day without getting overwhelmed. At the end of each of my classes, I see smiles on their faces because they know that life just got a little bit easier with the information they just learned.

Whether you volunteer once a year or once a week, I encourage you to get involved with Quantum Leap. When you see the light bulbs come on in people's eyes, and you realize that you just brought a little bit of hope into their lives, it makes it all worth it!

**Julie Riber**  
Transformare

QL means sharing my knowledge with those unable to afford my services and hopefully giving them some useful tips to really use and keep their things organized.

I work with the YWCA Family Center (Columbus, OH) where they take homeless families and assist in getting them a place to live and jobs. I teach the paper class. It helps them keep all their papers in one place versus keeping it in a purse or bags.

Advice to new QL Trainers: I think it takes some time to really get down what you want to say and how to get your group to interact with you and understand their ways and situations.

**Want to get involved as a Trainer with Quantum Leap?**  
Contact Quantum Leap Chair, Holly Graff at (916) 284-4064 or [holly@cluttercontrolangels.com](mailto:holly@cluttercontrolangels.com)

Debbie Tebbe - Organized Happy Helper

Feedback from class participant at Imago Dei Crisis Pregnancy Center

*"This particular class was very interesting to me and held a lot of value. I didn't realize how important organizing was until I realized how unorganized I was. Now that I have moved out of my parent's house, I'm faced with a lot of responsibilities. I know if I have things organized it will be easier to handle things. I really appreciate my boyfriend being at this class with me. Now we both have learned some important information from these classes that are held for mothers that need help. I not only get very important things that my daughter needs. I also get information that will better me as a parent further along in life. Now I'm faced with more responsibilities not only being a parent but being an adult. Trying to raise a child at 19, work, go back to school & maintain all my bills. This all falls under being organized and now I know that I'm glad I have learned this important lesson at an early age."*

Alisa Levy  
Embrace Your Space

QL offers me the opportunity to share my skills with those that otherwise would not have access to them.

I do Paper and Time Management classes at the Silver Spring Drop-In Center (Silver Spring, MD). They provide services to those with mental health issues. I also help them with other activities such as a knitting class and an art class. I have reorganized the director's office and soon will be doing the same throughout.

Since the students at the SSDIC have issues such as ADHD and OCD, it is often difficult for them to manage their lives and to hold jobs. Most have government subsidies. If better paper/time management gets their bills paid on time, makes their struggles easier and reduces their stress, they have reaped a great benefit.

I can't imagine how difficult it would be to be homeless and have four children. Giving such a person a file box and helping them to set up a system to manage their papers seems like such a simple thing. To them, it is a huge accomplishment and they are truly grateful.

At one of the Paper Management classes at the homeless shelter, the man sitting next to me was from Iraq. He had been a translator for the army who then brought him to the US. At the end of the class, he thanked me profusely. He spoke of what a wonderful country America is. What opportunity! He couldn't believe that we would just come to give him these file materials and teach him these things, just to help him.

Marilyn Clinton  
Creative Organizing Systems, LLC

QL gives me an opportunity to donate my time and efforts to worthwhile community agencies. I had been looking for a way to give back to my community and QL provided the means for me to do this.

The Drake House in Roswell, Georgia provides crisis housing for single moms and their children. I teach organizing skills to the mothers.

The mothers love the time, paper and money classes. I think the skills they acquire in the classes enable them to do a better job managing their families.

Ilene Hodesh  
Divine Order

As the Quantum Leap objective states, I feel honored to have the opportunity to help those individuals in disadvantaged circumstances learn new skills to make positive transitions in their lives.

I purchase and assemble file crates for a paper management class for Bethany House, a homeless shelter for women and their children.

The residents are so grateful to learn how to organize their paperwork. For many of these women, no one has been there to help them.

**About Quantum Leap**

NAPO's community service program, Quantum Leap®, was founded in 2000 on the premise that making an important positive shift in life is difficult, if not impossible, without basic organizing skills.

NAPO believes that making important shifts in one's life is difficult to impossible without basic organizing skills. For those in life transitions—individuals living in shelters or public housing, the homeless, teenage mothers, victims of natural disasters, and many others—those skills are critical, but are often unaffordable.

The Quantum Leap program consists of volunteer professional organizers who donate their time working with local community nonprofit agencies and offer skill-building organizational sessions on how to manage paper, time and money management. Classes are conducted nationwide in coordination with various local agencies with a partnering Quantum Leap trainer.

Since the inception of the Quantum Leap Task Force, over 8,000 students have been trained by professional organizers through a wide variety of community and non-profit agencies. They have adapted sample class outlines and materials lists for the specific students they are teaching. Classes have been taught by individual organizers, teams of organizers, or as chapter community service projects.

Organizational materials for class participants are donated by NAPO, NAPO chapters, or individual NAPO members. Esselte/Pendaflex donates materials for the paper management classes such as files folders, hanging folders and pocket folders. OfficeMax offers discounted pricing on supplies through the Retail Discount Program. We appreciate the generosity and support on behalf of Quantum Leap!

**Additional information on the Quantum Leap Program** can be found at [http://www.napo.net/members/get\\_involved/quantum\\_leap.aspx](http://www.napo.net/members/get_involved/quantum_leap.aspx) (NAPO Member login required).  
Public information at <http://www.napo.net/who/involvement/quantum.aspx>