



The National Preparedness Leadership Initiative is a joint program of the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health and the Harvard Kennedy School of Government

Leonard J. Marcus, Ph.D.

Dr. Marcus is a trailblazer in leadership studies and teaching. Shortly after 9/11, the federal government asked him and the Kennedy School's David Gergen to establish the National Preparedness Leadership Initiative (NPLI) at Harvard University. The purpose: to study critical homeland security and emergency management leadership challenges facing the country and then to develop leadership strategies, analysis and methodologies to meet new contingencies. Dr. Marcus is given rare access to senior national leaders during crucible times of emergency: COVID-19, Hurricane Dorian, Hurricane Katrina, Deep Water Horizon, Boston Marathon bombings, H1N1, Ebola, Hurricane Sandy, and others. He leads ongoing development at Harvard of original and innovative problem-solving strategies – including Meta-Leadership, Swarm Leadership and the Walk in the Woods - that have been adopted by government, corporate and non-profit leaders around the world.

Lenny is lead author of the book “*You’re It: Crisis, Change and How to Lead When It Matters Most,*” published by PublicAffairs Press in June 2019. The book compiles the research, concepts, and practice methods that he and his colleagues developed over his 24 years at Harvard University.

Lenny’s work has been extensively applied to complex organizational transformation, crisis leadership, stakeholder negotiation, and conflict resolution. His breadth of analysis and capacity to translate complex problems into workable solutions has allowed him to engage a wide range of leaders and constituencies. Among his many activities, he has lectured for senior leaders at the Bush, Obama and Trump White House; worked closely with the Director of the Secret Service and Administrator of the Transportation Security Agency as their agencies faced critical transformational challenges; developed and presented leadership seminars for leaders across government, including DOD, the National Counter-Terrorism Center, the CDC, FEMA, DHS, DHHS, and OPM. He co-developed and delivers a crisis leadership, management and communications seminar for Schlumberger energy services at their international locations; and designed a disaster leadership program for the American Red Cross. In the wake of recent attacks, he worked extensively with senior aviation security leaders to enhance public area security at the nation’s airports.

Prior to 9/11, Dr. Marcus’ focus was on health care leadership, negotiation and conflict resolution, work that he avidly continues. He is lead author of the primary text for the field, *Renegotiating Health Care, Resolving Conflict to Build Collaboration*, first published in 1995 when it received the “Book of the Year Award” from the Center for Public Resources Institute for Alternative Dispute Resolution. It was re-issued in a revised Second Edition in 2011.

Since 1995, Dr. Marcus has been on the faculty of the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, where he teaches courses on public health leadership, negotiation and conflict resolution. At the school, he founded and directs the Program for Health Care Negotiation and Conflict Resolution. He is the recipient of the 2017 Harvard T.H. Chan School's "Excellence in Teaching Award for Executive and Continuing Professional Education." He received his Ph.D. in 1983 from the Heller School at Brandeis University, studying policy and organizations.

