The Survivor Alliance Leadership Academy program kicks off with Module 1, which explores the foundational elements of leadership and delves into Survivor Alliance’s mission, vision, and values. This is followed by a personal alignment of these core aspects with participants' leadership goals. The module also includes the establishment of group agreements and guidelines, and an introduction to Paulo Freire’s model for critical reflection and transformative learning.

Central to Module 1 is the emphasis on well-being and sustainability, recognizing the role these play in effective leadership. Nervous system literacy and clarifying personal values provide a framework for self-awareness and allow participants to explore how their values inform their leadership style and preference.

In addition to focal points covered in this module, participants will delve into topics such as the historical and political landscape of human trafficking in the United States, nurturing peer and professional support networks, redefining perspectives on trauma, and navigating dynamics of power.

Throughout the module, anti-oppressive practices are integrated, encouraging participants to adopt this approach in their leadership context.

As a part of Module 2, participants continue their development in one of two concurrent learning tracks. One learning track is focused on survivor leaders who have an interest in becoming trauma-informed direct service providers. The other track focuses on community building, research, and civic engagement. During Module 2, participants will engage closely with professionals with expertise on the topic of their learning track.

After completing Modules 1 and 2, participants will advance their skills further in Module 3, which centers on enhancing employability and professional aptitude. This module will be customized to each participant's interests and encompass topics such as collaborating with allies, effective communication with supervisors, utilizing technology, time management strategies, and more.

Upon the completion of Module 3, participants are afforded an opportunity to apply their newly acquired skills in a practical setting through the form of an internship placement or opt to
complete a capstone project for a period of six months. The capstone projects are bespoke, self-initiated projects tailored to participants’ capacity. Capstone projects allow participants to work closely with the Academy and Survivor Alliance staff to develop a project that fits their interests and passions and allows participants to integrate learning into practical experiences, provide exposure to different types of organizations and supervision styles, and ultimately begin engaging with allies in the broader sector as peers.