

Laidlaw Scholars Programme

Leadership-in-Action Review

Week 4

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The University of Hong Kong

Week 4: 12 June – 18 June

Progress and achievements:

Resumed field interviews after refining the interview questions. Interviewed beneficiaries of Frontiers Rights, non-beneficiary migrants, support groups, and foreign missions of migrants' countries of origins in Lebanon. Drafted a preliminary report of interview findings in the field.

Difficulties and challenges:

Finding interviewees and scheduling interviews has been a major hurdle, as a new-comer in the field in Lebanon. I had no experience working here and was not sure how to reach out to migrants, how to access the communities, or how to liaise with other support groups.

Room for Improvement:

If I had communicated with other colleagues with more experience or knowledge on the ground before commencing the study, it could have been an easier and more effective way of reaching out.

Self-Reflection:

I was able to use my disadvantage to my advantage eventually. As a foreigner, it allowed me to connect with migrants more easily than a local. As such, I began exploring districts on the ground and talking to people easily on the streets. It helped me access some interviewees. It was a quick turnaround and demonstrated some degree of creativity in problem solving.

Leadership:

Creativity is an often overlooked component of leadership. It is a unique element that allow leaders to solve problems that others cannot, and hence define them as leaders.
