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Kristine (Kris) Kiefer Hipp, Ph.D. is a Professor Emerita in the Doctoral Leadership Department at Cardinal Stritch University in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, USA. Hipp taught in the Doctorate in Leadership for the Advancement of Learning and Service, the Master's in Leadership, and the District Administrative Licensure programs for 18 years before she retired from full-time employment in July 2013 as a Professor. She has coordinated 10 programs at Pieve International School in Corciano, Italy since March 2006. Her programs are designed for adults and include a cultural immersion in the small medieval towns around Perugia and Assisi, and also a full day in Florence. Kris has taken several courses in Italian to acquire a functional level of Italian. She has also visited Villa Pieve 16 times and has made numerous friends, who continually offer their time to make Kris' programs one of a kind.

Professionally, Dr. Hipp's research interests and consulting focus on leadership, developing and sustaining professional learning communities, collaborative learning, collective efficacy, and organizational change. Kris enjoys working with school districts long-term, presents in various venues, and has published in books and national and international refereed journals. In 2010 she co-edited, *Demystifying Professional Learning Communities: School Leadership at Its Best*, an extension of her first co-authored book, *Reculturing Schools as Professional Learning Communities*. She is currently conducting collaborative research with approximately 30 researchers through the International School Leadership Development Network world-wide and presenting and publishing her findings. She has also been invited to co-author a chapter in a proposed book entitled, *The Art and Science of Professional Learning Communities*, which reveals a comprehensive, systematic approach to creating and sustaining professional learning communities.

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