Motivating Your Members

Seven Techniques for Motivating Others
Adapted from University of Nebraska's Leadership Development Tips

Delegate Effectively— Share responsibility! Understand that as a leader, you can give authority and allow others to contribute to the organization's success. Wisely assign responsibilities based on the strengths and interests of your members.

Assign Incremental Tasks—Make sure every member is involved, even if it is a simple task at first. The more they become involved, the more committed they will be to the organization.

Treat Members Equally—Communicate "why" as well as "what" to ensure that understanding and cooperation become a habit. It'll help translate into a more motivated membership!

Use Praise and Criticism—Learning to praise & criticize effectively maximizes your potential as a motivator. As a general rule, praise in public; criticize in private.

Generate Enthusiasm—Interact with your members in a positive, energetic manner. Don't complain about personal or organizational issues. Believe in your organization and show some zest! Have confidence in your members, and be enthusiastic, it's contagious!

Promote Integrity—Practicing what you believe is important. People model what you DO, not necessarily what you say.

Maintain Your Humor—Take your work seriously, but yourself less so. You'll lead more effectively, be less stressed, and be more fun to work with!

All Group Members Need...

To have a sense of belonging

To share in planning the group's objectives

To have a clear understanding of the group's goals

To feel that what they are doing has real purpose and contributes to the greater good

To feel that the organization is making a difference

To see that progress is being made toward the goals

To have confidence in organizational leaders to lead the organization well, treat members consistently and fairly, recognize accomplishments, and trust the individual members

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