

Personal Leadership Activity

THE PARTY⁶

Overview

An activity that uses brief one-on-one conversations to highlight the skills and accomplishments of each team member

Purpose

To provide each participant with feedback about skills he or she can contribute to the team

To emphasize the importance of regular feedback systems

Time Required

10–20 minutes, dependent on group

Materials

None

| WHAT | TIME | HOW | MATERIALS |
|---|-------|---|-----------|
| <p>Step 1: Setting the Context</p> | 2 min | <p>Go outdoors or to a room with a large amount of open space. Ask participants to envision themselves at a party (you can decide what kind of party!). They are mingling and having short conversations with each other.</p> <p>Participants should comment on the things they appreciate about each other (e.g., “I appreciate your sense of humor—it really lightens things up” or “I appreciate how logical you are—I think it will help keep us focused”).</p> <p>They must follow two rules:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Talk to as many people as possible. When you finish talking, move on. 2. When someone is talking to you, you may not say anything to him or her. You can only listen until the other person is finished and it is your turn to talk. | |

⁶ Source: Innovation Center, *Building Community: A Tool Kit for Youth and Adults in Charting Assets and Creating Change* (see Appendix 2).

| WHAT | TIME | HOW | MATERIALS |
|------------------------------------|-------|---|-----------|
| Step 2: Mingling | 5 min | Take a few minutes and have participants mingle and say their “appreciations” to each other. | |
| Step 3: Group Reflection | 5 min | <p>After the activity is finished, sit down as a group to talk. Use the following questions to reflect on the activity:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ Think about how you felt during the activity. Was it easy or difficult? Why? ★ What was surprising about what people told you? ★ How often do you recognize the contributions of others on your team? ★ How can you as a team continue to appreciate each other after this activity? ★ How can you help your teammates and coworkers recognize the contributions and accomplishments of others? | |