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Defining Your Core Leadership Values – Exercise

This exercise will help you reach down to your core and begin to identify who you are and what is most important to you.

The following is a list of some common core values. As you read the list, please pay attention to the ones that seem to best fit you. When you see a particular value that resonates with you, place a checkmark next to it. Feel free also to write down other values that aren't on the list but that spring to mind when you see the others.

✓	Core Values	✓	Core Values
	Accomplishment		Accountability
	Accuracy		Affordability
	Ambition		Authenticity
	Cleanliness		Collaboration
	Comfort		Commitment
	Community		Compassion
	Competency		Competition
	Connection		Courage
	Credibility		Dedication
	Dependability		Dignity
	Discipline		Disclosure
	Diversity		Education
	Efficiency		Empathy
	Empowerment		Entertainment
	Equality		Excellent customer service
	Fairness		Family
	Flexibility		Forward thinking
	Friendliness		Fun
	Generosity		Health
	High performance		Honesty
	Independence		Individuality
	Influence		Innovation
	Integrity		Irreverence



√	Core Values (con't)	√	Core Values(con't)
	Nurturing		Openness
	Optimism		People
	Performance		Persistency
	Positive outlook		Pragmatism
	Precision		Quality
	Reliability		Respect
	Responsibility		Responsiveness
	Safety		Service
	Simplicity		Teamwork
	The Golden Rule		Trust
	Under-promise, over-deliver		Value
	Wisdom		

Knowing your Top Values

Now that you have a list of your most important values let's pare that list down to the top five or six values that you regard most strongly. Please write those here:

Your Most Important Values	
1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	



5.
6.

Next to each value, jot down a few thoughts about why that value is important to you.

Then try to explain each value in a way that each of your team members could easily understand and implement into their daily activities. Take your time on this task and put some thought into what these values mean to you and your organization. Knowing the reasoning can help cement the value in your mind, as well as your group.

Congratulations; now that you've discovered your core values, you're one step closer to serving as a more impactful leader!