

# Characteristics of Successful Deaf Leaders

T. Alan Hurwitz

Alim Chandani

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1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

# What is Leadership?

- Discussion
- Life Boat Game
- Principles of Leadership
- Questions and discussion

# Leadership Topics

- Ways to start organizations
- How to motivate people
- How to organize for action
- The concept of networking
- Communication patterns within groups
- Delegating responsibilities
- Fundraising
- Making contacts
- Determining priorities
- Reward system

# What Leadership Means to Us?

- An opportunity to interact with others
- An opportunity for us to make mistakes and learn from experiences
- An opportunity to help others
- An opportunity to share experiences
- An opportunity to develop organizational skills

# What Leadership Means to Us?

## (continued)

- An opportunity to learn how to help people to raise funds
- An opportunity to help others to become leaders
- An opportunity to motivate people to become involved
- An opportunity to get help from other groups and get support services

# Leadership

- Loyalty
- Enthusiasm
- Acceptance
- Diplomacy
- Effort
- Responsibility
- Sacrifice
- Humility
- Involvement
- Productivity

# Life Boat Game

- Form small groups of 4 individuals from same country
- Read the listing and description of members in a life boat
- Imagine the life boat being in the middle of nowhere in a vast sea
- The life boat is sinking! There are too many people on the board.
- Your job is to decide which five people must get off the boat.

# Life Boat Game

- Ahmed – Internet Business owner, 31, strong and healthy
- Anita – Ahmed's wife, 6 months pregnant
- Debbie – 2nd year nursing student, has Peace Corps experience
- Fergus – Deaf, most intelligent on the boat, former Mi5 employee
- Chia Chen – Famous performer. Donates  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the money she earns to support orphans in China
- Anastasia – German Nun, 54. During WWII she helped Jews escape from the concentration camps
- Hiro – botanist
- Keiko – Judo Olympic gold medalist.
- Todd – Son of a multi-millionaire, 9 yrs old
- Vladimir – Famous scientist, 40. Designed a spaceship to land on Mars



# Life Boat Game

Name	On board	Off board
– Ahmed		
– Anita		
– Debbie		
– Fergus		
– Chia Chen		
– Anastasia		
– Hiro		
– Keiko		
- Todd		
– Vladimir		

# People to keep on board

Name	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5
– Ahmed					
– Anita					
– Debbie					
– Fergus					
– Chia Chen					
– Anastasia					
– Hiro					
– Keiko					
– Todd					
– Vladimir					

# Identify individuals who are most talkative or least talkative

MT   Next MT   In Middle   Next LT   LT

- #1
- #2
- #3
- #4
- #5

# Life Boat Game

- What is the answer?
- What did we learn from this process?

# Life Boat Game

- Different values
- Opportunity to express views and opinions
- Leadership qualities
- Group consensus
- Decision-making process

# Life Boat Game

## Suggestions

- Elect a moderator, group leader or chairman
- Rules to be established for discussion
- Everyone participates? Or just one or two individuals most of the talking?
- List goals and objectives
- Plan action

# Life Boat Game

## Purpose and Rules

- Better organization and planning
- Less time
- Rules
  - Solicit rules from group
  - Vote on each rule with a simple majority
  - Begin and end on time
  - Elect a chair and a recorder
  - Establish time limit for discussion and decision
  - No side conversations
  - Amendments as needed

# Five Important Attributes

- Character
- Communication Skills
- Vision and Action
- Creativity
- Personality



# Political Advocacy

- Build a political support base.
- Get to know the key persons and give them what they want to hear or see.
- Every decision involves consideration of relevant cost, benefits, and risks.
- Use common sense.
- Be flexible in your attitudes
- It is permissible to make mistakes, but make sure that you learn from whatever ones you do make.

# Political Advocacy (continued)

- Always respect the intelligence of your peers.
- Keep the ship sailing on smooth waters.
- Stand up for what you believe is right and be prepared to defend your position well.
- Put your ideas into a suggestive mode.
- Life is always not fair, like it or not, so make the best of it.

# Leadership Theories

- Crab Theory
- Vacuum Theory
- Me to We
- Assume
- Chopping a tree
- Leader
- I can vs I can't

# Qualities of Leadership

- Education
- Respect
- Patience/Tolerance
- Enthusiasm
- Labor
- Ideas/Imagination
- Action
- Determination
- Self-discipline
- Self-confidence
- Humility
- Zeal

# Characteristics of Leadership

- Credibility
- Integrity
- Diversity

# Frederick C. Schreiber

## NAD Executive Director, 1979

“Whatever happens will only happen if we act, and act intelligently. Nothing can’t be done because you are young. Nothing will be done because one is too old or young. The way to get things done is to see what needs to be done. If it was tried before, see what may have been the reason for failure and try a new approach. But it is true that it is better to try and fail than never to try at all.”