Leadership legacy: lessons of four decades

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Purpose of presentation...

- Tribute to four decades of leaders
- Explore concept of positive “leadership legacy”
- Identify key characteristics of leaders who leave a positive legacy
- Offer a time for truly reflecting on your own leaders...with the help of nature
Positive leadership legacy

- Better lives for those served
- Inspiration and source of support for others
- Enhanced relevance for professions
- Leadership passed on, not “owned”
- Nurturing and launching the next generation of leaders
Launching the next generation....
Legacy leaders…

Reflect on your own leadership as we journey together in this discussion…
Lead in service to and with others

- Compelled by human potential & need
- Inspired by those they serve
  - spiritually
  - developmentally
- Renewed by connection with others
- Not distant from the human condition
In there with the rest of us...
Cultivate compelling vision…

• “See” the possible in the present
  – strengths & aspirations of those involved
  – the deep power of change
• Use vision as source of unity & hope
• Appeal to the best in people
• Undaunted in their pursuit
Based on shared understandings
– Realities
– Possibilities
– Assets

Reflecting commitment, courage and compelling vision

Toward a better future...
Act purposefully

• Think and act strategically
• Plan the work & work the plan
• Count what counts
• Know what is truly necessary
• See compromise as a useful tool
• Look ahead
The power of purpose
Actively collaborate and partner …

• Know value to:
  – Address deep challenges
  – Build understanding and mutual support
  – Conserve scarce resources
  – Have “others” carry the water

• Begins with:
  – “Yes, and…”
  – “How can I help?”
This stuff doesn’t just happen...
Embrace differences..

• Understand difference as richness
  – Ideas & approaches
  – Networks & options

• Cultivate common ground & good
  – Honors differences – shares benefit
  – Encourages more than one option
  – Enlarges the circle of supporters
Contrast helps us see more clearly...
Actively steward the future

• Keep the future in the forefront
• Consistently insert the long view
• Foster deep, inter-generational leadership
• Attend to community wellbeing
Sometimes against all odds…
Genuinely care for and about others...

- See the people in the problems
- Work at staying connected
- Reach out beyond self-interest or convenience
- Act with humanity and compassion
- Understand the deep power of caring
Live integrity and courage…

- Advocate for those most vulnerable
- Use power for good
- Seek and tell truth
- Assume responsibility – apologize for wrongs
- Lead by example
- Take the high road
Even when it means sticking your neck out!
Find ways to reflect and renew…

Through:

• meaningful, supportive relationships
• loving critics and kind mirrors
• personally meaningful spirituality
• positive, holistic health practices
• learning as a way of life
• humor and laughter
• seeking goodness and beauty every day
Not always easy...
But well worth it!
Thank you... for your leadership and caring!