# THE LEADERSHIP CHALLENGE <sup>®</sup> WORKSHOP Pre-Work

### SAMPLE LEADER, 08/11/17

Please bring these pre-work responses with you to the workshop.

- **1.** My Personal Best Leadership Experience
- **2.** Current Leadership Challenge
- **3.** What I Hope to Accomplish

## My Personal Best Leadership Experience

Recall a time when, in your opinion, you did your very best as a leader. Your Personal Best leadership experience might have taken place recently or long ago; while you were the "official" leader or manager of a team or group, or when you emerged as an informal leader; when you were working for pay or as a volunteer. The experience might have taken place in the workplace, when you were part of a community group or professional organization, or when you were a student.

**1.** Set the stage. Provide the context by briefly describing the situation: the organization, the people involved, the nature of the project or undertaking, and the challenges you faced. Also describe how you felt at the beginning of the experience.

Sample response up to 2000 characters.

**2. Describe what happened.** Be specific. What did you do? What actions did you take to address the challenge? To engage others? To keep others motivated, especially when things did not go as planned? What were the results?

Sample response up to 2000 characters.

### **3.** Describe how you felt at the end of the experience that you just described.

Sample response up to 2000 characters.

#### What were the two or three major lessons about leadership that you learned?

#### **LESSON #1**

Sample response up to 2000 characters.

### LESSON #2

Sample response up to 2000 characters.

#### **LESSON #3**

Sample response up to 2000 characters.

**4. Read over what you have written.** Have you used concrete, specific details? Is there anything important missing? Is there anything that is unnecessary? Make whatever revisions are needed so that you will be able to relate your story to your workshop colleagues in five minutes or less.


## **My Current Leadership Challenge**

During *The Leadership Challenge ® Workshop*, you will have opportunities to apply what you are learning to a real, current leadership challenge of your own. The questions below will help you select a challenge to work on. This might be a new challenge or one that has been around for a while.

Think about the challenges that you are currently facing in your team and your organization. Select one that meets the criteria below:

### **IMPORTANT**

The situation is unlikely to change on its own, and the results of doing nothing are unacceptable.

### LINKED TO SPECIFIC GOALS

The challenge must be addressed for you, your team, and/or the organization to achieve specific goals.

### CHALLENGING

You do not currently know how best to improve the situation.

**Describe the challenge.** Be specific. Who is involved? What is the current situation? What are the goals? Why is it important to address this challenge? What, if anything, have you already tried?

Sample response up to 2000 characters.

## What I Hope to Accomplish

Research on leadership development shows conclusively that people who set goals before an educational experience are more likely to make changes as a result of the program than those who don't.

Think about what you hope to accomplish during the workshop.

#### **GOAL #1**

Sample response up to 2000 characters.

### **GOAL #2**

Sample response up to 2000 characters.

#### **GOAL #3**

Sample response up to 2000 characters.

#### **GOAL #4**

Sample response up to 2000 characters.

#### **GOAL #5**

Sample response up to 2000 characters.

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