

Team Building

Elements of Effective Teams

Commitment A team's purpose and values should match that of its parent organization. Team members agree to a shared purpose and values. Members focus on team goals before their personal goals. Team members should have a shared vision of success.

Contribution Team members should share their experience and talents with others. The self-confidence of each team member increases through his/her contributions. Members who are respected and recognized for their contributions are motivated to continue their contributions.

Communication Open, honest, and effective communication is important to a team's success. Team members must show concern for one another, trust one another, and look for positive solutions, not problems. This atmosphere energizes and inspires teams.

Cooperation builds flexibility, responsiveness and efficiency within a team. Team members trust each other to follow through on assignments, share creative ideas, respect individual differences, give team commitments priority, and maintain a positive team spirit.

Connection Collaboration between a team and its parent organization ensures that everyone is focused on the organization's priorities. Connections with like community organizations provide opportunities for collaborative problem solving and the exchange of resources. Peer support manifests itself many ways if team members establish strong connections among themselves.