

THEME

Connectedness

SUB THEMES

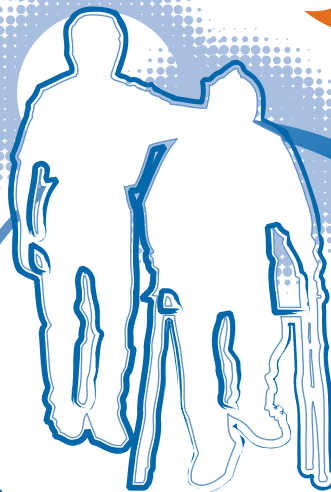
Understanding Others

Overview

The concept of 'passing it on' is one that embraces the spirit of service to others and leadership. Many researchers say leadership is essentially an act of service.

In this activity Participants listen to a story, watch the movie 'Pay It Forward' and discuss how they could implement a 'paying it forward philosophy' in a leadership role and in their daily lives.

Note: 'Pay It Forward' is rated M. Check that this movie rating is appropriate for Participants.



Pay It Forward

Knowledge and skills

Knowledge of others, service to others, developing empathy, relationship building.

Resources

- The DVD/Movie 'Pay It Forward'
- Leader Journal template



Show the Participants the 'Pay It Forward' DVD/movie.

ASK PARTICIPANTS TO MAKE NOTES ON THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS RELATED TO WATCHING THE MOVIE:

- What is the key message of the movie?
- How does 'paying it forward' work?
- What is good about it?
- Why would/wouldn't you want to do this?
- Is it hard to do?



The Facilitator reads the following story:

I had just arrived on a plane from Canada at LA International Airport. It was 11.00pm. The airport was swarming with people. I was a Kiwi woman alone amongst the crowd. I had lots of bags, having been away from home for some time, and needed to find a luggage trolley.

I made my way over to the line of silver luggage trolleys. Grabbing one, I pulled back but nothing happened. I pulled again. The trolleys seemed to be stuck. It was late, I was tired, I had so much luggage – three bags – too heavy to carry without a trolley.

Then I saw the sign. Two American dollars for a trolley. I only had Canadian and New Zealand money – no American money. I needed a trolley. People swarmed around me. I felt lost, out of my comfort zone, unsure what to do.

Then she appeared. From nowhere really, holding out her hand with a \$2 coin in her fingers. "Here," she said. "You need \$2 to get a trolley." I was taken aback. "I can't take that," I said. "I can't pay you back." "Ah, it's not about paying me back," the elderly woman said. "It's about giving it to the next person – paying it forward."

I took the coin. I thanked her, she smiled and was gone. That was 10 years ago. I have remembered it and paid it forward so many times since the lesson I learnt from the woman in the airport who paid it forward to me that night.



LEADER JOURNAL

2» DISCOVER

NAME _____

Pay It Forward

1. What is the key message of the movie?



2. How does 'paying it forward' work?

4. Why would/wouldn't you want to do this?

3. What is good about it?

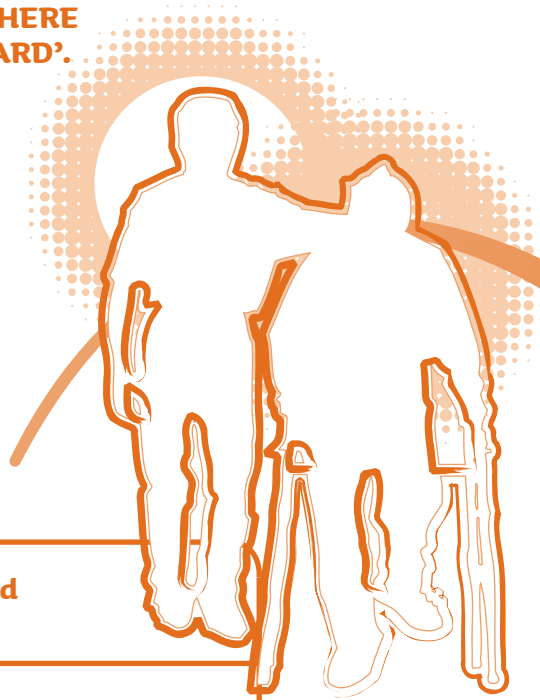
5. Is it hard to do?



THINK OF A SITUATION WHERE YOU COULD 'PAY IT FORWARD'.

Perhaps:

- With your friends
- In a school situation
- Through sport
- With strangers
- At home
- With your family or whānau.



6. In what situations could you 'pay it forward'?

8. What could you give without expecting anything in return?

7. Have you ever given something without expecting anything in return?

