# **Generations in the Workplace – Leveraging Age Diversity**

Maximizing the contributions of five generations of employees in today's workplace

### **How You Will Benefit**

Age is a number, not a credential. Unfortunately, outdated stereotypes still influence perceptions of age in the workplace. Statements such as "he's too old to learn a new computer program" or "she's too young to lead a team" diminish the value and qualifications of the people involved. An employee's knowledge and experience increase with age. And a young person with strong skills and talent should not be held back because of his or her age.

Research clearly demonstrates that age diversity can improve organizational performance, and HR practices that improve the age diversity climate within an organization have the potential to further improve performance and lower employee turnover. Studies also find that the productivity of both older and younger workers is higher in companies with mixed-age work teams. And age diversity within teams is positively related to performance when groups are involved in complex decision-making tasks

# **Benefits of Leveraging Age Diversity**

A work place with an understanding of age diversity will demonstrate:

- Reduced tensions
- Improved collaboration
- Greater bottom-line results
- Increased team participation and quality
- Strengthened relationships and encourage internal motivation in others

#### **Course Objectives**

At the completion of this module participants will increase their ability to:

- Describe the negative consequences of age stereotypes.
- Avoid projecting age stereotypes on others
- Describe common workplace needs across age groups
- Treat others as individuals, regardless of their age
- Leverage the talents and experience of others, regardless of their age

# **Key Topics Covered**

This course explores the following subjects in depth:

- Introduction to stereotypes
- Negative consequences of stereotyping
- Exploring the universal needs, we all share
- The practices for leveraging age stereotypes
- Self-assessment for leveraging age diversity
- Putting the practices in action
- Action planning for leveraging age diversity

### What the Course Offers

- Experiential learning setting
- Opportunity to learn from others while applying the concepts in a risk-free environment
- Complete set of materials including participant guide, classroom videos and learning summary cards
- Post training activities

# **Resolving Conflicts Within Your Team** Use conflict for the good of the team

### **How You Will Benefit**

Conflict resolution allows for constructive change to occur. If problems and disagreements are ignored rather than being handled constructively, things can only go one of two ways; either things stay the same, or they get worse. But, when people discuss their differences and work through them together, the stage is set for positive change to occur. Although it might be easier in the short term to leave things as they are, this struggle helps everyone involved in the conflict to work through the problem while developing stronger relationships.

Learning effective Conflict Resolution requires a lot of time and commitment. One of the ways to further engage your leaders in the conflict resolution process is to help them understand why conflict resolution is beneficial in the first place. If leaders can't see the need to effectively resolve conflicts they will not engage in the process, and your efforts to develop these skills in your organization will be unsuccessful.

Conflict resolution can also lead to new insights. If everyone agreed all the time, there would be no reason to consider different perspectives or look for new ways to handle situations. But when people share their own unique opinions and ideas, they offer others an opportunity to look at situations in different ways. This enables everyone to consider other perspectives and practice being open minded and flexible.

# **Benefits of Supervisory Success**

A work environment that actively resolves conflicts within teams:

- Builds relationships
- Enhances team commitment
- Increases problem solving skills
- Leads to solutions
- Increases efficiency and productivity

# **Course Objectives**

At the completion of this module participants will increase their ability to:

- Identify behaviors that can fragment a team and negatively impact productivity
- Resolve conflict within a team
- Successfully manage unproductive reactions when dealing with team issues
- Determine when leader-led or teammember-led resolutions are most appropriate
- Support team members in addressing conflict themselves

# **Key Topics Covered**

This course explores the following subjects in depth:

- Team dynamics that negatively impact performance
- Key Actions for addressing and resolving conflict within your team
- Planning and practicing how to handle team conflicts
- Handling unproductive reactions
- Options for resolving conflict
- Supporting team member led resolutions
- Action planning for the future

# What the Course Offers

- Experiential learning setting
- Opportunity to learn from others while applying the concepts in a risk-free environment
- Complete set of materials including participant guide, classroom videos and learning summary cards

