



# Back to Basics: Putting the Human back in HR

Back to Basics....
Putting the "Human"
Back in Human
Resources

### Objectives

- Explore the history & changing scope of Human Resources
- Why focus on the Human Connection
- Success Factors for Human Connection
- Roadmap for Creating the Human Connection
  - □30/60/90 day Assessment and Action Plan
- ☐ Some HR "Hacks" and useful tips along the way!

### History and Changing Scope of HR

Just What Does a

Human

Resources

Professional do,

anyway?





### human resources professional

/'hjumən 'risərsız prə fefənəl/ noun

An unofficial psychologist and multitasking detective who also acts as an event planner in their spare time while resolving conflicts and keeping the peace. A pivoting, unaccredited lawyer with insane record keeping skills.

see also: shoulder to cry on, investigative ninja.

### Poll

How many have been in HR for more than more than 5 years? 10 years? 15 years? 20 years?

How many of you have experienced increased responsibilities or have taken on a new role in the last 5 years?

# History and Changing scope of HR A rose by any other name...

Personnel

**Human Resources** 

**HR Business Partner** 



**Human Resources** 





### Poll

How many of you have experienced burnout in your career? in the last 5 years?

# HR Statistics on Burnout

- 98% 84% of HR Professionals are experiencing burnout (Forbes, Apr 2022; Sage, 2024)
- 95% of HR leaders find working in HR to be overwhelming due to excessive workload and stress.
- A staggering 84% of HR leaders frequently experience stress, (Sage, 2024).
- 48% looking for a new role; of those 78% sited burnout in their current role as a factor.

**Co-worker:** Are you okay? You seem a bit stressed.

Me: I don't want to talk about it.

\*Me 2 minutes later\*





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# Success Factors for Human Connection



### **BE POSITIVE**



"WE NEED TO DISCOVER THE ROOT CAUSES OF SUCCESS RATHER THAN THE ROOT CAUSES OF FAILURE. WE LIVE IN THE WORLD OUR QUESTIONS CREATE." ~ DAVID COOPERRIDER

#### **BE POSITIVE:**

The Assumptions of Appreciative Inquiry

- 1. IN EVERY SOCIETY, ORGANIZATION OR GROUP, SOMETHING WORKS
- 2. WHAT WE FOCUS ON BECOMES OUR REALITY
- 3. REALITY IS CREATED IN THE MOMENT. THERE ARE MULTIPLE REALITIES

4. THE VERY ACT OF ASKING QUESTIONS INFLUENCES THE GROUP

#### **BE POSITIVE:**

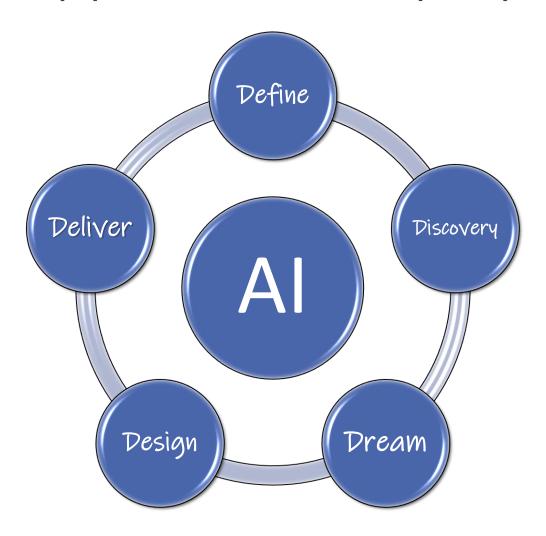
### The Assumptions of Appreciative Inquiry

- 5. PEOPLE HAVE MORE CONFIDENCE TO JOURNEY TO THE FUTURE WHEN THEY CAN CARRY PARTS OF THE PAST
- 6. IF WE CARRY PARTS OF THE PAST FORWARD, IT SHOULD BE BEST OF THE PAST
- 7. IT'S IMPORTANT TO VALUE DIFFERENCES

8. THE LANGUAGE WE USE CREATES OUR REALITY

"THE THIN BOOK OF APPRECIATIVE INQUIRY" BY SUE ANNIS HAMMOND AUGUST, 2013

### BE POSITIVE: Appreciative Inquiry



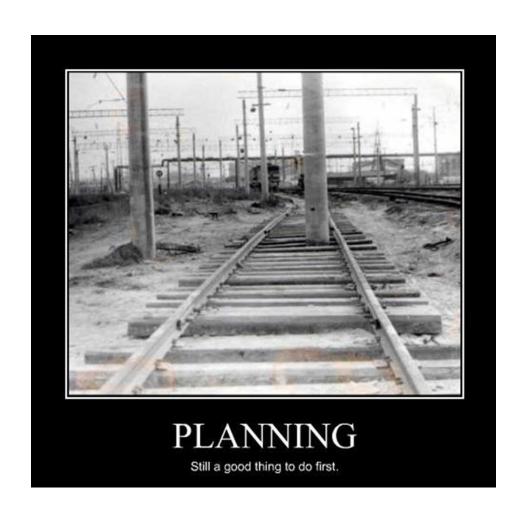
### **BE PRESENT:** What Does it Mean?

- Practicing Active Listening
- Practicing Empathy
- Making "Quality" Time
  - With yourself, as well as others
- Communicating with Respect

### BE PROACTIVE: Create a Plan

### 30-60-90 days

- Sets a tone with your team and internal customers
- You can quantify your accomplishments more easily
- Keeps you focused and prevents you from becoming overwhelmed

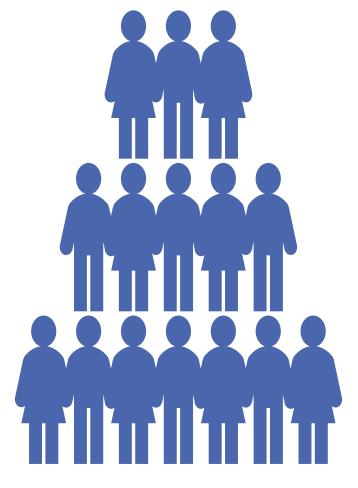


# BE PROACTIVE: A Roadmap for Creating Connection

#### **People First - BUILD RELATIONSHIPS!**

#### STUDY THE ORG CHART

- What is the structure?
- Functional areas?
- How long have people been in their positions?
- What seem to be the "crucial" positions?
- Key Stakeholders? Some may not be on Org Chart (e.g., Union)



### Day 1-30

#### **MEET THE PLAYERS**

Schedule one-on-one meetings with the key players.

- ✓ LISTEN AND LEARN about their roles and responsibilities Don't assume from job title.
- ✓ Ask positive and open-ended questions
  - use principles of *Appreciative Inquiry*.

### Day 1-30

#### **GET OUT OF YOUR CHAIR...**

#### ..... (AND INTO THE BUSINESS!)

- Visit the work
- Go to meetings
- How does your business make money?
- Who are your competitors? (Market, Employees)
- Check out the systems
  - HRIS? Excel? Payroll? Accounting? Security?
  - Note redundancies and opportunities for improvement
  - Important company cycles and deadlines?



ASK QUESTIONS. DON'T JUDGE...... BE A SPONGE.

### Day 31-60

#### **EXPLORE THE CULTURE:**

- What are the organizations values?
- Is what is communicated what is practiced?
- Do behaviors differ between teams, departments or functional units?

#### DON'T:

- Tell them what needs to be fixed
- Assign blame
- "Well, this is how we did it at Know-It All Co"

### Day 31-60

#### **CREATE A FEEDBACK SCHEDULE**

- Communication with your Manager is important
- Create ongoing communication schedule with key players

#### START IDENTIFYING OPPORTUNITIES

- Policies
- Practices
- Roles
- Training
- Systems



### Day 61-90

#### PRIORITIZE ISSUES

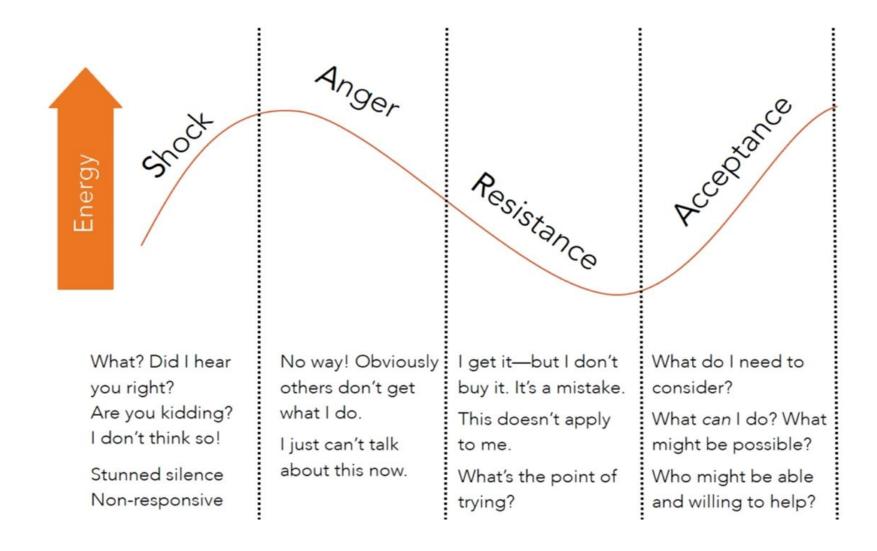
- Legal
- Financial
- Productivity based

#### **IDENTIFY COLLABORATORS**

#### IDENTIFY DEPENDENCIES AND ROADBLOCKS

- Financial
- Cross Functional
- Skill Based
- Political
- Emotional
- Proximity

### SARA - Process CYCLE



## How would you characterize your most recent onboarding experience?







### ONBOARDING

Strong onboarding processes increase improve productivity by 50%.

88% of employees believe that their company doesn't do onboarding well

58% of organizations onboarding programs primarily involve processes and paperwork.

Employees who attend a structured orientation program are 58% more likely to remain at the company for at least three years.



### QUESTIONS?