Managing Personalities and Conflict

Participant's Workbook





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Key Areas: 3 (Administration) & 4 (Communication and Marketing)

USDA Professional Standards Codes:

3400 (Human Resources and Staff Training) 4100 (Communications and Marketing)

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Participant's Information

Goal

The goal of this course is to help school nutrition staff identify, address, and better manage the various personalities and areas of conflict that exist in the workplace.

Course Description

This is a four-hour course designed to help participants identify the many factors that may influence how people interact and respond to conflict. Self-reflection is a critical component of this training that aims to help participants identify characteristics of their own personalities and attitudes, in addition to any existing biases and stereotypes. Finally, participants will engage in identifying non-productive behaviors and in building skills that will help promote successful conflict resolution.

Intended Audience

Child nutrition professionals who are in or are pursuing management positions

Workbook Format

Along with a thumbnail of each slide, one or more of the following categories are included:

- **Key Message –** The most important information from the slide(s)
- Lesson Resources Supplemental materials that may be helpful
- **Materials –** Resources, handouts, worksheets, etc. required for the activity
- **Notes** A place to write important facts and information

USDA Professional Standards

Human Resources and Staff Training - 3400

Employees will be able to implement human resources management practices through maintenance and familiarity with current personnel policies and procedures and support employees through training and retention strategies.

3410 – Understand and apply human resource management practices.

Communications and Marketing - 4100

Employees will be able to develop plans that include involvement with school and community members, empower school nutrition leaders, and address excelled customer service.

4140 – Develop communication skills.

Key Areas

- 3 Administration
 - Human Relations
 - Interpersonal Skills
- 4 Communications and Marketing
 - Communication

Source:

Competencies, Knowledge, and Skills for District-Level School Nutrition Professionals in the 21st Century available on the ICN website: <u>theicn.org/icn-resources-a-z/CKS-district-school-professionals</u>

Course Objectives

- Compare and contrast patterns of characteristics for the five most recent generations.
- Describe at least three ways to increase the performance or collaboration of different generations in specific topic areas.
- Identify the role personalities, biases, and stereotypes play in conflict.
- Explain the difference between implicit and explicit bias.
- Identify at least two causes of conflict in the workplace.
- Describe at least three non-productive behaviors and related effective management techniques.
- Explain the role attitude plays in effective conflict management.
- List the steps to achieve win-win results in conflict management.

Course Outline

Duration	Lesson	Activities
25 minutes	Introduction	Welcome and Introductions
		Pre-Assessment
		Shapes Ice Breaker
		Overview
65 minutes	Lesson 1: Generations	Let's Compare the Generations
		Which Generation Am I?
		 Increasing Generational Productivity
70 minutes	Lesson 2: Personalities,	Shape Assessment
	Stereotypes, & Biases	Shape Assessment Reflection
		Where's the Bias?
		Bias and Stereotype Reflection
		Ways to Counter Unconscious Bias as
		an Individual
70 minutes	Lesson 3:	• The Big 7
	Non-Productive Behaviors &	Role Play Scenarios
	Conflict	Reality Practice
		Responding to Conflict
10 minutes	Conclusion	• Wrap-up
		Post-Assessment
		Course Evaluation
		Certificates
4 hours	Total Course Duration	

Introduction



<u>Key Message</u>

Ground rules are a list of behavior expectations for team or group members while participating in a meeting or training.



<u>Key Message</u>

This course is designed to help participants identify the many factors that may influence how people interact and respond to conflict. Self-reflection is a critical component of this training that aims to help participants identify characteristics of their personalities and attitudes, in addition to any existing biases and stereotypes.



<u>Key Message</u>

The objectives are the specific actions that participants should be able to perform at the end of the training.



Key Message

ICN does not grade the assessments; rather, they compare the results between preand post-assessments to evaluate the effectiveness of the training.



<u>Key Message</u>

There are no right or wrong answers for this activity.

<u>Notes</u>

<u>Notes</u>

Lesson 1: Generations



Key Message

Each generation brings with it different preferences for communication, ideals, values, and beliefs, all of which can lead to conflict.



<u>Key Message</u>

Understanding each generation is valuable to a leader because the outlooks, attitudes, and goals vary greatly depending on the generation.

Let's Compare t	he Generations
• Outlooks, attitudes, ar • Generations	nd goals
–Traditionals –Baby Boomers –Gen Xers	–Millenials –Gen Z –Gen Alpha
O ch	

Key Message

Each generation brings with it different preferences for communication, ideals, values, and beliefs, all of which can lead to conflict. Leaders need to be aware of each generation's characteristic patterns because this is the largest range of working generations.

<u>Notes</u>

Lesson 1: Generations

Let's Compare the Generations

	TRADITIONALS	BABY BOOMERS	GEN XERS	MILLENNIALS	GEN Z
BIRTH YEARS	1930–1945	1946–1964	1965–1976	1977–1995	1995–2012
Nicknames	VeteransForgotten GenerationSilent Generation	BoomersMe GenerationMoral Authority	Post Boomers	MillennialsGeneration NextEcho Boomers	CentennialsGeneration 9/11
INFLUENCERS	Great DepressionWorld War IIKorean War	 Civil Rights Vietnam War Space travel Cold War "American Dream" 	 Energy Crisis End of Cold War Watergate Latchkey kids and day care 	 Terrorist attacks AIDS epidemic Economic expansion Children of divorce Kids with schedules 	 War on terror Great Recession School shootings Cyberbullying Shifting gender roles
Technology	 Trying to adapt 	 Acquired as developed 	 Grew up without it, now integrated into daily lives 	Extremely tech-savvy	 True digital natives; grew up with the internet
Work Ethic	 Dedicated and loyal Value hard work Work comes first Honor Good attitudes and attendance 	Question everythingLoyalEnjoy teamwork	 Self-reliant Desire structure and direction Work smarter not harder Project-oriented 	 Sense of entitlement Loyal to peers Value collaboration Highly creative Great multitaskers 	 Master at multitasking Tolerant Strong collaboration skills Share everything
Promotions	 Age and seniority 	Experience	Education and merit	Achievements	Knowledge
View of Authority	 Age and seniority 	• Time on the job	 Resent being micromanaged Not intimidated by titles or authority 	Value mentorsHigh expectations of bosses	Need guidance

Participant's Workbook Lesson 1: Generations

	TRADITIONALS	BABY BOOMERS	GEN XERS	MILLENNIALS	GEN Z
Work/Life Balance	 Duty before fun Get the job done	 Big imbalance – workaholics who invented the 50-hr work week 	Clear balanceNo attachment to job or employer	 Flexibility Long term on own negotiated terms 	 Balance Want time to volunteer and give back
Challenges	 Do not respond well to ambiguity Do not adapt well to change Avoid conflict 	 Expect everyone to be workaholics Judgmental Do not like change or conflict 	 Dislike rigid requirements Reject rules Cynical and skeptical Lack people skills 	 Respond poorly to authoritarians Lack skills for dealing with difficult people Want meaningful projects 	 Need flexibility Tight connection with parents Entrepreneurial
Work Characteristics	 Rule followers Strong sense of right and wrong 	 Value ambition and teamwork Want to make a difference and have a chance to shine 	Flexibility and challengesGood task managersAdapt well to change	 Achievement and goal-oriented Highly competitive Want to be challenged and to work with positive, fun people 	 Leverage technology for any task Challenge status quo More global mindset Value diversity Want to contribute
Communication	PersonalOne-on-one	DirectOpenIn-person	ImmediateElectronicBe blunt/direct	 Polite Motivational Tech-based Be positive 	 Frequent via text or social media
Feedback	 Will listen Believe "no news is good news" 	 Provide it with documentation Helps them feel in control	Will ask for itDesire for it to be ongoing	 Crave positive reinforcement Need positive feedback as part of everyday life 	Will ask for it constantlyImmediate

Participant's Workbook

Lesson 1: Generations

	TRADITIONALS	BABY BOOMERS	GEN XERS	MILLENNIALS	GEN Z
Rewards	 A job well done equals job satisfaction Individual and private Acknowledge you respect their experience 	Public attentionPublic recognition	 No public recognition Want freedom/independence and time off 	 Public recognition Value when their mentors/leaders receive recognition 	• Flexibility
Leadership Style	Chain-of-command	Consensus or collegial	CompetentQuestioningEqual treatment	 Still being determined but likely based on recognition and achievement 	 Not enough experience – will have to wait and see
Other	 Want to know their experience is valued Encourage them to share experiences and expertise 	 Anti-war and anti-government Let them know their ideas matter, and their work is valued. 	 Merit = entitlement Want the latest technology and to have fun 	 Most educated generation Strong attachment to parents 	 Short attention spans Expect instant answers Struggle to evaluate critically

Adapted from www.purdueglobal.edu

Traditionals

1930 to 1945

Great Depression, World War II, and the Korean War

Trying to adapt to technology

Most dedicated and loyal employees Value hard work and believe work comes first

Work from 8–5; get the job done; maintain job security Value family but duty before fun

More About Traditionals

Honor, good attitudes, attendance, loyalty

Rule followers – clearly defined rules and policies Strong sense of right/wrong – do not respond well to ambiguity

> "always been done" – do not adapt well to change Avoid conflict

> > Personal, one-on-one communication

Will listen to any feedback Job satisfaction = job well done

Baby Boomers

1946 to 1964

Civil Rights, Vietnam War, space travel, Cold War "American Dream"

Acquired technology as developed

Anti-war and anti-government Value equal opportunities and equal rights

More About Baby Boomers Question everything – skeptical of authority Workaholics – invented the 50-hour workweek Huge work/life imbalance Clear, concise job expectations Direct Communication – open and in-person Expect everyone to be workaholics Judgmental when someone disagrees with them

Do not like change or conflict. Let them know their ideas matter and that their work is valued.

Gen Xers

1965 to 1976

Energy Crisis, end of the Cold War, Watergate

Latchkey kids and day cares independent and take care of themselves

Grew up without technology – now integrated into daily lives Education was expected = way to succeed Merit = entitlement

Work smarter, not harder – eliminate unnecessary tasks Project oriented – paid to get the job done

More about Gen Xers Clear work/life balance Move easily between jobs Flexibility and challenge Adapt well to change – good task managers Want feedback – resent intrusive supervision Not intimidated by authority Dislike rigid requirements and reject rules Cynical and skeptical Lack people skills Immediate and electronic communication Be blunt/direct

Millennials

1977 to 1995

Terrorist attacks, AIDS epidemic, economic expansion Children of divorce – sheltered – strong attachment to parents

> Kids with schedules Most educated – extremely tech savvy

Sense of entitlement Very political and loyal to peers

Value collaboration and mentors High expectations of bosses and managers

More About Millennials Highly creative – fast workers and great multitaskers Flexibility from technology Want to be challenged and work with positive, fun people Respond poorly to strict hierarchy/authoritarian leaders Dislike menial tasks Need supervision, structure, and discipline Expect to be treated with respect Feel devalued if projects lack meaning Polite, motivational, tech-based communication Be humorous and positive

Give feedback often; will ask for it

Gen Z
1995 to 2012
War on terror, Great Recession, school shootings, cyberbullying, shifting gender roles
True digital natives - Grew up with the internet Masters at multitasking - Leverage technology for any task
Shorter attention spans Short, concise chunks of information Expect instant answers
Learn anything, anywhere, anytime Quick to take first answer – struggle to critically evaluate

More about Gen Z
Frequent communication via text or social media
Equality, challenge the status quo, more global mindset More tolerant and value diversity
Strong collaboration skills - Share everything
Stable work/life balance – time to volunteer and give back Tight connection with parents
Constant, immediate feedback Want to contribute knowledge and opinions



Key Message

These are only patterns of behaviors and are not intended to stereotype anyone. Being aware of the generational characteristics of our staff gives us a better idea of how they may interact with their coworkers and with us as their supervisor. There are members of every generation who do not fit their generational patterns.

Which Generation Am I?

Directions: Read each question or statement and circle the choice that best matches your beliefs or personality. Circle one response in each row. Next, tally the number of answers in each column, and multiply by the point value of the column. Write the answer in the sub-total row. Then, add the sub-totals for the grand total. Find your score in one of the ranges to see which generation you are most like.

	1	2	3	4
If you have to ask someone a question, how do you prefer to communicate?	Face-to-face	Email	Phone calls	Texts
Which type of reward motivates you the most?	A job well done	Title and recognition	Money	Vacation
What is most important to you?	Your experience is respected	Being valued	Let me do it my way	Working with other bright and creative people
Which type of leader are you?	Top-down	Chain-of- command	Self-command	Collaborative
Which best describes your role in a team?	Individual	Team player	Take charge	Participative
As a teenager, you…	Respected your parents	Rebelled and challenged authority	Believed friends were more important than family	Counted on your parents for advice and guidance
How often do you want feedback?	Feedback is not necessary	During a performance review	Just enough to let me know I am on the right track	All the time
Your loyalty is toward	The organization	The importance and meaning of work	Your individual goals	People or projects
How often do you use a computer for personal use?	Seldom	Just at work is enough for me	Everyday	Cannot live without it
How do you feel about work and money?	Work hard to be financially secure, and do not waste your money	Work should be meaningful, and money should be spent on something you love	Work should be short so that you can get on to your true interests. Money is not all that important	Work should be as fun as possible. Life is too short, so enjoy your money
Count the number of answers in each column				
Multiply by the column number	x 1 =	X 2 =	X 3 =	X 4 =
Add the answers from the previous row for the total score		=		

<u>Score 10 – 25</u> Traditionals	You are a person of high values and character. Family, your country, loyalty, and hard work are all important to you. You are willing to do the right thing, even when it is difficult.
<u>Score 26 – 30</u> Baby Boomer	You are optimistic and rebellious. You believe that you will change the world. You detest authority and rules; however, you are a service-oriented, team player.
<u>Score 31 – 35</u> Gen X	You are fun, laid back, and very independent. You are willing to take risks and live your life however you see fit. In addition, you are casual, accepting, and friendly, which makes you see everyone as equal.
<u>Score 36 – 40</u> Millennial	You are cooperative, flexible, tech-savvy, and adaptable. You know the world changes quickly, and you are eager to change with it. You are socially responsible, forward-thinking, and open-minded.

Which generation am I? ______.



<u>Key Message</u>

Knowing information about each generation may help leaders to interact with their employees more appropriately or effectively.



Key Message

One way to help increase the performance of different generations is to identify the similarities that exist in three key areas: achievement, equity and ethics, and camaraderie.

Increasing Generational Productivity

Directions: Discuss and write an example of key traits to remember that may help increase productivity for each generation.

	TRADITIONALS	BABY BOOMERS	GEN XERS	MILLENNIALS
Communication Skills				
Work/Life Balance				
Work Ethic				
USE OF TECHNOLOGY				
Peer Mentoring				

Adapted from www.cengage.com/resource_uploads/0538730463_89590.com

Lesson 2: Personalities, Stereotypes, & Biases



<u>Key Message</u>

When a problem or conflict arises, a leader should be able to separate the person from the behavior or attitude issue.



<u>Key Message</u>

An individual's personality includes the social and emotional qualities a person develops that make them different from others. These qualities may be based on their values, attitudes, memories, relationships, habits, and skills.



Key Message

There are many personality differences in our workplaces, and it is important to understand those differences so we can work together better.

<u>Notes</u>



TRIANGLE: Results People

Characteristics

- Bottom line mentality; focused on goals
- Driven to succeed; motivated by results
- Take charge and move fast
- · Big picture don't need all the research or details
- Need to know WHY
- Confident
- Competitive
- Outspoken love to debate and argue
- No nonsense
- Decisive; cuts to the chase; move on
- Impatient
- · Likes recognition may put stock in status symbols

Meeting behaviors

- · Hates meetings
- Get to the bottom line and move on

Motto: "So what's your point?"

Suggestions for Change

- Attend to necessary details, even if you delegate them
- · Develop more interest in the opinions of others
- Give people more room to come on board
- · Learn to have more fun just for the sake of it
- · Be aware of your impact on others

To Work Best With This Shape

- Present the goal and the big picture
- Explain the WHY
- Provide milestones and targets
- Be concise
- · Provide support for the details

CIRCLE: People People

Characteristics

- Most empathetic for and perceptive of others
- Fun-loving; laugh often
- Listen and communicate well
- Easily swayed by opinions of others
- Caregivers/helpers
- · Like people, committees, teams
- Peacemakers avoid conflict of making unpopular decisions
- Good sports
- Over commits
- Too nice can't say no
- · Better at caring for others than themselves
- Don't particularly like oversight

Meeting behaviors

- Social
- Create harmony
- Love the food

Motto: "I'll do it-somebody has to!"

Suggestions for Change

- Learn how to say NO and mean it
- Worry less about what other people do and think
- Hold others accountable
- · Learn how to make unpopular decisions when necessary

To Work Best With This Shape

- Be flexible
- · Be willing to talk about whatever is at hand
- Provide a harmonious environment
- Provide opportunities for you to add your perspective

SQUIGGLE: Idea People Characteristics

- Often visionaries lots of ideas
- Creative
- Lots of energy and enthusiasm
- · Like to try new and different things
- Can appear as scattered because their mind moves so fast
- Difficulty with completion; start a task and move on to the next great idea
- · Can be challenging to work with
- Try to be more organized but tend to lose their lists
- Easily bored
- Flexible spontaneous
- Make cognitive leaps hard to follow
- Prefer less structured environments

Meeting behavior

• Already thinking of the next step

Motto: "I just got this great idea!"

Suggestions for Change

- · Slow down and pay attention to the details
- Focus on the task at hand
- Think before you speak and act
- Pay attention to your impact on others and their points-of-view

To Work Best With This Shape

- Present new and different things to do
- · Be flexible and avoid preconceived ideas
- Provide an unstructured environment
- Offer multiple choices
- Provide help with follow through

Adapted from http://listening2leaders.com/shape-quiz-learn-colleagues/



Shape Assessment Reflection

Directions:

- 1) Consider the shape you chose for your personality.
- 2) Write down suggestions you might use when working with the other shapes.

Shapes	How TO BEST WORK WITH THIS SHAPE



Key Message

Both biases and stereotypes affect workplace relationships.



Key Message

We unconsciously categorize people all the time based on social, behavioral, or a myriad of other characteristics.


Stereotypes often develop over the lifetime of a person due to experiences, skewed information, or another person's perception.



Key Message

Bias is a prejudice in favor or against one thing, person, or group, usually in a way considered unfair.



<u>Key Message</u>

Explicit bias refers to the attitudes and beliefs we knowingly have about a person or group.

Where's the Bias?



Implicit Bias	<u>Activity</u> Bias and Stereotype Reflection
 Also known as unconscious bias Unaware of or unclear of their origins but can negatively affect you or others Be mindful 	 Bias and Stereotype Reflection worksheet 1. Consider the diversity of your team 2. Three questions: Peflect Answer
	conscious Bias cious Bias as an

<u>Key Message</u>

Implicit biases are those we are unaware of or unclear of their origins but can negatively affect you or others.

<u>Notes</u>

Bias and Stereotype Reflection

Directions: Reflect and then respond to each of the following questions.

1. Where is there a possibility for me to have a bias and/or stereotype?

2. Why am I holding onto that bias and/or stereotype?

3. Thinking back, have I made decisions based on the bias and/or stereotype?

Ways to Counter Unconscious Bias as an Individual

1. PAY ATTENTION TO LANGUAGE

Be mindful of what you say and how you say it.

2. QUESTION YOUR THINKING AND CHALLENGE YOUR ASSUMPTIONS

Flip the script. Would you draw the same conclusions if this scenario involved someone of a different gender or race?

3. MAKE FRIENDS

Proximity shatters stereotypes. Seek diversity in your friendships and interactions. Volunteer at an organization working with people not in your circle.

4. SPEAK OUT

Hold yourself and others accountable when unconscious bias surfaces.

5. DON'T BE DEFENSIVE

Just listen. The use of the words: discrimination, oppression, racism, heterosexism, male privilege, etc. are not personal criticisms.

6. AVOID GENERALIZATIONS

Catch yourself when you use them and ask yourself if the statement is true.

7. USE VISUALIZATION

Imagine positive images of a group you tend to be biased about.

8. LISTEN TO SOMEONE ELSE'S STORY Exercise empathy.

9. RAISE YOUR CHILDREN TO EMBRACE DIVERSITY AND EQUALITY We can create a better world.

Adapted from www.toryburchfoundation.org

Lesson 3: Non-Productive Behaviors and Conflict



<u>Key Message</u>

Conflicts can arise from diversity in our workplace, biases, stereotypes, attitudes, or behavior issues of staff.



Key Message

As a leader, it can be very stressful managing these differences, so it is important to be aware of how they can cause conflict.



<u>Key Message</u>

Every organization has some individuals who negatively affect the progress of the team.



Key Message

Do not define a staff member or co-worker by their behavior. We only want to identify non-productive behaviors so that we can address them more effectively.

<u>The Big 7</u>

<u>The Big 7</u>		<u>The Big 7</u>		
Arguers		Aggressors		
Definition/Explanation Opportunity to disagree Questioning becomes annoying and disruptive	Tips and Strategies • Paraphrase position • Lower voice volume • Keep your cool • Change the focus	Definition/Explanation • Going after ideas – critical /vicious manner • Blaming others • Showing hostility/anger • Putting down ideas	Tips and Strategies • Keep your cool • Don't respond with anger • Be assertive and optimistic	



<u>The Big 7</u>		<u>The Big 8</u>		
Talkers		Egotists		
Definition/Explanation • Loves to hear own voice • Monopolizes the conversation	 Tips and Strategies Assign the role of scribe in a meeting Let them know that you're interested in the conversation but you must keep to your work schedule. 	Highly asse outspoken	/Explanation ertive and olling and self-	 Tips and Strategies Ask questions Restate the reason for the directive Invite them to participate in a further discussion at a later date





Role Play Scenario #1

<u>Background</u>: This exchange occurs first thing on a Monday morning, in the kitchen. Jackie, the cafeteria manager, was recently promoted from within.

Line Worker #1: Marie is a longtime employee who is friends with Dawn. Both form a clique among the staff. They dislike Lori and, in the past, have spread rumors about her to the other staff members.

Line Worker #2: Dawn is a longtime employee and friends with Marie. They believe Dawn should have been promoted to manager instead of Jackie.

Line Worker #3: Lori is a transfer line worker who is usually mistreated by Marie and Dawn.

Marie: Good morning, Dawn! I hope you had a nice weekend.

Dawn: It was restful. I am still upset about Jackie getting promoted instead of me.

Marie: I don't know why Jackie was given the position since she doesn't have the number of years of experience you have.

Dawn: I think Lori had started rumors about me. I bet she even told the director I am unreliable and unable to get along with others, saying I argue a lot.

Marie: Ok, I am going to approach Lori and set her straight. We will take care of her so she will stop telling lies.

Marie: Lori, I heard you said bad things about Dawn.

Lori: I didn't say anything! I don't know why you and Dawn always say untrue things. I am tired of you telling lies about me. I have not spoken to anyone regarding Dawn. I'm going to the manager Jackie to lodge a complaint concerning both you and Dawn.

Discussion Questions

1. What is the source of this conflict?

2. If Lori goes to Jackie with the complaint against Marie and Dawn, how should Jackie proceed? Explain.

3. What strategies should be used to resolve this conflict?

Role Play Scenario #2

<u>Background</u>: Other workers have witnessed Liz bullying and mistreating her coworkers. Toni is the cafeteria manager.

Liz: She is a cafeteria worker with a very strong personality. She has bullied and mistreated many of her co-workers.

Susan: She is a relatively new employee who has been mistreated by Liz.

Liz: Listen here, Susan! You are working in my area of the kitchen, and I want you to move now!

Susan: Liz, there are no designated work areas within the kitchen. I was here first cutting up vegetables for today's chef salads. I am not moving. If you threaten me, I am going to report you to Toni.

Liz: Go ahead and tell Toni. I don't care. Toni will do whatever I say since I am her favorite.

Susan then goes to the walk-in refrigerator to get more lettuce. While Susan walks away, Liz pushes Susan with her four-wheel cart.

Liz: I told you to move out of my work area, and you refused.

Susan: Stop pushing me, Liz. You have no right to get physical with me. I am going to Toni with this.

Susan immediately pushes Liz back. Other coworkers see these two fighting in the *kitchen*.

Discussion Questions

1. When Toni is told about Liz and Susan arguing/fighting in the kitchen, how should Toni proceed?

2. Should the same disciplinary action be given equally to both Susan and Liz? Why or why not?

3. How do you believe this incident affected the other coworkers?



<u>Key Message</u>

All of us need to respond effectively to difficult situations and help diffuse or mediate conflict, which only serves to prevent or sidetrack the team from achieving their common goals. Everyone responds to conflict differently and uses a variety of resolution techniques or strategies.



Key Message

If conflict is unavoidable, work to resolve it. Do not ignore the conflict.

Other Causes of Conflict	More Causes of Conflict
Miscommunication	Lack of cooperation
Personality clashes	Differences over method or style
Competition for resources	Low performance
• Authority issues	Value or goal differences
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There is a variety of causes of conflict.



Key Message

Although conflict typically is viewed as being negative, there is both positive and negative aspects.

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Reality Practice

Directions: Read each scenario and then list at least two effective responses for the situations. You may reference The Big 7 slides or any other resources used throughout the training.

<u>Scenario #1</u>

Sandra is an experienced manager who has been in her position for 24 years. She has been known to be disrespectful and sarcastic to both her supervisor and her district director. During a recent manager's meeting, the district director instructed all managers to submit a weekly food cost report to the child nutrition office. When Sandra heard this, she angrily responded to the director, "I don't have enough time now to do what is required. What makes you think I have extra time to do one more thing?" The director responded politely saying, "Sandra, calm down." Sandra stood up abruptly and stormed out of the room. On her way out, she looked toward the director and loudly said, "She doesn't know anything."

Response #1:

Response #2:

Scenario #2

Larry is a new child nutrition worker. He has extensive experience as an Army cook. Larry believes this experience makes him better than the other kitchen staff members, including the manager, Mary. Recently, Mary asked Larry to prepare the meat/meat alternates for lunch. Larry rudely interrupted her stating that the USDA recipe for roast beef is unacceptable because it is not the way he prepares it. Mary tells him that he must use the approved recipe. Larry responds in a very loud, outspoken manner, "No. I refuse to use that recipe."

Response #1:

Response #2:

Scenario #3

Harold, a cafeteria line worker, is a natural leader in the cafeteria kitchen. The other staff members, including the manager, go to him for advice and guidance regarding kitchen matters. Recently during a lunch service, Harold, along with line workers, Stephanie and Denise, were serving students on the serving line. While serving and within earshot of Denise, Harold told Stephanie that he found her very attractive and then asked her out on a date. Stephanie told him no and to knock it off; she did not like this conversation. Harold then walked by Stephanie and purposefully brushed his arm against her. She abruptly told him to never do that again. Later, Stephanie asked Denise if she saw what happened. Stephanie reported the incident to the manager.

Response #1:

Response #2:

Scenario #4

Megan is the manager of a large elementary school cafeteria. One of her best line workers got in a verbal altercation with a newly hired worker over the use of the vertical cutting machine. Both workers were arguing loudly and using profane language where students could hear them. The principal heard about the incident and asked Megan to take care of investigating the incident.

Response #1:

Response #2:



For any leader dealing with a conflict or difficult behavior, the ultimate goal should be achieving a positive resolution.



<u>Key Message</u>

When dealing with conflict, win-win results are possible if you implement positive conflict resolution strategies.



Our attitudes have a large impact on how we handle any situation, including interactions with our team members.



Key Message

We can always choose how we respond to others.



A positive attitude builds enthusiasm, enhances creative problem solving, and causes good things to happen more often.

<u>Notes</u>

Responding to Conflict

Directions: Listed below are various ways to respond to conflict. Place a check mark in the corresponding box to indicate whether the response is effective.

Technique	Yes	No
Avoid the person or issue		
Try to understand another point of view		
Take the blame		
Give in		
Apologize		
Whine/complain to get your way		
Pretend to agree		
Discuss until you come to an agreement		
Work toward a mutual solution		

Wrap Up and Conclusion



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