

NYFEA UPDATE

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Why Should We Mentor?

The truth that each of us must understand is that the best mentor will know his personal challenges as well as his strengths.



When we look for ways to help others, we often rely on personal experiences. The connections that we will make, with the individuals that we are trying to help, will be based on the similar challenges that we have experienced.

Our previous activities help us to recognize the patterns needed for us to achieve a positive outcome in our future pursuits. Our past experiences are a great teaching ground because they help us to move forward with a plan to be successful in future endeavors. For example, if we achieved a sales goal in our work, we can retrace our steps. We should understand what is required for replicating the results. Eventually, we will emphasize repeating the activity. Through the process of understanding the successful experiences of our past, we will become prepared to assist others as a mentor.

Serving as a mentor requires understanding the skills that are important for us to be successful and learning to teach the utilization of those skills. The best of mentors have a clear understanding that communication skill is critical for success. However, you do not have to be a great communicator to be a successful mentor. Just recognize, the success of your mentoring will be directly related to the ability to convince the other person that there is something about your experience that is special.

Three keys to telling the story:

- First, the mentor must set a tangible example for the person for which he is mentoring. Actions and attitude will communicate the importance of the message. Humility mixed with confidence will help make the message real.
- Second, the mentor must tell an organized story. He must not ramble and his message must not be such that it cannot be followed by the person being mentored.
- Finally, the mentor must be dedicated to the next generation. The mentor must understand that the opportunity to influence future generations is an important responsibility.

Mentoring truly provides a unique opportunity for a person to take the experiences of his life and make a lasting difference. Shaping future generations is a unique opportunity.

**NYFEA Institute
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