An Innovative Approach to Leadership During COVID with Gita Pullapilly and Aron Gaudet

Whether we like it or not, COVID has shifted how we work and collaborate with our teams. All industries have gone outside the box and sought creative solutions to keep their businesses afloat. To keep up with all the rapid changes, leaders also need to rethink how they manage their teams and operations.

In this episode, Gita Pullapilly and Aron Gaudet share their innovative approach to leadership. Effective leadership steers the direction of the project you're in and inspires others.

This activity will help you take stock of your core values and how they can direct you in your leadership. You are going to learn how to separate your ego from your leadership to make better decisions. You will also learn how to create effective channels of communication between you and your team members. Through this, you foster an environment of mutual respect and collaboration in your workplace.

QUOTE TO REMEMBER

'What I learned was that servant leadership is really all about collaboration, and respect, and communication, and listening.'

Activity: Rethinking Your Approach to Leadership

On Shifting Leadership Approaches

What was your leadership style pre-pandemic?

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What difficulties did you face as a leader when the pandemic began?

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What are your thoughts on servant leadership, and how might you incorporate it into your leadership style?

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On You and Your Team's Core Values

Everything is at stake when you're working during a pandemic. Direct your finances, time, and energy toward an achievable outcome. To do this, you must first start asking yourself which values are most important to you.

What do you consider to be the top three core values that you want to be represented in your work?

My Core Values	Why are they important to me?

Removing ego in your leadership means aiming for collective rather than personal success. Explain how your core values can achieve this.

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Start a conversation with your team and ask them what they consider to be their core values. You may discover similarities or differences in your core values. This shouldn't be a problem. Instead, this is an excellent opportunity to build rapport and reassess how you interact with them.

How did these conversations change your perspective as a leader?

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On Fostering Communication and Collaboration

Choose a project that you're managing. Then, reflect on what makes the project significant and what everyone needs to bring to the table to ensure its success

Project:

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The importance of the project	What you bring to the table as a leader	What you're asking your team members to bring to the table

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How can you communicate the answers above to your team?

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It's vital to create an environment that encourages and rewards open communication. Solutions and ideas are exchanged freely when everyone feels comfortable speaking up.

What does successful collaboration look like to you?

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How can you communicate and collaborate with people who may have different core values? What does a respectful working relationship with them look like for you?

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Similarly, you should know when to hand the reins of being a leader to someone else. How can you inspire others to become leaders of their own?

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What You'll Learn From The Activity

This activity will help you identify your core values and reflect further on what servant leadership means. We start with reflecting on how you lead and what your core values are. Reframing your leadership style to suit your core values and not your ego will help you respond to challenges at work.

The two core principles in servant leadership are collaboration and respect. The activity invites you to listen and appreciate everyone individually. Everyone on your team has something special

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that provides value to your current project. Collaboration and respect foster harmony and stability, both of which are vital to success in the workplace.

Aligning your core values to your attitude in leadership can inspire others to become leaders themselves. There are times when you can be more effective as a leader when someone else steps up. By being a good role model, you empower people to contribute meaningfully to a project.

Bringing together people to work towards a single vision can only be achieved with good leadership. Don't get stuck in outdated leadership methods! Innovate; your teams can only benefit from improvement.