

Word of the Year - Setting Expectations

GOAL / OBJECTIVE: An ice breaker activity to help your individual team members set their expectations for the new year.

GROUP SIZE: 5+

TIME: 10 minutes

EQUIPMENT: Markers, poster sheets, and a whiteboard.

DIRECTIONS:

Have participants choose one word that sums up their experience as part of your team last year (if participants are new to Goodwill, they may choose a word that sums up their experience outside of our organization). The facilitator should list the words on a large poster sheet or white board.

After all of the words have been recorded, take a moment to reflect on the contributions of the team.

Next, have the participants share a word that captures what they aim to focus on or achieve in 2024. Have participants explain why they chose each word and state the significance. List this new set of words on a second sheet of paper or whiteboard.

DISCUSSION:

- What themes do we notice in the words we've chosen?
- What do these words say about our experience over the past year?
- What themes do we notice in the words we've chosen?
- What do these words say about our experience over the past year?

Reinforce the importance of setting positive expectations based on collaboration, trust, engagement, ownership, and innovation. Emphasize that the contributions, perspectives, and ideas of each individual team member are valued and respected. Consider turning the second list into a word cloud mini poster. These can be printed/emailed and distributed to participants after the event to remind the team of their goals throughout the year.

Click each link below for more information



Let us know what you thought of this week's content.



Learn more about the L&D team.

