## CRITICAL CONVERSATIONS



Helping Leaders Engage & Connect

Strong professional relationships depend on engaging in four key conversations on a consistent basis. Creating honest and effective conversations enables leaders to find common ground, increase engagement and build trust and collaboration. With a little bit of planning and structure, these conversations will provide a platform to obtain invaluable information, understand our employee's needs & aspirations and help our organization to be successful.



REGULAR 1x1s	PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT
<b>OBJECTIVE</b> Establish rapport and create the foundation for a positive relationship	<b>OBJECTIVE</b> Promote communication and provide useful feedback about job performance on a regular basis
<ul> <li>VALUE</li> <li>Allows leader to coach and provide guidance</li> <li>Creates a dialogue to address issues or concerns</li> <li>Improves productivity through discussion about goals &amp; forward-thinking planning</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>VALUE</li> <li>Grows and develops employees through goal execution and attainment</li> <li>Encourages self-reflection and uncovers how employees perceive themselves &amp; their impact</li> <li>Supports other human resources processes like talent management, training and promotions</li> </ul>
86% of highly engaged organizations conduct 1x1's between managers and employees	At least 50% of performance problems occur because of a lack of feedback
FREQUENCY: Bi-weekly	FREQUENCY: Semi-annually
<ul> <li>SUGGESTED QUESTIONS:</li> <li>What were your work and non-work highlights since we last met?</li> <li>How are you tracking and feeling about your goals/ metrics?</li> <li>What is one thing I could experiment with doing differently going forward to help you more?</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>SUGGESTED QUESTIONS:</li> <li>Where have you made the most impact? What challenges have you encountered?</li> <li>How would your key stakeholders describe your performance?</li> <li>What support or additional feedback can I provide to help you be successful?</li> </ul>
<b>TIPS</b> <ol> <li>Create a regular meeting schedule</li> <li>Actively listen &amp; ask open-ended questions</li> <li>Set and track goals</li> </ol>	<b>TIPS</b> 1. Collect stakeholder feedback through the review period 2. Communicate feedback in 1x1s 3. Be transparent and collaborative

## VOLUME 1 **CRITICAL CONVERSATIONS** Helping Leaders Engage & Connect



CAREER DEVELOPMENT	STAY INTERVIEW
<b>OBJECTIVE</b> Understand employees' goals and future aspirations	<b>OBJECTIVE</b> Expose factors that may contribute to an individual considering leaving the organization
<ul> <li>VALUE</li> <li>Fosters better communication and enhances organizational career decisions</li> <li>Provides feedback and guidance to help employees' reach long term career aspirations</li> <li>Increases employee engagement</li> <li>61% of adults seek career development when considering job opportunities</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>VALUE</li> <li>Increases trust and improves employee engagement</li> <li>Identifies the learning, skill development or experiences that are important to the individual</li> <li>Improves the work environment</li> <li>75% of employee turnover can be prevented</li> </ul>
FREQUENCY: Semi-annually	FREQUENCY: Annually
<ul> <li>SUGGESTED QUESTIONS:</li> <li>How would you like to make a bigger difference/ contribution over the six months/next year?</li> <li>What does ultimate success look like for you three years from now?</li> <li>To reach the next stage in your career, what knowledge and skills are you lacking?</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>SUGGESTED QUESTIONS:</li> <li>When you travel to work each day, what things do you look forward to doing?</li> <li>What are you learning here?</li> <li>What can I do to make your experience at work better for you?</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>TIPS</li> <li>1. Set an agenda in advance and include key questions you'll ask</li> <li>2. Pick a creative space or different area (if possible) then where performance meetings happen</li> <li>3. End meeting by recapping what the employee is accountable for and task them with scheduling the next career conversation</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>TIPS</li> <li>1. Get personal. Conversation needs to target the personal side of the employee</li> <li>2. Listen 80% of the time and probe to learn more</li> <li>3. Express your appreciation for the employee</li> </ul>

