The Customer Communicator Web Extra

Motivation

Celebrate your team and its successes

There are a lot of interesting ways to celebrate and bring team members together. Try some of the following, and see what works for your team.

Celebrations are a great way to boost teamwork and morale. "Fun" activities, in particular, work well in the high-stress customer service environment. Here are a few suggestions to try:

■ Have each customer service team write its own theme song. Whenever the team has something to celebrate, take a moment to burst out in song.

■ Hold a ten-minute team huddle in the morning. Each day, give a different team member a chance to shine by sharing a best practice or teaching a new skill to fellow team members.

■ Invite family members to visit the customer service center for a "family

day." If you can, have managers greet family members, offer refreshments, and tell them about the work that you do and its importance to the company.

Dress up. If the dress code for the customer service center is typically relaxed, have a "dress-up day" where everyone wears their Sunday best. And have a camera available to take some team pictures.

■ Get managers involved. Ask team leaders to dress as Elvis, Lady Gaga, or some other celebrity as a reward for your teams' reaching a difficult goal.

■ Hold a potluck lunch. Ask every team member to bring in a dish with a family history, and share those histories along with the food.

Create extracurricular team activities. Get together after work for activities like bowling or volleyball, where team members can learn to improve their game together.

