

**Toolkit for Volunteer Development** 

www.masterFCSvolunteerprogram.info



#### **Facilitation Skills**

### **Lesson Objectives**

#### After participation in this lesson, you will be able to:

- Characterize differing roles of a facilitator
- Identify skills for assisting groups to work together productively
- Decipher techniques to deal with people in difficult and compromising situations and topics



#### **Volunteer Facilitation Roles**

#### **Facilitators:**

- Ensure participation of the group
- Diminish bias and discrimination
- Empower a team
- Identify pathways to meet goals





#### **Facilitator**



### Why are facilitators important?





### **Meetings**

- Share information
- Make decisions
- Solve problems
- · Gather ideas
- · Learn from each other



#### **Multitasking in Facilitation**

- Communication
- Observation

- Encourage participation
  - Respect and Fairness



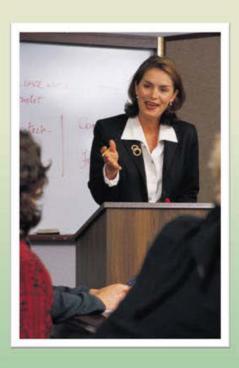
Consistency and Flexibility

Enthusiasm

Assertion



#### **Characteristics of Effective Facilitators**



#### **Communication Skills**

- Communicate clearly and concisely
- Body language
- Eye contact
- Active listening



#### **Characteristics of Effective Facilitators**

**Good Observer** 





#### **Characteristics of Effective Facilitators**



**Encourage Participation** 



#### **Characteristics of Effective Facilitators**



Make people feel comfortable

Treat people fairly and with respect





#### **Characteristics of Effective Facilitators**



Be Consistent & Flexible

#### Be Enthusiastic





Be Assertive



#### **Responsibilities of Facilitators**





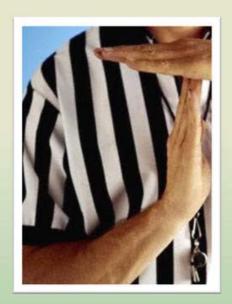
### **Responsibilities of Facilitators**



**Be Prepared** 



### **Responsibilities of Facilitators**



Set Ground Rules

Guide Group and Keep on Track





#### **Facilitating a Meeting**

- Welcome
- Introductions
- Ice breaker
- Meeting content
- Status Check/Debrief



#### **Facilitating a Meeting**

- Assign a recorder
- Develop ground rules
- Review agenda
- Review minutes
- Conduct business
- · Record data





#### **Facilitating a Meeting**

- Time oriented
- · Review decisions
- Assignments
- Next meeting date, time, location





### **Possible Challenges**



**Decrease Side Conversations** 



### **Possible Challenges**

Never Ending Discussion





### **Possible Challenges**



Conflict Within the Group



### **Possible Challenges**



**Returning Late from Breaks** 



### **Possible Challenges**

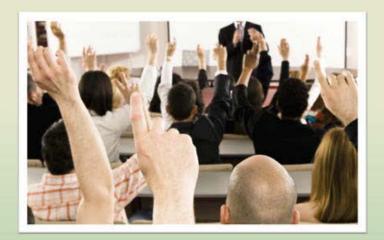


Silence



### **Facilitator Roles Change**





#### In Review



**Effective Meeting or Outcome** 



#### References

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Guiding Principles for Facilitators. Innovative Leadership, Building Community Connections. Based on Building Communities of Conscience and Conviction <a href="http://www.mdcinc.org/docs/building conscience.pdf">http://www.mdcinc.org/docs/building conscience.pdf</a> & Vision to Action: Take Charge Too. <a href="http://www.ag.iastate.edu/centers/rdev/takecharge/curriculum/visiontoactionbook.pdf">http://www.ag.iastate.edu/centers/rdev/takecharge/curriculum/visiontoactionbook.pdf</a>.

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