Liesel Theusch

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Reflection #6

Leadership Value Activity

 As class wrapped up, we revisited an activity of identifying values we had conducted in the beginning of the year. In August, many of my identified values were based on productivity, dedication, and organization. I had not highly ranked values regarding others’ individuality or priorities that would consider my group members’ emotions. The values I originally chose were best suited to a group environment where I would lead individuals that operated similar to robots: efficient, predictable, and no emotions.

Throughout this class I have found myself repeatedly returning to the sense of community within a movement or group and how that can affect the outcome of groupwork. I return to this concept in class discussions, my service organization experience, and other reflections for this class. When the class was asked if we would change or add any values to our lists we originally created in August, I chose to add acceptance. Acceptance means that each member of a movement or group feels as though they belong and can to contribute to the group’s goals. A group that is accepting of all its member creates more readily unites under a common purpose and resolves conflicts when they arise because they feel a sense of belonging and community.

In current and future leadership roles, I see myself putting more consideration into the fact that each member of a group is an individual with their individual needs. The dynamics within a group offer a variety of perspectives that most commonly are shared when group members feel accepted and that they belong.