**Relevance**

**LIVING OUR VALUES**

Rotary’s core values and guiding principles give members a common purpose and direction.

**Learning objectives**

By the end of the session, participants should be able to:

* Understand Rotary’s core values and guiding principles
* Apply Rotary’s values to their club’s activities

**Before the session**

* Ask participants what they would like to gain from the session and use their comments to customize its content.
* Consider how you will facilitate the session and adjust it for your audience.
* Think of an opening activity that will grab participants’ attention and other ways to keep the session interactive.
* Prepare any materials you will need for the session.
* Review [Rotary’s guiding principles](https://www.rotary.org/myrotary/en/learning-reference/about-rotary/guiding-principles) and the core values in [Rotary’s strategic plan](https://www.rotary.org/myrotary/en/learning-reference/about-rotary/strategic-plan).

**During the session**

* Welcome participants and introduce yourself.
* Review learning objectives.
* Highlight these key messages:
  + Guiding principles and core values define what’s important to us, and we demonstrate them through actions and policies.
  + Rotary's guiding principles and core values are key to planning the organization’s future.
  + They are a blueprint to guide districts, clubs, and even members to develop their own principles and values.
* Use discussion questions to boost conversation:
  + What are Rotary’s guiding principles?
  + What are Rotary’s core values?
  + Why are they important for leadership and decision making?
  + What actions and policies demonstrate our guiding principles and core values?
  + What are your personal guiding principles and core values?
  + How do they factor into your everyday lives?
* Lead one of the activities below.
* At the end of the session:
  + Take questions from participants.
  + Review the learning objectives to make sure they’ve been achieved.
  + Ask participants to write down one idea they’ll use from the session.

**Activities**

1. Purpose: Putting principles into action

* Allow 20 minutes for this activity.
* Explain that each group of participants will discuss a hypothetical unethical scenario that could occur in a Rotary club or professional setting. Ask participants to use their own guiding principles to decide how they would handle the situation.
* Scenarios:
  + You learn that a member of your club has been taking money from grant funds.
  + You overhear an inappropriate conversation that visibly bothers someone else who overhears the discussion.
  + You are on a project team, and one of the members is missing meetings and deadlines, and is not adding to the project.
* Divide participants into groups of three or four to begin discussions.
* Afterward, gather the groups together again and ask for volunteers to talk about their scenarios.

1. Purpose: Identifying guiding principles

* Allow 20 minutes for this activity.
* Ask participants to think about their involvement in their Rotary club, and everything their club is accomplishing.
* As a group, have them tell which guiding principles define their club.
* Record their answers on a flip chart and see if any responses overlap.
* Continue the discussion by asking:
* Do the club’s accomplishments exemplify its guiding principles?
* What future activities will best help the club embody its guiding principles?
* How can this help with your club’s membership and public image?