



## **Findings**

Findings is published quarterly by SpineSearch LLC, one of the nation's premier recruitment and training companies.

Publisher: Nicola Hawkinson, DNP, RN, RNFA Managing Editor: Maxine Bruschi, B.Comm Chief Content Development: Briana Stanton, BSC

Creative Direction: Golmage Media Services Inc.

Article Submissions are welcomed. Please contact us at our editorial office

SpineSearch LLC 55 Cherry Lane Suite 101

Carle Place, New York 11514

Phone: 516-333-5050

## **Creating Success in Business and Life**

Accomplished people share many common characteristics and habits. Hard work, good character, and discipline are valuable traits that will carry you on your journey to success. Consider the following ways to further your already established habits in order to push yourself forward.

- **1. Plan ahead:** The lack of preparation for the future is guaranteed way to not achieve your personal goals. Developing habits such as, strategizing, time planning and structuring are all ways to achieve your goals. Influential people understand that they have to facilitate their goals through their vision and attention to detail.
- **2. Goal oriented**: Planning ahead is only as important as your ability to set attainable goals. Successful people take the time to set goals but regularly check in to ensure that their actions and steps are taking them in the correct direction.
- **3. Master your time**: Successful people ensure that that they make time count; they know that it is a limited and valuable asset. Try not to just keep a list of things that need to be accomplished daily, but also to schedule your time wisely in order to achieve maximum productivity.
- **4. Set boundaries:** Managing your time comes with setting appropriate boundaries. Consider delegating multiple tasks in order for you to focus on the most important projects. Setting boundaries and learning to say no is necessary to push yourself forward. Consider this rule of thumb: if it does not enhance or provide a way for you to achieve your goals, then it is good judgement to say no.
- **5. Solution oriented mentality**: Find how to maneuver through difficult times by focusing on a solution to the problem. Focusing on solutions stimulates your mind to be more flexible through difficult circumstances. Think of working with others as partners in helping you achieve your goal.

- **6. Do not dwell on failure:** Successful people refuse to quit and they do not waste time on dwelling on failure. Mistakes and setbacks happen all the time. Learning how to handle disappointment and build yourself up is a vital part of being successful.
- 7. Keep yourself surrounded by like minded people: The famous saying goes, "your net worth lies within your network." It is always worth the time and investment to connect with like minded and success driven people. A network of your peers will give you access to new habits and processes you can use to grow your own personal skillset.
- **8. Keep health a priority**: Maintain a routine that keeps your health a priority. Successful people do not see their health as a negotiable fact. Often times they set aside early morning time to work out or even meditate. They also try to watch their food intake because they no that it provides them with the energy to maintain throughout the day. Know when to take a break to rest and recharge your body and mind. While it may be difficult to set aside the time, it is always a good investment in taking care of your body.
- **9. Continuously invest in yourself**: Investing in your future is key to pushing yourself into new territories of success. Continue to develop your skill and education by exposing yourself to new courses or subjects that you know very little about.





#### **Hiring Pearls from SpineSearch**



Improve your HR Professional Skills with advanced tips and tricks from the pros at SpineSearch. Watch this in depth webinar presented by our own CEO Nicola Hawkinson, DNP, RN, RNFA, and you may improve your ability to "get it right".

http://www.spine-search.com/redflags







# Turnover Cost



A successful medical practice understands the importance of maintaining a strong medical staff. The overall dynamic of the team relates to the productivity of the office and even influences patient satisfaction. One way this can be heavily impacted is seen in the employee turnover and retention rate. In order for a medical practice to continue in its growth and success, it is necessary to understand the cost of staff turnover and how it affects the medical practice.

In this guide, you will learn to how to calculate turnover rate, how to address the rate, and how to reduce turnover. When an employee leaves a company and their position needs to be replaced, it is considered turnover. Voluntary and Involuntary are two types of turnover and are both common and sometimes necessary in the growth and change of a healthy company.



#### **How to Calculate Monthly Turnover Rate:**

Monthly Turnover Rate = 
$$\frac{\text{# of Employees During Month}}{\text{# of Voluntary Separations}} \times 100$$

#### Calculate Employee Turnover Rates in a Year:

A good turnover rate that your clinic should aim for is around 10%. Employee turnover is dependent on the work environment. A typically happy employee is seen the employee is in a supportive work environment and are able to attain their goals. Employees that excel at their job take ownership in the organization vision and values. Employees are an expensive cost for any health care team. Studies have indicated that typical turnover costs are nearly three times an employee's salary, this includes costs such as recruitment, lost productivity, and overtime work of current employees. Needless to say, it is an important investment to learn to retain current employees.

## Starting at the Beginning: Improving the Recruitment and Hiring Process:

Remember, the recruitment and hiring process is the foundation between the employees and medical leadership team. Interview candidates carefully,



to ensure they have the right skills, and that they fit well with the company culture. It is important to invest the time, energy and effort to find the right person for the job. This means that the right candidate is not just technically equipped but also has the right temperament and fit for the company.

#### **Clear Communication with Current Staff:**

Existing medical team members need to have a sense of attachment and ownership for the company culture. This enables them to remain loyal and engaged to the company and their career at the same time. An effective medical team relationship is founded on clear communication. This happens when a the leader provides clarity on expectations, career development, gives regular feedback on performance and ultimately gives the employee guidelines to where they can be successful.

#### **Staff Development and Training:**

Your medical staff needs the opportunity to be challenged. In order to maintain a productive team environment. It is important to invest in staff development. Offering training and skill

enhancement opportunities such as obtaining certification or further education, are great ways to keep your medical team engaged. Provide opportunities within the company for cross-training and career progression. People like to know that they have room for career growth.

#### **Shifting and Taking Care of the Work Culture**

Employees need to know that you care for the culture of their work life and personal life. Annually review compensation and benefits packages. Hear any feedback or concerns employees may have about these issues. Work with the HR department to stay on top of trends in the marketplace. Also, listen to to employees' personal needs and offer more flexibility where you can. For example, consider

offering compressed schedules or on-site or back-up day care. Keep your eyes on the top performers and take time to continue to develop them into leaders within the company. Let a top performer take a lead on a new project or team based project. This will enable them to garner their leadership skills so that they can take on greater responsibilities. Find ways to recognize and celebrate success.

Having proper retention strategies is key to decrease employee turnover. These are just some ideas that can help foster and build an environment where employees feel motivated and connected to the work that they are doing.

## **Events**



February 10, 2017 **Safety in Spine Surgery Summit** The Heart Conference Center / New York-Presbyterian Hospital New York, NY



April 20-22, 2017 **2017 NERVES Annual Meeting** Lowes Hollywood Hotel Los Angeles, CA





Association of Neurological Surgeons

April 22-26, 2017 2017 AANS Annual Scientific Meeting Los Angeles Convention Center Los Angeles, CA





American

April 22-25, 2017 **AAOE 2017 Annual Conference** JW Marriott Hotel Indianapolis, IN

To arrange a meeting with the SpineSearch team at any of the above events. Call Us:

(516) 333-5050



Connect with Us

### **Effective Leadership**

An effective leader understands their medical staff is diverse and has many needs. Taking the time to customize different styles of leadership is beneficial and will help team members feel included.

In order to be effective take the following steps to assess the exact leadership needs of the team.



- **1. Evaluate the medical staff team**. Take the time to consider their needs, concerns and ideas that they feel will best make the practice excel. Some starter questions: How can I help you achieve? Would you like me to be more hands on moving forward? What kind of feedback would you like to have in order to asses your productivity?
- **2. Develop a plan**. After discussing the needs and responses from the staff make an intentional plan that enables the medical staff team to efficiently complete their jobs while growing the practice.
- **3. Work the plan.** As the leader it is important for the staff to see you first hand complete and follow through with the new implemented plan.
- **4. Reassess and reflect** on the productivity of the plan. Set a schedule to follow up with key team members after some time has passed. Note the places that are gaining positive momentum and be adaptable to the areas that need to be reworked.



As the health system grows and changes it is important that the staff be lead by a strong leader. There are many ways to lead a team and the best leader uses many styles to engage with their employees. A balanced approach to leadership is necessary to use all the talents on a medical team. Before you can effectively lead others make sure that you are continuing to develop characteristics and that you can maintain as you lead your medical staff. Also, these characteristics will compliment your adaptability in the styles that you use to lead the staff.

#### **Common characteristics of effective leaders:**

**Focus**: Focus on guiding the medical staff in providing the best medical service to their patients. This looks like creating strategies and effective process that are easily defined and organized.

**Clear communicator**: Taking the time to include others in the plans gives staff the opportunity to play an equal part in carrying out a solution to any problem.

Integrity: A trait of a strong leader is to treat the medical staff and team the way that they would want to be treated. Displaying values like honesty and reliability enable the employee to build trust in their employers character.

**Patience**: An effective leader understands that every employee is unique and has their own learning curve. Take the time to guide and train the medical staff in a new practice takes time to get to better efficiency.



Now that you have been developing your leadership traits it will be easier to transition into the effective leadership style needed for your medical staff. There are several types of leadership styles that can useful for many situations. It is important to know that many successful CEOs use a mix of at least two or three styles. The six common styles are: Authoritative, Affiliate, Coaching, Directive, Pacesetting and Participative.

**Authoritative**: This leader has as very coercive manner in their approach with employees. Often times while trying to drive a common vision and end goal they closely control the staff. This method is best used when trying to instill a new vision or direction or even when there is a crisis. This style is not effective when employees are not well trained or even when employees are highly trained and specialized.



**Affiliate**: This leadership style thrives when the goal is to create unity between employees and the leadership team. They believe that putting the employees first will be beneficial in the long run. This style is best effective when the team is rebuilding trust or even needs conflict managed. This does not work well when there is a lack of direction or focus among the employees.

**Coaching**: This influential style works well because it builds a foundation of trust between the leader and employees, due to the investment in their personal strengths. This style is effective when skills should be developed and when the employees are motivated. This style does not work well when the leader does not have expertise nor development in the area or when the employee is defiant to the leader's authority.



**Directive**: This leadership style is best used when there is a crisis or when employees need to be closely followed. Typically when a leader uses this style in that can be perceived as harsh or even micromanaging trying to motivate by threats or strict discipline action. This style does not work when employees are not highly trained or developed in their skills, conversely this does not work when the employees are highly trained because it does not let them use their highly developed skillset at work.

**Pacesetting**: A leader that models the work excellence by completing tasks themselves, while expecting the employees to follow suit.

Most effective when employees are highly self motivated, competent and require very little direction. Least effective when employees lacks appropriate skills to get the job complete and require training and development.

**Participative**: This style is often seen as democratic and is used when the leader is building commitment and input from the employees. This style typically motivates the staff by rewards and team effort while leaving everyone with a sense of ownership. This is most effective when employees are working together with previous experience and a stable work environment. This style is least effective when there is a pressing deadline or emergency or when all of the staff have not received the same information.

A good leader understands that their staff needs to be guided properly. They also understand that they cannot use a one size fits all approach to dealing with problems. A successful leader can gage the situation while choosing to balance a blend of leadership styles that compliments both their team and the overall goal.







#### **Education / Recruitment**

SpineSearch LLC 55 Cherry Lane - Suite 101 Carle Place, NY 11514 Tel: (516) 333-5050

10000 North Central Expressway Suite 400 Dallas, Texas 75231

Tel: (214) 890-4045

www.spine-search.com

## On the Web!









SpineSearch®
Website

## On Linkedin



