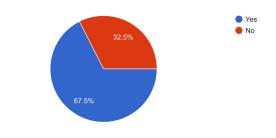




Poll Results -Does your firm conduct employee exit interviews?

Does your firm conduct employee exit interviews? 40 responses



Poll Results - What are the top 2 to 3 reasons your people leave,	<b>e</b>
	Days of loyalty to the company are long gone
based upon your exit interviews?	Millennials and Gen Z wants only what is best for them
	No passion for lifelong learning
Wanting a more balanced life (live, work, play),	Better pay
	Burnt out by the industry
Higher Pay	불 듣 Internal communication not always transparent
Better retirement benefits	Internal communication not always transparent Not recognition for efforts or work put in during tough times
Ability to work fully remote	Workplace culture is not conducive for productivity
Seeking growth/new experiences	င္ တို Employees with negative or toxic attitudes
Seeking growth/new experiences	Poor communication from managers
Opportunities with city and government	Lack of career planning and growth
Job opportunities to grow with their degree/specialty	Wanting more stable hours, less stress
	The lure of benefits/ grass is greener
Better Training	Generally they are younger staff and haven't settled in to lives activities
	Looking for new adventures

# QUESTION

According to a 2019 Gallup Poll -

What percentage of people leave because of their boss?

Round to nearest 10% (Example 10%, 20%, 30%, 40%, 50%, 60%, 70%, 80%, 90, 100%)

# Generally they are younger staff and haven't settled in to lives activities Looking for new adventures As employees in their 30s re-evaluate life goals and often prefer to work less as they start families.

# Who's leaving, and why

26% of workers planning to leave their employers after the pandemic,

80% are doing so because they're concerned about their career advancement

72% say the pandemic caused them to rethink their skill sets

50% of people currently working remotely say if their current company doesn't continue to offer remote-work options long-term, they'll look for a job at a company that does.

# THE GREAT RESIGNATION





Looking for something more fulfilling Looking for remote work Looking for better work-life balance Looking for a better culture Looking for career growth

# LOOKING FOR LOVE

I was lookin' for love in all the wrong places Lookin' for love in too many faces Searchin' their eyes Lookin' for traces of what I'm dreaming of

# **TIP #1**

Know your NUMBERS :

Turnover Rate

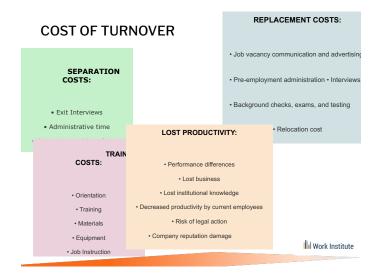
Cost of Turnover

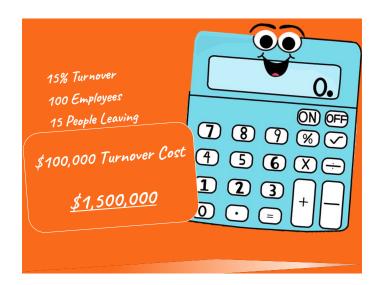
What'\$ the CO\$T\$ to A&E Firms?

Employees not engaged • Managers not engaged • People leaving

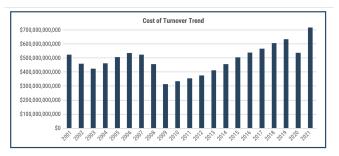
"THE ESTIMATED COST TO REPLACE ONE EMPLOYEE IS **130**%OF THAT EMPLOYEE'S ANNUAL SALARY."

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR





# COST OF TURNOVER



Employers that do not track the cost of turnover often lose millions of dollars in profitability that goes unnoticed.

ilii Work Institute



FIGURE OUT WHY YOUR STAFF ARE LEAVING If you know why your team members are leaving, you'll learn how to improve your workplace to encourage team members to stay.

# **TIP #2**

# Know why people <u>STAY</u> - not <u>LEAVE</u>.

Perform Yearly Stay Interviews

# A NEW VOCABULARY



# STAY INTERVIEW

Soliciting feedback before they actually resigns gives you a chance to address the problems.

Proactively seeking an employee's feedback could improve morale.

Employees might not feel comfortable being completely honest talking to their direct manager.

Employees are much less free with their feedback when staying.



Too late to convince a good employee to stay.

Reactively seeking an employee's feedback could lead to misleading information.

Employees could feel more comfortable talking to HR upon leaving.

Employees are much more free with their feedback when leaving.



# Benefits of conducting stay interviews: Shows that you care Builds trust Increases open and honest communication Allows for a mutual conversation regarding their work Gives you viable information to make positive changes

Shows patterns and data related to turnover rates

# A <mark>stay interview:</mark>

focuses on what motivates your employee to stick around,

what could be better about their work experience and

how they envision the next stage of their career within your organization.

https://www.indeed.com/hire/c/info/conducting-stay-interviews

Stay interviews are informal conversations between the manager and employee











## What to ask in a stay interview

- What do you look forward to when you come to work each day?
- What do you like most or least about working here?
- What keeps you working here?
- If you could change something about your job, what would that be?
- What would make your job more satisfying?
- How do you like to be recognized?
- What talents are not being used in your current role?
- What would you like to learn here?
- What motivates (or demotivates) you?
- What can I do to best support you?
- What can I do more of or less of as your manager?
- What might tempt you to leave?

# How leaders can stay accountable

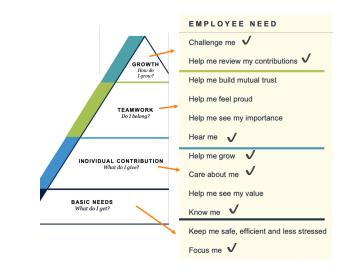
Thank the employee for their time,

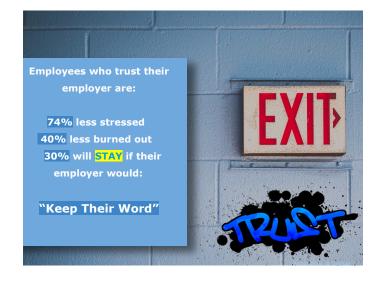
Summarize the feedback you've heard,

### Relay what your next steps will be.

Provide a clear sense of what the employee can expect will be different following the discussion.

Use the information gathered to make positive changes to Create a Stay Culture







TEN TIPS TO EMPLOYEE RETENTION

According to Gallup, employees who trust their employer are:

- o 74% Less stressed
- o 40% Less burned out
- o **30%** Will stay if their employer will

"Keep Their Word"

# **TIP #3**

Do what you say you're <u>GOING</u> to do.

# Annual Trust Index

(Percent of Employees who "TRUST" their - Executive Leadership, Direct Manager, and Peers)

# CULTURE INDICATOR

The Trust Index is done anonymously and is the measurement the percentage of your employees who trust their:

# Executive Leadership Team

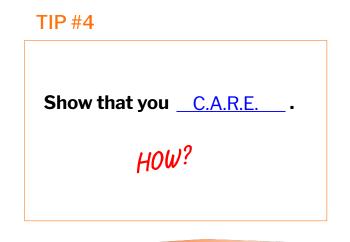
# Direct Manager

• <u>Peers</u>

Successful people make a point to do what they say, and failing to do so:

- o Erodes credibility
- o Builds distrust
- o Limits opportunity and,
- o Degrades your integrity







Show that you <u>C.A.R.E</u> by: Communicate Often Appreciate Often Reward Often Engage Often

# Communicate Often

5 reasons some leaders are POOR communicators are because they:

Feel Vulnerable
Instead of feeling comfortable engaging they disengage.

Intimidate Others

They let their ego and title get in the way of being a good communicator and leader.

Lack Subject Matter Expertise

They tend to try and hide their insecurities but end up hiding nothing and exposing the truth.

Don't Prepare

When leaders are not prepared it is not only disrespectful to other but leads to miscommunication and miss-direction.

Appreciate Often

### 5 Tips to APPRECIATION:

Be specific and give examples. Just saying good job is not enough. Saying, "Good job getting the Baker project done on time and on budget! Great work!" Is spot on de

Encourage others to call out good work. Appreciation nould not just be from the management. Peer-to-peer ppreciation is powerful.

3. Do appreciation both publicly and privately. Mixing it up keeps it authentic.

4. <u>Appreciate the team more than individuals.</u> Team appreciation causes better teamwork and cooperation.

5. Do appreciation frequently. We recommend at least weekly in a team huddle.



# **5 Tips to APPRECIATION:**

Often		Be specific and give examples.
<u> </u>	2.	Encourage others to call out good work.
1ppreciate		Do appreciation both publicly and privately.
d H	4.	Appreciate the team more than individuals.
	5.	Do appreciation frequently.

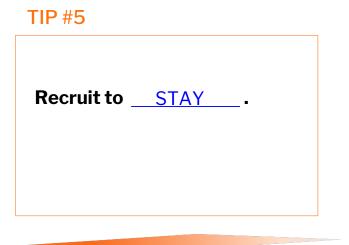
		REWARDS	
	Extrinsic	Bonuses	Needs to be clear on how to achieve and quarterly if possible.
		Salary Raise	Tied to increased skills, competence, productivity and performance.
ten		Gifts	Short-term effect and tied to a company goal.
-d 0f		Promotion	Effects the long-term satisfaction of the employee.
Reward Often	Intrinsic	Feedback	Significant impact to performance and develops a relationship between manager and employee.
		Recognition	Boost employee's self-esteem and happiness.
		Trust/Empowerment	Critical for long-term retention and performance

# Engage Often

# Healthy engagement looks like:

- The team is involved in decision making
- Leaders hold one-on-one meeting
- Relationship building activities are frequent
- The team is not micromanaged
- The team doesn't hate to see you coming













EMPOWERMENT LEADERSHIP CULTURE IS BUILT ON

# How recruitment can go wrong is by:



Hiring warm bodies just to fill slots.

Hiring for skills over talent.

Believing that anyone can do a low-level job.

Believing that they train the wrong people to become the right people.



# HOW?

Hire for potential, not experience

Stop outsourcing your recruiting

Study your results – and act on them

Keep an eye on what your competitors are offering

Keep an eye on what your employees want

Training and experiences an employee has had before coming to your company will vastly outweigh whatever experiences they have during the limited time they spend at your company.

Cultural fit questions to ask during the interview:



What type of culture do you thrive in?

What values are you drawn to and what's your ideal workplace?

Why do you want to work here?

What best practices would you bring with you from another organization?

Tell me about a time when you worked for an organization where you felt you were not a strong culture fit.

# CAN YOU BE AN EMPOWERMENT LEADER?

Our culture is built on empowerment where our leaders SERVE the team and <u>not that the team serves them</u>. Your team members will be **involved** in all <u>decision-making</u> and you'll be <u>expected</u> as their leader to <u>build relationships</u>, and <u>engage</u> with them <u>daily</u>.

Ten Tips to Employee Retention

# **EMPLOYEE REFERRALS**

Summary - Benefits Of Employee Referrals

- Reduced Hiring Time.
- Better Conversion Rate.
- **Reduces Recruitment Cost** • Significantly.
- Improves Quality of Hire.
- Better Employee Retention Rate.
- Easily Find Candidates For Hard To • Fill Roles.
- Improves The Scope of Employee Engagement.
- Boost Employer Branding.



# **TIP #6**

**Onboard to STAY** HOW ?



Engage Existing Employees - Get existing employees input on onboarding topics and have them present where possible.

Explain Expectations -All employees, but especially new hires want to know what you expect.

Keep the Energy UP - Don't let the onboarding process drag on, build in team building activities and keep the energy up.



Show a Pathway Up ack of advancement rtunities is one o

Nothing say welcome like getting their computer, phone, office supplies and swag.

You are the first impression, so make it a good <mark>"STAY"</mark> one!





88% of Gen Zs say it is important to them that a future employer offers formal training programs



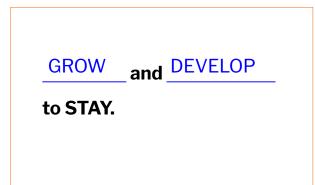
74% Of Millennials & **Gen Z Think They Can Build Better Skills At** A New Job

61% Important in weighting their decision to STAY





# **TIP #7**



# TIP #7a

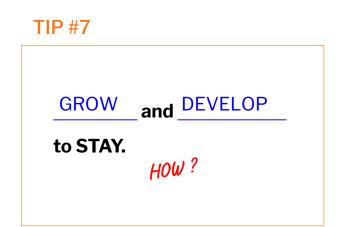
lt's_	Cheap	_and	Effective	ļ
I				

"When you show your commitment to the growth and development of your people, they will show their commitment to you to stay." Jeff Gross

"**YOU** need to be the **new** job,

at their **CURRENT** job." <sub>Jeff Gross</sub>

> 74% Of Millennials & Gen Z Think They Can Build Better Skills At A New Job



Your Stay Culture needs to have clear pathways for advancement and professional growth. Every employee should have at **Open Book Policy** east one professional evelopment activity. **Continuing Education** ollment in formal degree programs, courses, or work og certificates, accreditations or other credentials ational programs Participation in Professional Organizations nding local, regional, national, and international meetings, nces and workshops nting papers at conferences and workshops Technology Training Keeping up with technology, systems, proce

nts in your field

Learr

ning about new develop



Increased duties and respo





# WHAT IS EMPLOYEE ENGAGEMENT AND WHY IS IT

- Formally defined as an employee's level of commitment and connection to the company
- High levels of engagement promotes talent retention, improves performance, and fosters customer loyalty

**IMPORTANT?** 



DRIVERS Feeling of being VALUED and sense of COMMUNITY

# DRIVERS Feeling of being VALUED and sense of COMMUNITY



Empower to <u>STAY</u>.

# EMPOWERMENT LEADERSHIP CULTURE IS BUILT ON



To get engagement

you have to give engagement

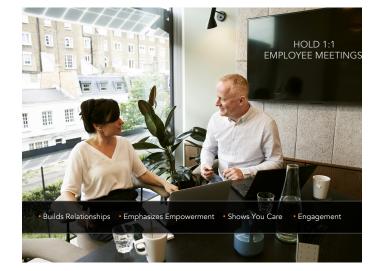
- Jeff Gross gro-nova.com

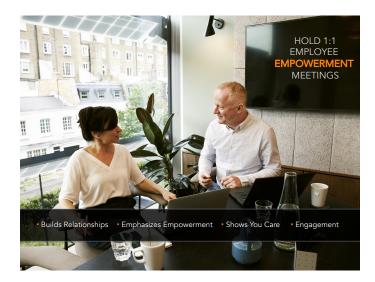
# ENGAGEMENT

Empowerment 1:1

As a manager, do you routinely conduct one-on-one meetings with your team members? Yes (At least once a month) 91% No 9% 106 votes • Poll closed

Remove vote















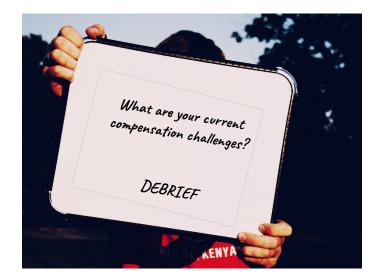
# Don't do employee One-on-One Do EMPOWERMENT One-on-One

- Jeff Gross gro-nova.com











Please share any comments, ideas or thoughts.

During the onset of the pandemic, I personally felt like we needed to do a lot to keep our employees. Since I am in charge of HR and finance I advocated for and implemented a lot of new benefits, higher pay, flexibility, etc. **However, within the past year I** have noticed that our staff has become (dare I say) "spoiled?"

We have found a lot of great candidates and new recruits who are very grateful for what we offer, and we'd rather build a team of those who are willing to work for what they earn and have a great attitude when they come to work.

# **TIP #9**

Compensate to <u>STAY</u>.

HOW?

# **EMOTIONAL COMPENSATION HOW TOs**

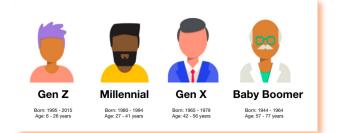
# Be the market trend setter:

- 1) Pay
- 2) Benefits
- 3) Flexibility
- 4) Tuition Reimbursement/Student Loan Support
- 5) Child Care
- 6) Spot Bonuses
- 7) Profit Sharing 8) PTO
- 9) Paid Time for Volunteering
- 10)Student Debt Payback

Leigh Branham, author of The 7 Hidden Reasons Employees Leave, revealed that 89% of bosses believe employees quit because they want more money.

In reality, only 12% do.

# **OUR FUTURE WORKFORCE**





# Baby Boomers are retiring at a rate of 1 every 9 seconds between now and 2029

Source: USA Today Money

Generation X now accounts for 51% of leadership roles globally

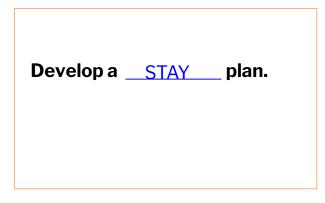
Source: CNBC/Conference Board Global Leadership Forecast 2018





# By 2025, <mark>1 in 5</mark> will be OVER 55.

# TIP #10



What would you recommend your firm should do to lower employee turnover? What would you recommend your firm should do to lower employee turnover?

- Establish a culture that is engaging with the employees and building a family-like work environment
- Listen more to employees vs assuming what they want
- Provide a more 'safe' space to come forward and share feedback
- Company ownership at younger ages and less seniority
- Develop more meaningful connections between managers and staff.
- Look at increasing salary and benefits
- Developing a career path with salary ranges so people know what's expected and required for the next step
- Increase employee engagement
- Do outside team building activities to build relationships with employees, including all levels of employees. This may open more communication between managers and employees.
- Frequent inquiry with staff regarding their personal goals, needs, future promotion opportunities

### 6 STEP TO YOUR STAY CULTURE PLAN

Step 1) Brand Your Culture -When you brand your culture, you will be both clearly communicating what your culture expectations will be and holding the organization accountable.

Step 2) Set Goals and Milestone - It will be the qualitative milestones that will get you there and should be generated from obtaining feedback for the whole organization by asking all employees:

What would you recommend we do to lower employee turnover?

Step 3) Celebrate Milestones Communicate and celebrate milestones frequently.

**BONUS TIP #11** 

Stay Flexible and People will Stay

Step 4) Create a Stay Culture Advisory Board Creating a Stay Culture Advisory Board (Accountability Board) will help manage the implementation, measure improvement and hold the organization accountable to your new culture.

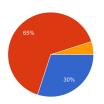
Step 5) Hold People Accountable When creating a new People First culture you'll need to stop the poor behaviors that have been allowed to poison your organization.

Step 6) Constant Care Your culture is a living breathing entity that needs constant care. Stop feeding, watering and loving it, and it will die.



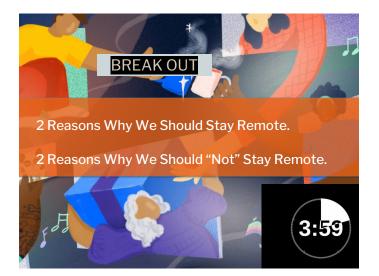
Which describes your current remote work policy?
○ We require 100% onsite work.
O We offer a hybrid remote work environment (i.e., Require some onsite work days per week).
We offer that people can work 100% remotely.
Will your remote work policy stay the same next year?
◯ Yes
○ No

### Which describes your current remote work policy? 40 responses



- We require 100% onsite work.
   We offer a hybrid remote work environment (i.e., Require some onsite
- work days per week). • We offer that people can work 100% remotely.





# Why We Should Stay Remote? DEBRIEF

- Has become more standard in consulting
- Employees have become accustomed to the flexible schedule
- Employees value work life balance
- Both a recruiting and retention tool
- It aligns with the culture of our firm
- We are somewhat hybrid. Although we are 100% onsite starting Jan 2023... If absolutely needed, the employee may request to remotely work from management.
- Hybrid work is workable for consulting and need to be competitive with other similar firms that are offering hybrid work.
- Our engineers are productive at home and they seem to enjoy working from home as a benefit.
- Employees have proven that they can be just as effective working from home. If productivity can
  remain the same or better then we will not go back to a 100% work in the office policy.
- This is part of the work culture we strived for even prior to COVID.

# Why We Should Not Stay Remote? DEBRIEF

- Not sustainable to develop young employees and remain responsive to clients
- At the moment, it's too difficult to manage employees who are taking advantage of the WFH flexibility. We allowed a lot of flexibility, only requiring people to work in the office for 2 days a week. Employees would make life decisions assuming that we would allow them to work from home 100%, such as buying a puppy that needed around the clock attention, saying they weren't feeling well (but for 2 weeks), etc. We are looking to require a 100% return to the office within the next month because of this.
- I don't believe the personnel is effective working from home
- I feel productivity decreases with remote work, at least with our current employees. We
   offered remote work during the pandemic, most didn't like it.
- We feel it's important to work together face to face. working from home is done on a case by case for special situations but in general, we expect employees to work in the office.

Gro-Nova Employee Retention 2022 Poll

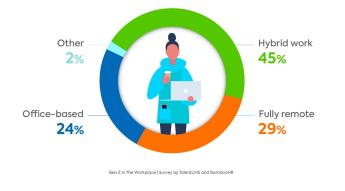
# Who's leaving, and why

50% of people currently working remotely say if their current company doesn't continue to offer remote-work options long-term, they'll look for a job at a company that does.

s://www.cnbc.com/2021/04/19/1-in-4-workers-is-considering-quitting-their-job-after-the-pandemic.html

Gro-Nova Employee Retention 2022 Poll

How Gen Z employees prefer to work





# **Pros of working remotely**



# Cons of working remotely



# **Characteristics of High Performing Teams**

# Commitment/Trust in Each Other & Purpose

- Collective Responsibility
- Understanding the Rules of Engagement
- Understanding of Team/Individual Goals
- Leadership of the Team Shifts
   Occasionally to Drive Results
- Engage in Extensive Dialogue No Worker Left Behind
   Conflict is Managed, Criticism is

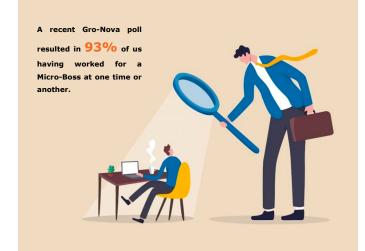
Actively Diffuse Tension/Friction

- Constructive
   Oriented Toward Problem
- Oriented Toward Problem
   Solving & Removing Obstacles
- Personal Responsibility & Accountability

We had leadership issue before remote that are made worse with remote.







"If you as a leader are uncomfortable with remote work, you need to come to terms that it's not the teams inability to handle it, but yours."

Jeff Gross



# Challenges inherent in remote work include:

- Lack of face-to-face supervision
- Lack of access to information
- Social isolation
- Distractions at home
- Enhanced issues with already existing silos





# **REMOTE WORK POLICY BEST PRACTICES**

- Will working be a choice or mandated.
- Will a budget be given for internet and home office set up.
- Implementing continuous feedback loops so there's not an "out of sight, out of mind" situation.
- Put it in writing.
- Working remotely is a privilege and can be revoked for performance issues.
- Work hours need to be adhered to.
- Internet Security
- Clearly define:
  - How will employees communicate with management?
  - With each other?
- What will the response time be for management communications?
- Policy should specify how an employee's productivity will be measured.
- Safety

# **REMOTE WORK POLICY BEST PRACTICES**

Your Remote Work Policy Should be Created from The Bottom Up -Not The Top Down

### Hybrid Work Policy Examples

the Executive Vice President or higher prior to any work being performed.

Hybrid work privileges are offered to full time employees in good standing, who meet all of the following criteria:

- You may work from home one day every other week if you have worked in the industry one year or less.
- You may work from home one day per week if you have worked in the industry from one to two years.
   You may work from home two days per week if you have worked in the industry over two years.
- You are not a receptionist.
- You agree to provide a safe work environment for yourself and sign the company's waiver of liability form.
   Your remote work performance will be at least as productive as your office work performance.

If you are interested in relocating or planning to relocate to a different state, please discuss it with your manager and/or HR, even if you're already in a full-time remote or hybrid position. Authorization to permanently work in another state or temporarily or permanently work in another country must first be discussed and approved by

We trust all our employees to get their work done based on internal and external client requirements. By being available (or communicating the lack thereof), you will be responsive to your teammates.

# LAST THOUGHT

To improve your retention, you will need to improve your culture. Creating a Stay Culture with a People First doctrine will raise your organization to new heights in employer, employee, and customer satisfaction.

# Win-Win-Win!!





# emPOWER - ON!

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