Six Guaranteed Ways to Torpedo Your MPD Culture

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Failing to model healthy MPD habits.

The first way to torpedo your MPD culture.

- 1. Do as I say, not as I do.
 - a. Not ______ support.
 - b. Making _____
 - c. Saying you'll raise support but failing to _____
 - d. Being ______ of training and resources.
 - e. Not making ______ a part of the work week.
- 2. Turn to your table and discuss one way you can improve in modeling healthy MPD habits for your team.
- 3. What's your plan to change this?

Poor talk.

The second way to torpedo your MPD culture.

- 1. Poor talk:
 - a. Let's start with a competition for the worst poor talk story:
 - i. Share some of the most awful stories of poor talk you have heard as a missionary.
 - b. What is the net result of an MPD's leaders poor talk on his MPD culture?
 - i. List some ideas on your whiteboard at your table.
- 2. Review your MPD expectations for these areas and evaluate if they are clear. Here are MPD areas that need clear expectations:
 - a. What does it mean to be fully funded?
 - b. What does a 40 hour MPD work week look like? How many calls and meetings?
 - c. What is the expectation for healthy communication to partners?
 - d. On the field how much time weekly is to be dedicated to MPD?
 - e. What does underfunded mean? What are the processes and systems in place when someone is underfunded?

Failing to set clear expectations.

The third way to torpedo your MPD culture.

- 1. A story of poor expectations:
 - a. Middle school students, rocks and poor expectations.
- 2. A failure to set expectations is a failure of ______, thus making it ______ to achieve.
- 3. Review your MPD expectations for these areas and evaluate if they are clear. Here are MPD areas that need clear expectations:
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- a. They will perform better under _____. (see the Hawthorne effect)
 - b. They get ______ feedback helping them improve.
 - c. It forces you to ______ on commitments.
 d. It creates _____ deadlines for ______ things.

 - e. It keeps staff grounded in
 - f. It gives you access to learn from others _____.
 - g. It prevents little problems from turning into

Making exceptions

The fifth way to torpedo your MPD culture.

- 1. Scenario #1 Discuss at your table how this scenario affects MPD culture. Group A is required to raise full funds and admin fees, group B is required to raise full funds and no admin fees, group C only has to raise 50% and no admin fees or benefits, Group D is salaried. New staff are required, veterans are excused from the requirements.
- 2. Scenario #2 Discuss at your table how this scenario affects MPD culture. Missionary A is needed urgently for a position on the field so they are released before full funding is reached. Missionary B is told their position is too valuable to go unfilled so they should raise whatever they can and the mission will cover the rest. Missionary C has a ministry account that has a negative balance over \$20k for more than double the stated policy time frame and is doing ministry and receiving pay.
- 3. Share with us the impact you discuss exceptions can have on a healthy MPD culture.
 - a. Can create _____.
 - b. Can create an unintentional structure.

 - c. Can _____ your most loyal staff.d. Can cause _____ for policies and structure.
 - e. Causes unhealthy practices to be ______ and _____.
 - f. Can lead to more _____
- 4. How do you decide to make an exception and when?

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Looking for the quick fix

The sixth way to torpedo your MPD culture.

5. What would a fad diet look like in MPD?

6. What does it take for MPD to be healthy?

A healthy MPD culture fix has these characteristics:

- Biblically based with best practices
- Clear specific goals for success
- Focuses on long term success
- Emphasizes training
- Coaches for success
- Prioritizes maintenance