## Communicate with H.E.A.R.T.®

# S.T.A.R.T. WITH Heart®

#### Participant Notes

<u>S</u> mile and greet warmly	<ul> <li>Has enormous impact on first impressions</li> <li>Leads to better rapport, greater satisfaction, and can communicate empathy</li> <li>Leads you to be more personal, competent, and more likely to provide better service</li> <li>Genuine smiles can lead to improved mood, stress recovery, and reduced suffering</li> <li>Verbal and nonverbal behaviors need to be consistent</li> </ul>
Tell your name, role and what to expect	<ul> <li>Key to communicating our role, how we work together as a team, and how we will take care of them</li> <li>Introductions include: smiling, eye contact, name, clear explanation of your role, expectations</li> <li>Exhibit a friendly, polite, respectful, calm, and professional attitude</li> <li>People are more likely to build rapport with someone when they know their name and have the opportunity to connect with them as people</li> </ul>
<u>A</u> ctive listening and assist	<ul> <li>Requires us to hear the entire story, attend to verbal and nonverbal cues, reflect back what was heard, and allow for clarification</li> <li>Resist the urge to jump in with your own thoughts or solutions</li> <li>Providing a listening ear and some appreciation for what is said communicates empathy</li> <li>We are all responsible to caring for our patients and each other</li> </ul>
<b>R</b> apport and relationship building	<ul> <li>Establishing rapport is our ability to connect with each other</li> <li>A friendly greeting and brief social comments builds trust and communicates empathy</li> <li>Results in higher satisfaction, willingness to return, and fewer negative reviews</li> <li>Examples of topics for building rapport: weather, sports, vacations, hometown</li> <li>Nonverbal communication includes: comfortable eye contact, touch (when culturally acceptable), nodding head, smiling when appropriate</li> <li>Verbal affirmations of empathy - S.A.V.E. mnemonic</li> <li>Support: "I'm here for you. Let's work together."</li> <li>Acknowledge: "You have a lot on your plate."</li> <li>Validate: "I would feel this way too."</li> <li>Emotion Naming: "You seem upset."</li> </ul>
<mark>1</mark> hank you	<ul> <li>Powerful to express that it's a privilege to take care of each other</li> <li>Meaningful thank you includes three components <ul> <li>Specific act you are thankful for</li> <li>Acknowledgement of effort</li> <li>What it meant to you</li> </ul> </li> <li>Examples of gratitude <ul> <li>"Thank you for allowing me to participate in your care."</li> <li>"Thanks for helping me with that project."</li> <li>"Thank you for being a valued patient here."</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

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# Respond wITH H.E.A.R.T.®

#### —— Participant Notes —

<u>H</u> ear	<ul> <li>Listening allows us to get the information we need to effectively perform service recovery and establish trust</li> <li>Components of active listening are: hear the entire story without interruption, attend to verbal and nonverbal cues, reflect back what you hear, allow time for clarification, summarize what you heard</li> </ul>
<u>E</u> mpathize	<ul> <li>Empathy is the ability to imagine oneself in another's place and understand their perspective, feelings, desires, and ideas</li> <li>Expressing empathy connects us and builds trust</li> <li>When we show empathy, we are more engaged and satisfied in our work, suffer less burnout, and feel helpful and generous</li> <li>Nonverbal communication to build empathy includes: comfortable eye contact, touch (when culturally acceptable), nodding head, open body posture, smiling when appropriate, pausing, slowing pace of conversation, allowing silence</li> <li>Refrain from saying phrases such as: "I understand," "Don't worry," "But"</li> <li>Verbal affirmations of empathy - S.A.V.E. mnemonic <u>S</u>upport: "I'm here for you. Let's work together." <u>A</u>cknowledge: "You have a lot on your plate." <u>V</u>alidate: "I would feel this way too." <u>E</u>motion Naming: "You seem upset."</li> </ul>
Apologize	<ul> <li>Are more effective if they are offered after communicating empathy</li> <li>This does not mean it is your fault or that you accept/assign responsibility or blame</li> <li>Acknowledges the concern and expresses regret for what the other person is experiencing</li> <li>Effective apologies can restore relationships and promote healing after damage has been done for both parties</li> <li>Examples <ul> <li>"I'm sorry you had to wait 45 minutes past your appointment time."</li> <li>"I apologize I didn't respond to your email sooner."</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<u>R</u> espond	<ul> <li>Take ownership of the situation by: addressing what you can do realistically, set expectations and time frames, give options (when appropriate), and follow up</li> <li>Examples of statements that indicate your intent <ul> <li>'If it's okay with you, I'd like to do on your behalf."</li> <li>'I will page your doctor now. I know he is currently with another patient. If I don't hear back within ten minutes, I will page his nurse."</li> </ul> </li> <li>If the situation escalates, follow the 3 Levels of Service Recovery in order: <ul> <li>Level 1: Caregiver uses H.E.A.R.T.® model</li> <li>Level 2: Caregiver refers to Management</li> <li>Level 3: Caregiver/Management refers to Ombudsman</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<u>T</u> hank	<ul> <li>Expressing thanks brings awareness to issues and allows us to improve</li> <li>It's a privilege to take care of each other; thanking someone communicates what we value</li> <li>A meaningful thank you includes three components: <ul> <li>Specific act you are thankful for</li> <li>Acknowledge how difficult it was to speak up</li> <li>What it means to us to receive this information</li> </ul> </li> <li>Examples of gratitude <ul> <li>"I appreciate you bringing this to my attention so I may address it. Is there anything else I can do before I go?"</li> <li>"Thank you for helping me with that report so I could submit it on time."</li> </ul> </li> </ul>