# Expanding the Coaching Conversation and Coach Training to Teams and Groups - Virtually Jennifer Britton, PCC, CPCC ACTO – June 9, 2017

#### **Overview of our Session**

- Explore the nuances of group and team coaching
- Identify core skills for masterful group and team coaches
- Explore best practices for training team and group coaches, including stretch points
- Discover core elements for creating engaging virtual training
- Identify specific activities that build trust, connection and safety in the virtual domain

#### **Welcome and Introductions**

What does expanding the coaching conversation to groups and teams look like for you? Your students? Virtually?

# **Current Trends / Context for Group and Team Coaching (10 min)**

Current Trends – The Context



What trends and themes do you see influencing group and team coaching?

# **Best Practices for Team and Group Coaching**

Agreements

Pre and post work (especially virtual programs)
A variety of approaches to draw upon
A variety of tools to support articulation of focus
Leveraging focus on measurement
Small is beautiful!
It takes time

## **Best Practices for Training Coaches**

Practice, practice!
Parallel Process
Exposure to different approaches and styles
Exposure to different platforms

Exposure to different frameworks/theories

**Group and Team Development** 

Conflict/Working Across Differences/Difficult Conversations

Exploring and understanding the business case and cycle of group and team coaching (they are different)

Understanding the differences between group and team coaching

# What's Added when Coaching Many

Core
Coaching
Skills
Co-Facilitation
Width and Breadth
Role of Coach,
Peers and Leader
Multiple Agendas,
Perspectives
Widening Scope
Multiple Styles
Additional Skills –
Facilitation/Adult Ed

**Excerpt:** From One to Many: Best Practices for Team and Group Coaching, Britton (2013)

#### **Best Practices for Training Group and Team Coaches**

What do you see as 1-2 best practices for training exceptional group and team coaches?

Stretch points for coaches new to team and group coaching

Team Coaching:	Group Coaching:	Both:
Following the various layers of	Being able to work with different	Managing Tricky Issues
dynamics (interpersonal/roles/history)	styles	Virtual Agility
Understanding the dynamics of teams	Finding common ground	
Having a variety of approaches	(Dotmocracy)	

Building Our Toolkit
Using the Post-It, what is one resource you would recommend?
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Setting People up for Success - Virtually
In setting people up for success virtually, consider these questions:
<ul> <li>What barriers will people face in their learning process or discussion? It could be that technology might get in</li> </ul>
the way, it could be lack of clarity.
What pre-work will support people being ready to learn?
What goals are people wanting to work on?
What accountability will sustain the conversation?
What other things are going to set people up for success?
(Excerpt: Effective Virtual Conversations)
TRIAD of Essential Elements
TRIAD OF ESSENTIAL Elements
To all Construction and Coffee
Trust, Connection and Safety
Building Connection Virtually
Breakouts
Video Streaming
Pre-calls
Buddies/Peer Partners
• Introductions
Table Group Work
What are 4 things you can do to boost TRUST, CONNECTION OR SAFETY?
What are 4 things you can do to boost 11031, CONNECTION ON SALETT!
Creating Safety – Virtually!
• Clarity in terms of the purpose of the call, what the call is for, end results and what is expected of them (input,

- Clarity in terms of the purpose of the call, what the call is for, end results and what is expected of them (input, interaction etc).
- Co-creating shared Group or Team Agreements or Ways of Working—how are we going to operate together?
- Having a roadmap—knowing where you are going.
- Providing an opportunity for all group members to voice concerns.
- Connecting with others in a deeper way.
- Connecting with the facilitator or leader of the call.
- Using language and word choice and approaches which are appropriate for the conversation space.
- Using a platform that is appropriate for the context, and providing instructions on how to access it before the conversation if people are new to it.
- Providing materials which support the learner in moving forward (Job Aids, Discussion Guides).

Connecting learning and conversations to those in the environment.
 (Excerpt: Effective Virtual Conversations, Britton, 2017)

# **Building Trust**

- Walk the talk
- Be fair
- Provide clear communication
- Build on strengths
- Take ownership for what works and what doesn't
- Clarify expectations
- Connect people
- Confidentiality—a safe space to connect
- Clarify process—let people know what they can expect
- Set people up for success with pre-work and follow-up

(Excerpt: Effective Virtual Conversations, 2017)

#### Resources

#### Books:

Britton, Jennifer. Effective Group Coaching, Wiley, 2010.

Britton, Jennifer. From One to Many: Best Practices for Team and Group Coaching, Jossey-Bass, 2013.

Britton, Jennifer. Effective Virtual Conversations, 2017 (Available in May)

Clutterbuck, David. Coaching the Team At Work, 2007

Cockerham, Ginger. Group Coaching Blueprint. 2011

Fogelberg, Fredrik and Jude Tavanyar et al Live Connections: Virtual Facilitation for High Engagement and Powerful Learning, Nomadic, 2015.

Hawkins, Peter. Leadership Team Coaching, 2011. Thornton, Christine. Group and Team Coaching. 2010

# Engagement Opportunity

What resources do you have/would you recommend for Coaching Many?

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