Four Ways to Advance Your Fundraising Leadership This Year

Dr. Patton McDowell, MBA, CFRE February 11, 2025





Presentation Goals

- a. Acknowledge Your Challenges
- b. Provide Practical Takeaways
- c. Equip Your "Vehicle" for Leadership Success



Leadership Lessons







- 16 Years
- 320 Organizations
- 303 Podcast Conversations





I want to help 10,000 talented individuals excel at nonprofit leadership





Session Design



Information & Motivation



Four Key Challenges



Actions & Activities



What Leadership Challenges Do You Face?



What Leadership Challenges Do You Face?



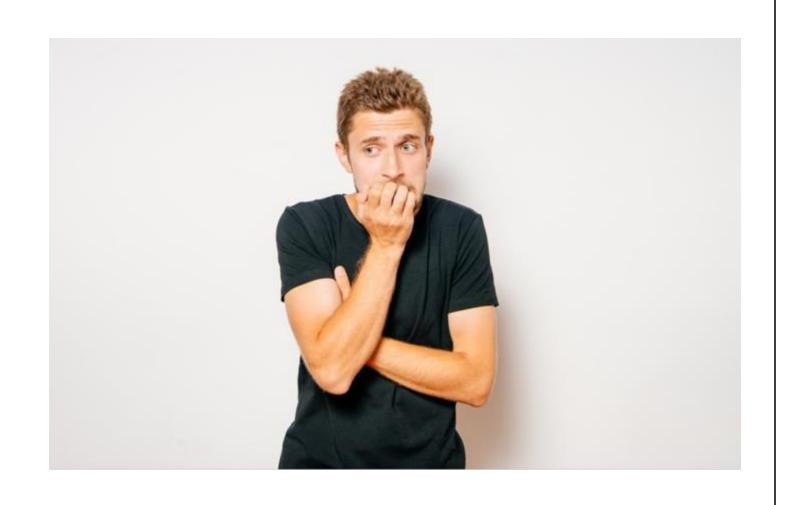
They Said:

- 1. Volume
- 2. Mindset
- 3. Recognition
- 4. Isolation

Challenge One: Volume

"I just can't keep up with everything on my plate"





Challenge Two: Mindset

'I'm just not good at

Challenge Three: Recognition



"My
boss/organization/board
doesn't appreciate
what I'm doing"

Challenge Four: Isolation

"I really don't have any one to talk to"



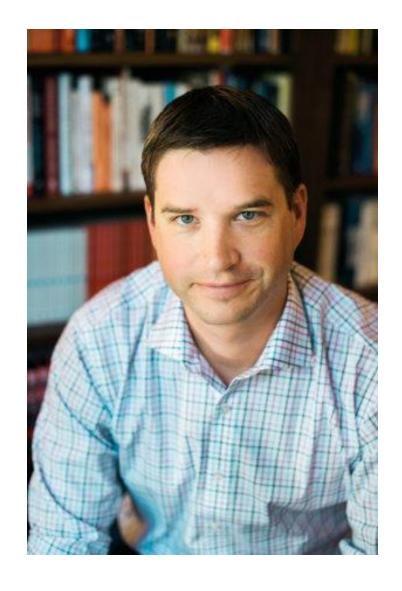


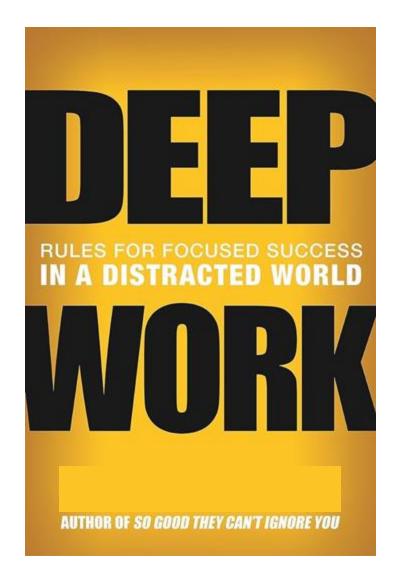
The Plan: Four Ways to Advance Your Leadership this Year

Too Much Volume? Sharpen Your Focus Fixed Mindset? Stack Your Skills Recognition? Amplify Your Voice Isolation?

Build Your Community

Author Quiz!





Too Much Volume? Sharpen Your Focus



Three Ways to Sharpen Focus:

• Vision Framework

• Declutter

 Update Your Routines & Rituals

Sharpen Your Focus: Vision Framework

My **five-year goal** is to become the CEO of a healthcare nonprofit and I'm willing to relocate anywhere in the Southeast. I would enjoy the complexity of a larger organization. To round out my leadership profile, I will enroll in a budget and planning certification at the local community college and will seek a **leadership position** within the Association for Christian Fundraising (ACF).

- 1. Timeline
- 2. Sector
- 3. Geography
- 4. Culture
- 5. Learning Plan

Sharpen Your Focus: Declutter



Delete, Recycle, Scan & Shred



Organize Your Digital (and actual) Library



Limit Access,
Tighten Meetings

Sharpen Your Focus: Update Your Routines & Rituals

- Capture, Prioritize & Review
- Calendar: Energy Management
- Tackle One **Ritual**: Morning, Evening, Weekly
- **Big Four** Review: Sleep, Diet, Fitness & Mental Health



SUMMARY: Sharpen Your Focus



Three Ways to Sharpen Focus:

Vision Framework

• Declutter

 Update Your Routines & Rituals

UPDATED EDITION

Author Quiz





HOW WE CAN
LEARN TO FULFILL
OUR POTENTIAL

2 MILLION COPIES IN PRINT

*parenting
*business
*school
*relationships

"Through clever research studies and engaging writing,

Dweck illuminates how our beliefs about our capabilities exert tremendous influence on how we learn and which paths we take in life."

—BILL GATES, GatesNotes

Fixed Mindset? Stack Your Skills

01

Embrace Self-Assessment

02

Coach & Be Coached

03

Change Internal Dialogue

Stack Your Skills: Embrace Self-Assessment

Productivity & Strategic Sector Learning Plan Organization Planning Knowledge Interpersonal Management Financial Marketing & Communications **Practices** Social Media Acumen Governance & Data Inclusive Strategic Management Board Networking **Practices** & Technology Development

Stack Your Skills: Embrace Self-Assessment

Productivity Sector Strategic Learning Plan • Pick One **Strength** & Organization Planning Knowledge and One **Challenge** Financial Marketing Management • Design your next Communication & Social Media **Practices** Acumen "semester" Governance Data Inclusive Strategic Email me for this worksheet! Management & Board Networking **Practices** PM@pmanonprofit.com & Technology Development

Stack Your Skills: Coach & Be Coached

Who Can You
Help?
Who Can Address
Your Challenge?

Stack Your Skills: Improve Self-Talk

Journal Prompts:

Gratitude: 3 Things

Creative: 10 Ideas



SUMMARY: Stack Your Skills

01

Embrace Self-Assessment

02

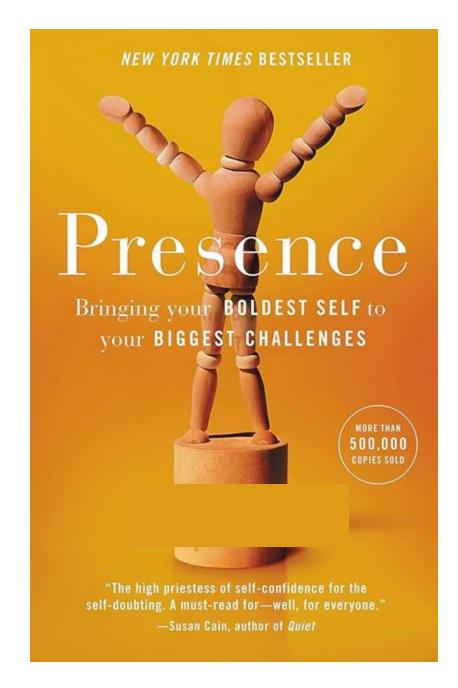
Coach & Be Coached

03

Change Internal Dialogue

Author Quiz





No Impact? Amplify Your Voice







Write

Speak

Present

Amplify Your Voice:

Write

- Handwritten Notes (3 a week)
- Executive Summary: One Pager
- Weekly Persuasive Post



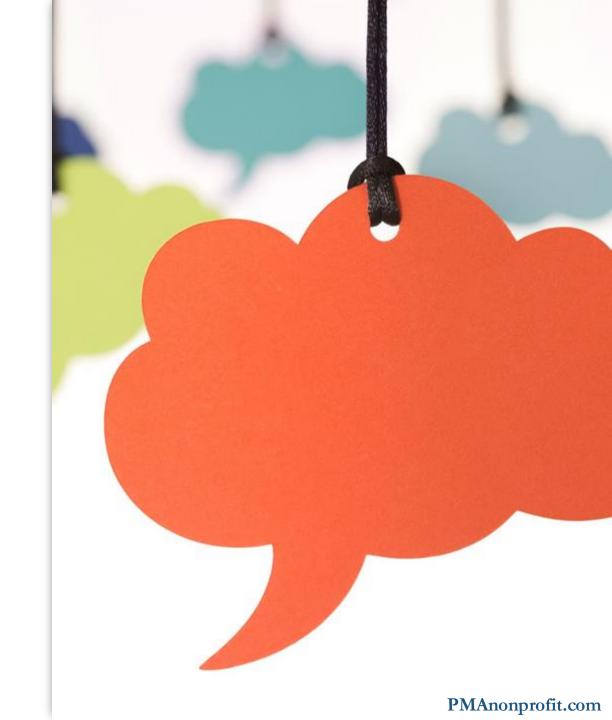
Amplify Your Voice:

Speak

Practice Precision

Strategic Interviews

Listen Better/Ask Better Questions



Amplify Your Voice:

Present



Shine in Meetings



Community Volunteer



Seek Conference Session/Introduction

SUMMARY: Amplify Your Voice







Write

Speak

Present

Author Quiz (Last One!)



#1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLING AUTHOR



never eat alone

AND OTHER SECRETS TO SUCCESS, ONE RELATIONSHIP AT A TIME

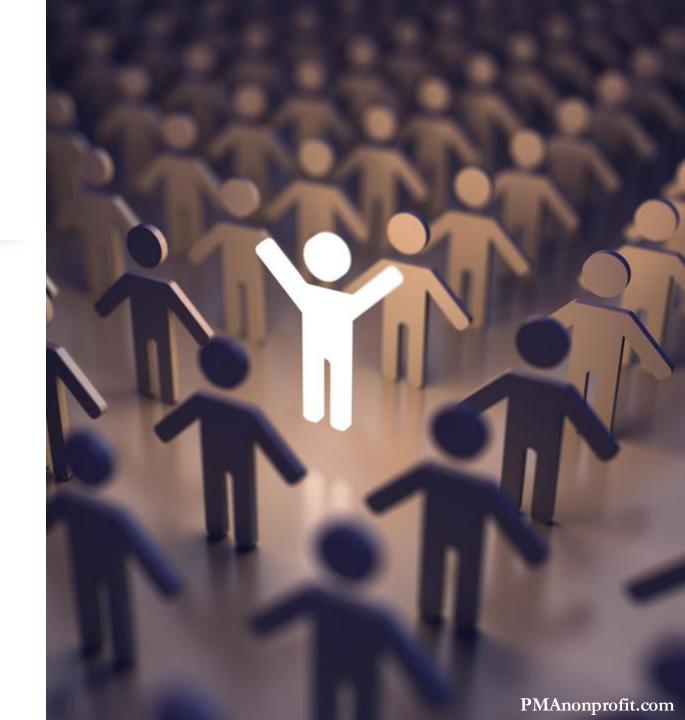
KEITH FERRAZZI

Isolated? Build Your Community

Be A Conference Commando

Know Your Comps & Aspirationals

Create Your Mastermind



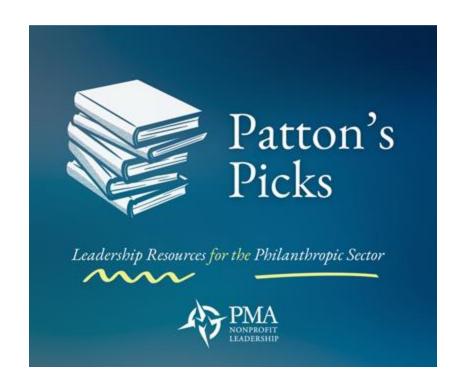
Build Your Community: Conference Commando

• Connect With Three People

Stand and Ask a Question

• Three Take-Aways Per Session





Build Your Community: Know Your Comps & Aspirationals

• Sector Awareness: Best in State? Best in US?

• Two People Who Share Your Role

• Two People You Aspire to Be Like Why did you **get into** this type of work?

What professional accomplishment are you most **proud** of?

What is the biggest **challenge** you've faced?

What **resources** have been the most helpful to you along the way?

Build Your Community:

Find Your Mastermind

"The coordination of knowledge and effort of two or more people, who work toward a definite purpose, in the spirit of harmony."

Think and Grow RICH

NAPOLEON HILL



THE ORIGINAL BESTSELLING EDITION IN PRINT SINCE 1937

Build Your Community: Find Your Mastermind





Joe Bell Executive Director Gaston Hope in Christ Gastonia, NC



Rodney Fuller

Principal
RLF Consulting
Pineville, NC



Latoya Gardner
President & CEO
House of Mercy
Gastonia, NC



Chris Jenkins Executive Director Hope Restorations Kinston, NC



Jamie McCormick Senior Legislative Associate NADO Washington, DC



William McNeely
Founder & CEO
Do Greater CLT
Charlotte, NC



Alyssia Palacios-Woods

Executive Director

Capital IDEA
Austin, TX



S Kate Zearing
Dir. of Philanthropy
NCSU, Poole College of Mgmt.
Raleigh, NC

• Time & Structure

• Support & Accountability

Strategic Networking

• Good People = Good Things Happen

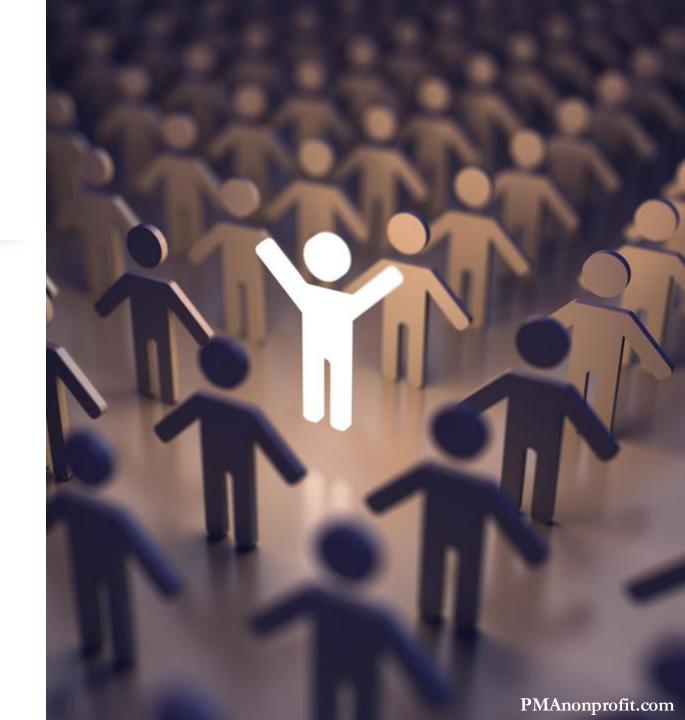
pmanonprofit.com/mastermind

SUMMARY: Build Your Community

Be A Conference Commando

Know Your Two **Comps** & Two **Aspirationals**

Create Your Mastermind



SUMMARY: Advance Your Leadership this Year?

Too Much Volume? Sharpen Your Focus Fixed Mindset? Stack Your Skills Recognition? Amplify Your Voice Isolation?

Build Your Community

Thank you

Keep in Touch!

PM@pmanonprofit.com







