



Save the World Party!

PURPOSE OF ACTIVITY: To offer a fun, supportive, and interactive way for strangers, friends, co-workers, students, neighbors, or affiliated groups to voice their ideas and discuss the merits of a service, process, product, or effort submitted by each attendee that addresses a community or workplace issue.

REASONING: Many people feel left out of decision making processes at work or in life, yet they have insight and ideas that they feel have value. They may feel unprepared or lack the confidence to communicate their opinion with people perceived to be either more educated and experienced, or uncaring and disconnected on the issues important to them. People enjoy listening and contributing to ideas and if they're part of the discussion, they're more apt to embrace the changes that may come.

CURRENT PRACTICES: Most people don't have access to the board rooms of companies or strategic planning processes within government, education or other institutions that affect their lives. And if they did, most would be disappointed in the stuffy, political, competitive environment they walked into. The public ends up using threaded discussions amongst social media sites, family reunions, hallways, coffee shops and bars to express their inner feelings and ideas for getting things done better.

SOLUTION: Why not offer a fun, "game like" group activity that allows people to be people and bring their ideas to a supportive audience also interested in doing good work. You never know, when people feel the freedom to work out solutions to issues, they actually may take action with support from others.

THE PROCESS:

People would be trained to facilitate and follow up with participants on the 2 hour session at a pre-selected venue that agreed to promote the function to their customers, members, or staff.

Facilitators would manage the online registration and confirmation process that includes the "rules of the game", idea submission process and selection, location, date and time of event.

The Rules of the Game: After the first 10 ideas are submitted with payment (or not), that group party will be considered full and closed off for further entries. The 10 ideas will sent back to all 10 people selected for that party and the party goers will need to select 5 ideas (including their own if they wish) without knowing the identity of the other attendees. The participants will not be notified of the selected ideas before the party.

The facilitators duties include: present the top 5 ideas; establish and maintain a fun environment; remind participants of the rules; monitor the flow of the discussion and the behaviors of the participants; bring the session to closure; and offer opportunities for further discussion and resources based on the ideas presented.

For those 5 participants whose ideas were not selected, they could resubmit their idea to another party as is, or receive feedback from other participants or facilitators on why it wasn't selected and suggestions to enhance it. The ideas discussed will be shared online afterwards (Facebook/listserv) and availability for side bar discussions can be encouraged to move it forward.

For information on other "Opportunity Zone" activities and programs, go to: www.theoppzone.com