

Compassionate leaders display many different positive traits and, young or old, challenging ourselves to improve on those traits helps us to become the best humans we can be. This activity will get you or your group thinking about the traits needed to be a strong compassionate leader and assess the traits you already have and how to strengthen them.



**TIME REQUIREMENT**

approx. 1 hour at start of campaign  
 + 1 hour at conclusion of campaign,  
 adaptable

**1 WHAT IS A COMPASSIONATE LEADER MADE OF?**

First, review and discuss the 9 traits of a compassionate leader. Can your group provide examples of what each of them looks like in real life?

**2 SELF-ASSESSMENT**

Group leaders, pass out a self-assessment rubric to each group member to assess their strength on each of the traits. This exercise should be completed individually and confidentially.

**3 CREATE A GROUP CHART**

- Group leaders, collect all of the individual self-assessments. Create a group chart by tallying how many people chose "strength," "neutral," and "needs improvement" for each category. Keep students' responses anonymous while doing this.
- Highlight the group strengths and then discuss how the group can improve their weaknesses. Save a copy of this chart to refer back to.

**4 DURING YOUR CAMPAIGN...**

Throughout the service campaign, refer to the group chart and the traits of a compassionate leader. Recognize when you or a member of your group displays one of the traits.

**5 AFTER YOUR CAMPAIGN...**

- At the end of the campaign, complete steps 1-3 again. Compare the first group chart to the second to assess the group's growth. Was there a big change? Celebrate how far you've come as a group!
- After group members have completed a second self-assessment, hand back their first assessment so that they can compare their answers and recognize their own growth as a compassionate leader.

COMPASSIONATE LEADERSHIP SKILLS & TRAITS



**Introspective**

Examines their beliefs to consider how their actions affect the world around them



**Acts w/ a Purpose**

Makes choices that align with a commitment to have a positive impact on important issues



**Thinks Critically**

Explores a topic from all angles before making a well-thought-out decision



**Empathetic**

Connects to feelings outside their own by viewing concepts through the lens of another



**Collaborates & Communicates Openly**

Embraces the inspiration and participation of others by accepting new ideas and perspectives



**A Team Player**

Works well in a team and engages their peers by leveraging their unique, individual skill sets



**Inspires Peers**

Sets a positive example for the people around them



**Hopeful & Optimistic**

Stays positive and committed to achieving their goal



**Adaptable & Resilient**

Embraces challenges and overcomes setbacks

EXTENSION ACTIVITY:

- **Evaluating Peers:** After completing the individual rubrics, you can distribute another chart. This time, group members don't evaluate themselves, but instead assess one of their peers. They can rate their peers on how often they exhibit each trait. Anonymous evaluations encourage honesty. You can do this again at the end of the campaign and share with each group member to see how their peers evaluated them. Or maybe do peer evaluations mid-way through your campaign so they can see how they may be improving!



**Instructions:** Mark each trait with an "X" to indicate it is a "strength," it "needs improvement," or it is "neutral" (or you're not sure.)

	 <b>Introspective</b> Examines their beliefs to consider how their actions affect the world around them	 <b>Acts w/ a Purpose</b> Makes choices that align with a commitment to have a positive impact on important issues	 <b>Thinks Critically</b> Explores a topic from all angles before making a well-thought-out decision	 <b>Empathetic</b> Connects to feelings outside their own by viewing concepts through the lens of another	 <b>Collaborates &amp; Communicates</b> Embraces the inspiration and participation of others by accepting new ideas and perspectives	 <b>A Team Player</b> Works well in a team and engages their peers by leveraging their unique, individual skill sets	 <b>Inspires Peers</b> Sets a positive example for the people around them	 <b>Hopeful &amp; Optimistic</b> Stays positive and committed to achieving their goal	 <b>Adaptable &amp; Resilient</b> Embraces challenges and overcomes setbacks
<b>Strength</b>									
<b>Neutral</b>									
<b>Needs Improvement</b>									

NAME:

DATE: