

# **Employee & Retiree Service Center**

## Pillars of the Culture of Respect

The purpose of these pillars is to provide a code of conduct that fosters a respectful work environment within ERSC. All members of the ERSC team are held accountable for upholding the culture of respect.

### **ENHANCING COLLABORATION**

Foster the active participation of staff in the decision-making process while heightening morale and enabling employees to take pride in their work.

- Provide input, opinions, and feedback.
- Identify and include stakeholders affected by the process or change.
- Acknowledge and consider new ideas. Provide follow up.
- Be open to opportunities for professional growth.

Develop a commitment to team work which increases employee effectiveness and overall performance.

#### **RESOLVING DIFFERENCES**

Manage conflicts. Conflicts can be differences over turf (who should do what), disagreements over policy (how things should be done), and differences in personality/style.

- Be willing to find a solution through compromise.
- Utilize active listening when engaging coworkers.
- Practice self-restraint. Beware of the emotional response.

Successful resolution of differences results from demonstrating professional and courteous behavior. Let go of past differences and focus on future positive interactions.

#### SUPPORTING OUR COWORKERS

Promote cohesion among staff by being willing to help each other for the betterment of ERSC.

- Recognize all employees as members of a united team.
- Understand the need to request and give help to fellow coworkers.
- Express appreciation for the willingness to give a helping hand.

Lead the active support of coworkers and promote teamwork with the added benefit of enhancing knowledge.

#### COMMUNICATING OPENLY

Encourage employees to have a thorough understanding of organizational goals and what needs to be done in order to accomplish these goals.

- Seek to understand each other's point of view and assume positive intent.
- Be clear with expectations and explanations.
- Verbalize when executive decision making is unavoidable.
- Be aware of tone and nonverbal cues.

Good communication results in employees feeling valued. Employees who feel valued are more engaged in the success of the organization (ERSC).

**MCPS**