



What is Your Why?

SALLY WONG, WELCOME CENTER
MONICA APPLGATE, MAINTENANCE & OPERATIONS

CLASSIFIED PROFESSIONAL LEARNING DAY
OCTOBER 11, 2023

Workshop Goals

- ▶ Self-reflection on your personal career journey
- ▶ Draft your WHY statement
- ▶ Create an action plan for next steps

Your Why

- ▶ Your “Why” is a statement of purpose that describes why you do the work you do and why you live the lifestyle you do. It is your calling. It is your conviction.

Why do
you do
what you
do?



Money



Stability



GO DEEPER!

Why is it important?



ACTS AS A
LIFE COMPASS.



CAN BRING MEANING
TO YOUR LIFE.



OVERCOME
OBSTACLES.



Video:

The Impact of Finding Your WHY



Video: The Impact of Finding Your WHY

- ▶ Thoughts?
- ▶ Questions?

Sally's Career Journey

**Bachelor's Degree in
Linguistics and
Communication,**
UC Davis

1999

**Technical
Writer/Administrator,**
Dept of Veterans Affairs

1999 – 2001

**Masters Degree in
Teaching English to
Speakers of Other
Languages (TESOL),**
Biola University

2003

Part- Time ESL Teacher

- San Leandro Adult School
- Fremont Adult School
- Garden Grove Adult Education
- Santa Ana College
- Berkeley Adult School

2003-2010, 2016-2017

**Technology Education
Coordinator,**
English Center

2010 - 2015

**Assessment & Testing
Center Coordinator,**
College of Marin

2016 - 2021

**Program Coordinator:
Welcome, Orientation and
Student Success,**
College of Marin

2021 - Present

FUTURE GOALS:

**Manager?
ESL Teacher?
ESL Teacher Trainer?**

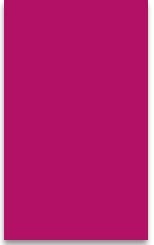


Looking at your journey,
ask some self-reflection questions:

- ▶ How did you get to COM?
- ▶ Was it an expected or unexpected path?
- ▶ What lessons have you learned about yourself along the way?
- ▶ Looking forward, what are one or two of your future career goals? Why these goals?

Small Group Sharing

- ▶ Share your timeline/journey/diagram and reflections in a small group (as you are comfortable).
- ▶ We will then share some group highlights as a large group.



Your WHY Statement is “a statement of your value at work as much as it is the reason your friends love you. We don’t have a professional WHY and personal WHY. We are who we are wherever we are. Your contribution is not a product or a service. It’s the thing around which everything you do—the decisions you make, the tasks you perform, the products you sell—aligns to bring about the impact you envision.”

From the book, 'Find Your Why' by Simon Sinek

Your WHY Statement should be:

- simple and clear
- actionable
- focused on how you'll contribute to others, and
- expressed in affirmative language that resonates with you

Examples

Simon Sinek

“To inspire people to do the things that inspire them so that, together, we can change our world.”

Dean Bokhari

“To empower and educate people everywhere so that they can improve their lives and achieve their goals.”

Anonymous

“To give the gift of compassion to everyone, especially those that society may deem as unworthy, to bring healing to the world.”

How do you write a WHY statement


From today's reflection practices:

- Identify common connections / themes
- Identify core values
 - Narrow it down
 - Try to narrow it to one if you can
- Identify your group of focus
 - Examples:
 - Students
 - Women
 - Everyone
- Identify your goals / desired outcome

Suggested format: "To _____, so that _____"



Video:
Bring your WHY to life

A black and white photograph of a man with glasses and a suit, leaning forward with his arms crossed. The image is overlaid with a white-bordered box containing text. The text asks a question about using one's 'WHY' and includes a hashtag.

**How do you use your
WHY once you've
found it?**

#SIMONSAYS

Video: Bring your WHY to life

- ▶ Thoughts?
- ▶ Questions?

What's your action plan?

- ▶ Try to set a S.M.A.R.T. Goal

Specific

Measurable

Achievable

Relevant

Time-Bound

Action Plan Examples

- ▶ I will finalize my WHY statement by the end of October and post it at my desk or at home.
- ▶ I will share my WHY statement within a week and share with someone I know.
- ▶ I will check out the COM class schedule and plan to take a class next semester for my personal or professional growth.
- ▶ I will volunteer to join a committee or help at an event (or say yes the next time I am asked to volunteer or help) before the end of 2023.

Discussion

- ▶ Thoughts about finding your WHY
- ▶ Why is it important to find your WHY?
- ▶ Share your action plan
- ▶ Questions?

Wrap-Up

- ▶ Share something you appreciated or learned in our session today!
- ▶ Thank you for coming to our workshop! 😊
- ▶ Reconvening at the Jonas Center from 2:30 – 3:00 pm