

Ways to Get Along *Better*

Life Care's *Mission and Values* statement proclaims clearly: "We believe unselfishness and teamwork are vital to the success of the center and the corporation. Every associate should recognize and understand that there must be individual and collective responsibility for the care of each resident and the financial success of the center and of the corporation."

While each of us is unique with particular talents, effective results occur when we pool those skills, love one another, respect each other and his or her contributions to the organization, and function as a finely tuned machine.

Teamwork is an absolute necessity. That means we must maintain a high level of cooperation.

Recently, I discovered in a publication called *Hope Healthletter* some important principles for unity in any organization. The piece is entitled *Ways to Get Along Better*:

- 1. Before you say anything to anyone, ask yourself three questions: (1) Is it true? (2) Is it kind? (3) Is it necessary?**
- 2. Make promises sparingly and keep them faithfully.**
- 3. Never miss an opportunity to compliment or say something encouraging.**
- 4. Refuse to talk negatively about others and don't listen when others do.**
- 5. Have a forgiving view of people. Believe that most people are doing the best they can.**
- 6. Keep an open mind; discuss, don't argue.**
- 7. Forget about counting to 10. Count to 1,000 before saying anything that could make matters worse.**
- 8. Let your virtues speak for themselves.**
- 9. If someone criticizes you, see if there is any truth to what he is saying; if so, make changes.**
- 10. Cultivate your sense of humor.**
- 11. O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.**
(Prayer of Saint Francis of Assisi)

Words fitly spoken. May they help guide your life and mine – individually and as a team.

– Beecher Hunter