# POLARITY MAPPING

- We have provided this Polarity Mapping
  Worksheet to deepen your understanding about
  the principles and elements that are contained
  in the Polarity Map®.
- Don't worry about getting your Polarity Map® right. The purpose of this worksheet is to give you some structured support in creating a Polarity Map® that helps you to see more of the whole reality surrounding a critical issue or reality that is important to you.

# SEEING YOUR POLARITIES

1. Think about some essential issues present within your Organization:

What are the most exciting possibilities?

What are the most difficult, chronic problems?

2. Choose one possibility/problem to work on:

With this issue, your Organization is or should be moving FROM...

And is or should be moving TO...

# COMPLETE YOUR POLARITY MAP®

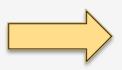
- 1. Review the Sample Polarity Map® (immediately following these instructions)
- 2. Convert your "FROM \_\_\_\_\_\_ TO \_\_\_\_" statement into two pole names for your Polarity Map®. Both Pole names need to be neutral or positive.
- 3. Fill in the blank Polarity Map® provided

## Sample Polarity Map®

Greater Purpose Statement (GPS) - Why leverage this polarity?
Greater Purpose: Effective Leader

# **Upsides**

Positive results gained from focusing on this left pole?



## **Downsides**

Negative results from over-focusing on this left pole to the neglect of the right pole?



Values = positive results of focus on the left pole

Flexibility in responding to new challenges

Innovation and creativity is stimulated

Satisfaction and energy from new opportunities

Values = positive results of focus on the right pole

Clear direction

Completion of projects

Satisfaction and energy from sense of accomplishment

Expansive \_

and

Focused

Lack of direction

Projects not completed

Staff overwhelmed with projects and frustrated with lack of accomplishment

Fears = negative results of over-focus on the left pole to the neglect of the right pole

Rigidly in a rut and unable to respond to new challenges

Lack of innovation and creativity

Staff bored with lack of ideas or new opportunities

Fears = negative results of over-focus on the right pole to the neglect of the left pole

Deeper Fear: Ineffective Leader

Deeper Fear = Loss of GPS

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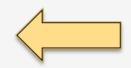
# **Upsides**

Positive results gained from focusing on this right pole?



## **Downsides**

Negative results from over-focusing on this right pole to the neglect of the left pole?



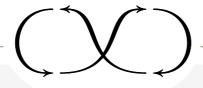
## Greater Purpose Statement (GPS) - Why leverage this polarity? **Greater Purpose** Values = positive results of focus on the left pole Values = positive results of focus on the right pole **Upsides Upsides Enter Positive Enter Positive** results gained results gained from focusing on this right pole from focusing on this left pole and **Downsides Downsides Enter Negative** Enter Negative results from results from over-focusing on over-focusing on this left pole to this right pole to the neglect of the the neglect of the left pole right pole Fears = negative results of over-focus on the left pole to the neglect of the right pole Fears = negative results of over-focus on the right pole to the neglect of the left pole **Deeper Fear** Deeper Fear = Loss of GPS Copyright © 2016, Polarity Partnerships, LLC, All rights reserved

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# AFTER YOU HAVE IDENTIFED YOUR UPSIDES AND DOWNSIDES...

- 1. Review criteria for good Action Steps and Early Warning Signals (following these instructions)
- Review the Sample Polarity Map® containing Action Steps and Early Warnings
- Create your Action Steps and Early Warning Signals and transfer all your content (Upsides & Downsides, Action Steps & Early Warning Signals) into the blank Polarity Map Polarity Map® provided

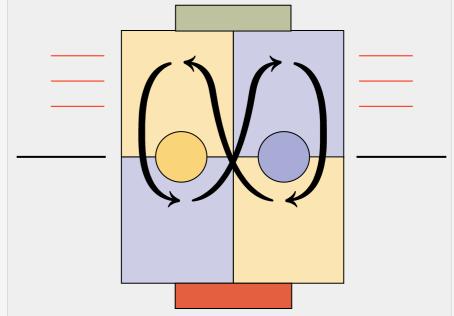
## CRITERIA FOR GOOD ACTION STEPS



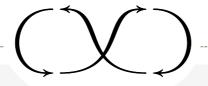
# Actions Steps

 Start with what you are doing now to get the upside of each pole?

- What should you start doing?
- Have to be "Actionable" Within your control, have a name, date and other specifics by it.
- High Leverage Action Steps support both Pole's upsides. Super High Leverage Action Steps support upsides of multiple Polarities.



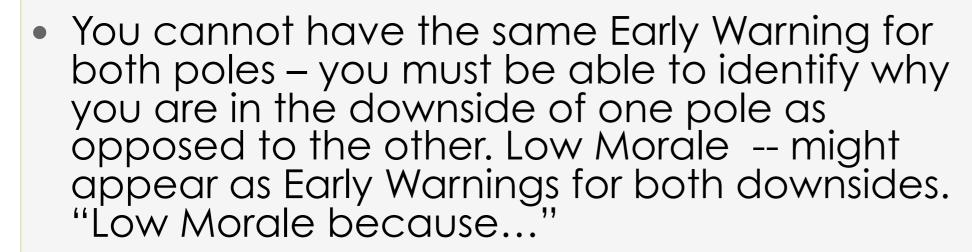
## CRITERIA FOR EARLY WARNING SIGNALS

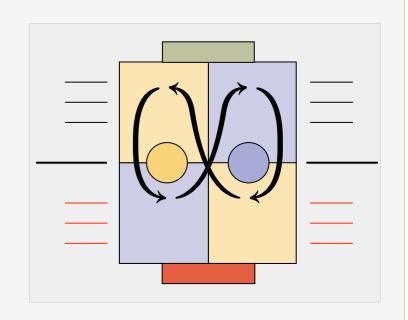


# Early Warnings

- How will you know <u>early</u> that you are getting into the downside of each pole?
- Must be measurable something you can count. Begin with, "Increase in..." or "Decrease in..."







## Sample Polarity Map®

**Action Steps** 

How will we gain or maintain the positive results from focusing on this left pole? What? Who? By When? Measures?

A.Encourage people to be creative in implementing projects.

B.Recognize new ideas and efforts to try something different.

C.Use mistakes as learning opportunities.

## **Early Warnings**

Measurable indicators (things you can count) that will let you know that you are getting into the downside of this left pole.

A.Increase in questions about direction or outcomes desired.

B. Increase in number of projects.

C.Decrease in ontime completions. Greater Purpose Statement (GPS) - Why leverage this polarity?

Effective Leader

Values = positive results of focus on the left pole

Flexibility in responding to new challenges

Innovation and creativity is stimulated

Satisfaction and energy from new opportunities

Values = positive results of focus on the right pole

Clear direction

Completion of projects

Satisfaction and energy from sense of accomplishment

Expansive

**Focused** 

Lack of direction

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#### Ineffective Leader

and

Deeper Fear = Loss of GPS

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## **Action Steps**

How will we gain or maintain the positive results from focusing on this right pole? What? Who? By When? Measures?

A.Provide clear, overall direction for projects.

B.Define and recognize good work and address work not up to standard.

C.Limit the number of projects and concentrate on timely completion.

#### **Early Warnings**

Measurable indicators (things you can count) that will let you know that you are getting into the downside of this right pole

A. Decrease in new ideas and new projects.

B. Increase in complaints about leadership not being responsive to new ideas.

C.Increase in statements of concern about making mistakes.

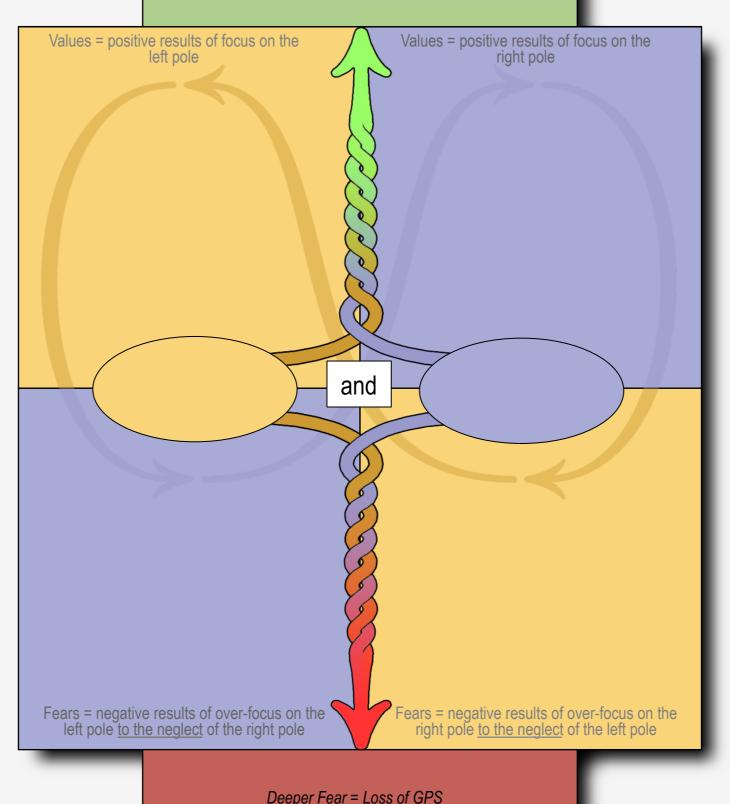
## **Action Steps**

How will we gain or maintain the positive results from focusing on this left pole? What? Who? By When? Measures?

## **Early Warnings**

Measurable indicators (things you can count) that will let you know that you are getting into the downside of this left pole.

#### Greater Purpose Statement (GPS) - Why leverage this polarity?



## **Action Steps**

How will we gain or maintain the positive results from focusing on this right pole? What? Who? By When? Measures?

## **Early Warnings**

Measurable indicators (things you can count) that will let you know that you are getting into the downside of this right pole

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