# Thriving in Uncertain Times



UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF GEORGIA

## **Objectives**

- Understand the nature of change
- Understand change management strategies
- Learn time management strategies
- Learn resiliency techniques to adapt to change & challenges & maintain your motivation

## Change

- What kind of changes do we face at work?
- What kind of changes do we face in our lives?
- What feelings does change bring up for us?

# Four Roles in Change Scenario

- Investigator-seeks information, wants to know what is going on, has begun to explore the change and is open
- Opportunist-feels things will work out, wants to figure out how to make the change work for their best interest, feels that they will survive and may even do better

# Four Roles in Change Scenario

- Resistor- feels angry and frustrated, complains a lot and acts out in counterproductive ways
- Adaptor- wants to work as a team to incorporate change, can be used as a champion for change and sees the change as an adventure

# Inevitability of Change

There are only two possible outcomes:

- Be a Change Victim
- Be a Change Master



#### Change Management Strategies

#### Master the Four C's

- Commitment
- Challenge
- Connection
- Control



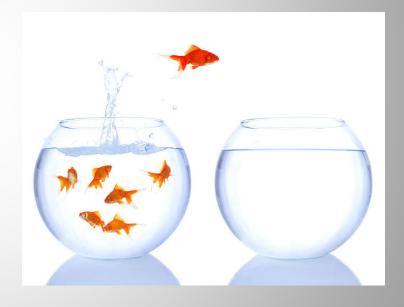
# Food for thought....

When a door closes, another one opens. But often we stand there so long looking at the closed door, that we do not see the one that has opened.



# Other Life Changes

- Expected Changes
- Unexpected Changes
- Planned Changes



# Managing Change

What are some ways to manage life changes?

# To Become a Change Master in Life:

- Time Management
- Building Resiliency
- Change our Perceptions



#### Time Management Requirements:

- Time awareness
- Prioritize
- Partializing



# Time Management Requirements (continued)

Prepare



# Time Management Requirements (continued)

Focus

Achieve



## Resiliency

One's capacity to cope with stress and catastrophe

### **Building Resilience (physically)**

- Healthy eating
- Regular physical activity
- Regular relaxation techniques
- Limit use of alcohol; avoid other substances
- Adequate sleep
- Regular screenings



#### **Building Resilience (mentally)**

- Positive self-talk
- Use a sense of humor
- Getting clear about values/goals/priorities
- Be assertive—learn how to ask for what you want/need
- Improve communication skills
- Taking time for mental health



### **Building Resilience (socially)**

- Building and maintaining support systems
- Investing in relationships
  - Spouse
  - Children
  - Parents
  - Family
  - Community
  - Pets
- Clear communication
- Intimacy



### **Building Resilience (spiritually)**

- Meditation
- Prayer
- Worship
- Faith
- Commitment



Faith and commitment can strengthen people

# Change Your Perceptions By:

- Changing unrealistic expectations and irrational beliefs
  - "I should be used to this change by now!"
  - "Why couldn't things have stayed the same?"
- Building self-esteem
- Cultivating a positive attitude
- Redefining situation in a less stress-provoking way

# **Closing Thoughts**

- Change is a human condition
  - We face changes each and every day
  - Buddha said "Happiness becomes possible when one recognizes that the only permanent thing in life is change."
- Choose to be a Change Master in your life!

#### How to Contact EAP



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