

What: The Way You Want to Serve

Your Mission Statement (see page 198) was a general statement about why you are here on this earth. In the exercises that follow, you will step that down a bit and begin to construct a “Work-Purpose Statement.” The first step to developing your work-purpose statement is to identify what you would like to do by identifying the fields in which you would most like to make a contribution. Below are examples of “I want to” statements that express work purposes. You may be able to use one of these as a skeleton of your work-purpose statement and amend or adjust it to suit your purpose. You may want to start entirely from scratch, using the statements that follow as guides in constructing your own work-purpose statement. However you arrive at it, your work-purpose statement should be your own, reflecting what you most want to express or accomplish.

You may realize that you have more than one work purpose. In that case, pick the one that represents the area you want to focus on most over the next seven to ten years. If you still end up with several areas of focus, rank them and pick one major area of focus. The alphabetical list below is not intended to be complete or exhaustive. It represents just a few of the more common areas in which people with whom we have worked have expressed interest.

Agriculture: I want to produce or advance the production of the foodstuffs that will provide people sustenance and nourishment in a manner that is environmentally sound.

Animal Care: I want to see to it that the animals are protected and treated with care, compassion, and dignity.

Architecture: I want to design structures that are at once functional and uplifting to the spirit.

Art: I want to portray, through artistic media, universal truths that uplift and inspire.

Business: I want to provide valuable products and services including: _____

Clothing: I want to design, manufacture, or distribute quality clothing that is aesthetically pleasing, comfortable, and healthful.

Communication: I want to provide communication technologies and/or services that will help people to achieve their goals.

Culinary Arts: I want to design, prepare, and/or produce delicious, nutritious foods. I want to provide an atmosphere that will make eating a fulfilling, even spiritual experience.

Defense: I want to provide for national security and defense. I want to see to it that people are safe, protected, and free to pursue happiness in their own way.

Economic Development: I want to assist people in developing a higher standard of living. I want to do so in a manner that respects values of human dignity and ecological balance. I want to ensure that economic growth is based on the production of useful goods and services.

Education: I want to train and develop people’s minds, character, knowledge,

and skills. I want to help people to broaden their horizons and deepen their understanding.

Energy: I want to design, develop, or promote safe, efficient, nonpolluting, and replenishable energy systems. I want to increase the efficiency of existing energy systems until new ones are in place.

Engineering: I want to design, construct, or manage roadworks, waterworks, building, machinery, etc., which will serve to improve people's quality of life.

Entertainment: I want to provide laughter, drama, song, or dance to lighten and enlighten people's lives.

Environment: I want to clean up and protect the environment and to do all I can to see that it is kept as safe and as pure as possible.

Family: I want to provide services that will strengthen and support family units and family happiness.

Government: I want to work with government institutions to ensure that government remains responsive to the people and provides them with the best possible services.

Health: I want to share with people the skill, knowledge, love, and energy necessary to care for their health and physical well-being.

History: I want to help people to better understand their past, to see how things have come to be as they are, and to understand the great historical processes of change and their consequences.

Industry: I want to manufacture materials that will make people's lives more

fulfilling, free, and productive.

Information Services: I want to provide people, in an easy-to-use and readily available form, the information they need to make informed and effective decisions.

Interior Design: I want to create the kinds of interior spaces that elevate people's spirits and bring out the very best in them.

Journalism: I want to inform people about current events and issues. I want to help them to be aware of the people and events that shape their lives.

Justice: I want to protect people's rights and ensure that they are treated fairly and with human dignity.

Landscaping: I want to create exterior environments that provide people with upliftment and joy.

Law: I want to write, interpret, or practice legal remedies for human problems, conflicts, or grievances.

Life Sciences: I want to help people better understand and utilize the biological and organic processes of life to further their well-being and minimize the dangers to their health.

Management: I want to manage organizations that serve people's needs and aspirations.

Music: I want to share beauty, joy, understanding, and harmony through the vehicle of music.

Organization: I want to help people to be more effective by organizing personnel, material, ideas, and financial resources

that will facilitate the achievement of their goals.

Peace: I want to promote world peace. I want to further international cooperation, understanding, and harmony. I want to exemplify and promote universal love and brotherhood.

Performing Arts: I want to take an active role in portraying the wonder, poignancy, beauty, and drama of the human experience before live audiences.

Philosophy: I want to challenge people to think of the deep and fundamental issues of life. I want to encourage them to examine their beliefs and the effect that holding these ideas has upon themselves and others. I want to share with them the wisdom of the ages.

Physical Education: I want to teach people how to utilize their bodies to maximize efficiency, promote health and longevity, and reduce physical stress and tension.

Physical Science: I want to help people understand the physical world in which they live and how it can be made to serve them even better.

Politics: I want to help people to gain a voice in the decisions that affect their lives.

Psychology: I want to help people better understand their minds and emotions, their motivations, drives, and desires. I want to help them unlock the power of their minds and emotions to achieve their highest potential.

Recreation: I want to help people relax, play, and rejuvenate. I want to facilitate the relaxation of their bodies, minds, and spirits.

Religion: I want to minister to people's spiritual needs. I want to help them to discover who they are, what it is to be, and how to be free.

Sports: I want to help people discover the joys of effort, persistence, cooperation, teamwork, and physical development that sports provide.

Technology: I want to design, manufacture, or promote technological advances that will help people to achieve a happier, richer, more productive lifestyle.

Trade: I want to promote goodwill and cultural interaction by helping people to trade their products and services with others.

Transportation: I want to help people to get from place to place in a clean, economical, and safe manner and in a way that makes the most efficient and least destructive use of natural resources.

In the space below, construct your own statement indicating how you want to serve in the areas you most want to make a contribution. If you have more than one work purpose, indicate the one that you most want. **Example:** *I want to assist people in developing higher self-esteem.*

Statement of the Way I Want to Serve:

Whom: The People You Want to Serve

Your next step is to identify the people you want to serve. These people are your constituency, the people for whom you are responsible in your work. The purpose of work is to serve, to contribute. We are all serving someone. Review the list below and identify the primary beneficiaries of your work.

Age

Prenatal
Infants
Preschoolers
Children
Adolescents
Young Adults
Middle Age
Elderly
All ages

Income

Destitute
Economically deprived
Lower middle
Middle
Upper middle
Wealthy
Extremely wealthy
All incomes

Special cases

Prisoners
Homeless
Pregnant
Physically disabled
Mentally disabled
Victims of specific diseases
People of other countries
Disaster victims
Armed forces
Orphans
Illiterate
Animals
Delinquents
Hungry
Sick
Veterans
Immigrants
Dying
Other

Ethnicity

White
African-American
Hispanic
Asian-American
Native American
Other
All races

Sex

Males
Females
Both sexes

Now construct a statement that explains who you want to serve. **Example:** *I want to serve adolescents from economically deprived areas who need help in improving their academic ability.*

Statement of Whom I Want to Serve:

Your Work-Purpose Statement

Review your answers to the three preceding exercises, and restate them in the spaces provided below.

What: The way I want to contribute is . . .

Whom: The people I want to serve are . . .

How Many: The scale I want to work at is . . .

Now write a work-purpose statement that includes whom you want to serve, the way you want to serve them, and the scope of the impact you want to make.

My Work-Purpose Statement
