



WHAT IS IT AND WHY DOES IT MATTER?

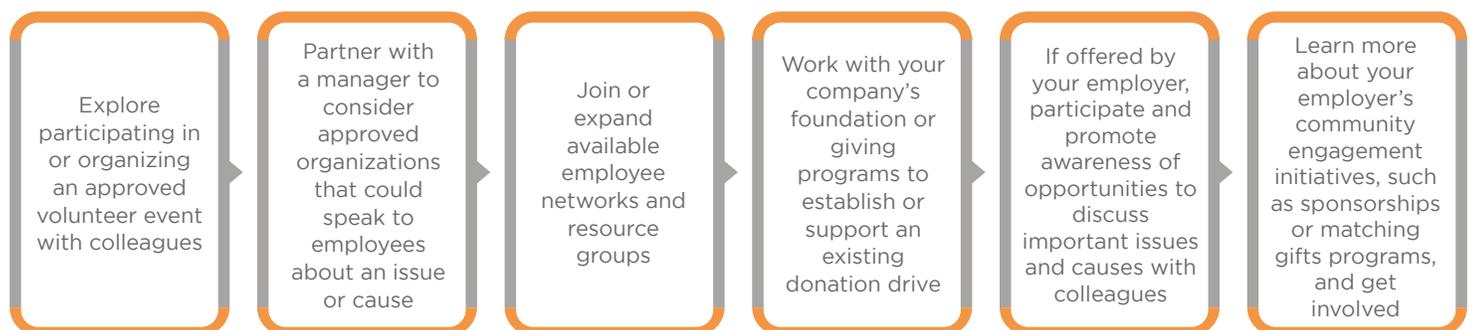
When we traditionally think about work, we often view it as a place where we spend our time creating a product or delivering a service in order to earn a living. Today, this view is evolving. As the line between the professional and personal overlaps more and more, our workplace can also be a place where we support communities beyond our daily roles.

Work represents an individual's ability to make choices about their employment based on the values and purpose of the place they work or how they influence their workplace. Individuals may also

choose to own a business that works toward solving social problems or effecting social change.

Your work can be an expression of your values by your decision to work in a specific field or the role that you fill within an organization. But you can also express your values by working for an employer based on their values, business practices and support of the community. Examples include choosing to work for a company that supports health & wellness, education & workforce success, and resilient communities.

WAYS TO MOBILIZE IN THE WORKPLACE



FIVE THINGS TO CONSIDER ABOUT WORK



1. Raise your hand. When workplace opportunities present themselves, such as a volunteer opportunity or donation drive, get involved whenever possible and encourage others to do the same.



2. Explore workplace benefits. We often think of workplace benefits in terms of health insurance and vacation time, but many employers offer other benefits including time off to volunteer and donation matching programs. When working for any employer, explore these often lesser-utilized benefits and participate when you can.



3. Create the change you want to see. In the workplace, your personal passions can lead you to becoming a *social intrapreneur* – someone who is self-motivated and action-oriented, and who brings forth innovative ideas and solutions that advance an

organization's goals. Your work can be a vehicle for putting your passion into action.



4. Share what you care about. Word of mouth is a powerful tool for raising awareness and inspiring others. In fact, many people volunteer because someone else referred them to a cause or opportunity. So the next time you hear about a need in your community or volunteer yourself, research your employer's policies and if allowed, share what you've learned with others and invite them to join you in supporting that cause.



5. Find a partner. If you're interested in mobilizing to support what you care about, you don't have to do it alone. Find a colleague that shares your interests and work together, or reach out to your employer's community relations team should there be one.



TAKE A DEEPER DIVE AND LEARN MORE



[How to be a Changemaker at Work](#)



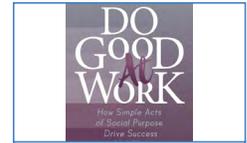
Explore the [Benefits of Volunteering in the Workplace](#)



[When and How to List Volunteer Work on a Resume](#)



WATCH: [Finding Your Purpose at Work](#) (TEDx Talk)



BOOK: [Do Good at Work: How Simple Acts of Social Purpose Drive Success and Wellbeing](#) by Bea Boccalandro

THINK ABOUT IT...

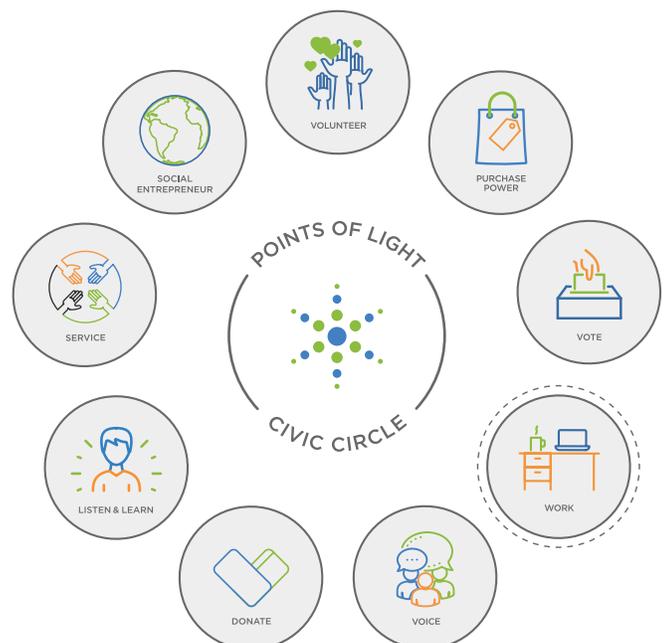


- When given the chance, do you typically participate in opportunities to support an issue or cause in the workplace?
- Have you organized or helped plan an initiative or project related to an issue or cause you care about? If not, what have been the barriers preventing this?
- What values are important to you in an employer?
- How would you influence other colleagues to take a more active role in supporting the greater community?

WHAT NOW? WHAT NEXT?

- Do your homework on how your employer puts their values into action.
- Identify ways to take a more active role in supporting the issues and causes you care about through your work.
- Work is just one activity in the Points of Light Civic Circle that you can use to lead and lend support to causes you care about. To learn more, visit <https://pointsoflight.org/civiclif/>.

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The **Civic Circle** represents your power to lead, lend support and take action for causes you care about and to lead a civic life.