

General Community Members

Action Steps

It is important to set the correct mood in the temple, understanding that the leader's purpose is to provide association and encouragement for members of the community. (SP Quote NOI about ISKCON purpose; and from 7 Purposes)

That mood should ensure that all congregational members are respected and treated fairly, like members of our spiritual family, which they are. We should strive to create an inclusive atmosphere where all are welcome and encouraged to do service, (As Jesus said, judge not, lest ye be judged).

We should be trained to be personal in our relationships—always encouraging, appreciating, and empowering others so that we build trusting relationships, and a closely bonded team spirit.

We should also ensure that all devotees, regardless of ashram, gender, or initiation status are included and encouraged.

Systems Should be Established so That:

Information is shared readily via e-newsletters, websites, social media and Sunday Feast announcements. It should be easy to find about events, timings, how to become a member, donations, and temple functions. Be sure to provide easy to understand websites—without too much jargon, or just displaying Deity pictures

Sunday feasts, especially should focus on practical lectures (not just lila and high philosophy)

And engagement for children and teens must be provided with trained leaders and teachers in ways that are safe, educational and fun. Other events and services should be organized in ways for members to participate considering age, gender, generations.

Step-by-step guidelines for advancement should be shared with members, along with recommended ways for them to engage their talents & skills according to qualifications (without discrimination)

Structures must emphasize empowerment, and sharing service/responsibility. Be sure to include team building & bonding activities, and Krishna conscious, healthy entertainment

Be Personal!

No one wants to be corrected repeatedly. Be sensitive when instructing members so they don't lose their enthusiasm or think KC is just rules and regulations (Quote from NOI). And be sensitive to congregational member's traumas and past experiences. Ensure that confidential counselors & guides are available and well trained.

Temples should share leadership and visibility of leaders so as to provide relatable role-models, including women, grhasta men, and youth. Provide enlivening association and family events

Share recognition and appreciation regularly.

Provide clear expectations of members as well as clarity on temple's reciprocation (what to expect from the temple)

Facilitate and be accepting towards occasional non-temple community sangas/events.

Be aware of the special needs of children as well as elderly. Elderly devotees and guests have needs including:

Accessible buildings, washrooms, etc.

Comfortable seating

Help with age deficits, ie. hearing-subtitles for classes

"safe area" during kirtan

Special assistance for those with dementia.

Consider engaging younger people to serve elder devotees.
mine memories and life experiences

Mentorship Program

(Compliments of Radha Bhakti from the Bhakti Center)

<https://www.beautiful.ai/player/-NLqX-c9G5vorwkK7Q-u/TBC-Mentorship-NALeaders-Meeting-2023>

Needs, Interests and Concerns assessment

Mood in Temple Towards Community

All are respected

Treated Fairly

Treated like members of the family

Inclusive atmosphere

Personal in our relationships

Encouraging

Appreciating

Empowering

Promoting trusting relationships

Team spirited
Women, children and men are cared for
Inclusive (especially for uninitiated members)

Systems

Information shared and easy to find about events, timings, temple functions
Practical lectures (not just lila and high philosophy)
Engagement for children and teens
--with trained leaders/teachers
--safe, educational and fun
Organized in ways for members to participate considering age, gender, generations
--services, how to become a member, donations, etc.
Step-by-step guidelines for advancement
Engaging talents & skills according to qualifications (without discrimination)
Empowering and sharing service/responsibility
Team building & bonding activities
KC & other healthy Entertainment
Easy to understand websites—not too much jargon, or just Deity pictures

Practical interpersonal

Not corrected regularly
Relatable role-models (Grhasthas, youth)
Enlivening association
Recognition/appreciation
Family events
Sensitivity to congregation's traumas and past experiences
Confidential Counselor & guides
Clear expectations of members
Clarity on temple's reciprocation (what to expect from the temple)
Facilitating/accepting non-temple community sangas/events

Special Requirements for Elderly

Accessible buildings, washrooms, etc.
Comfortable seating
help with age deficits, ie. hearing-subtitles for classes
"safe area" during kirtan
engage younger to serve older
mine memories and life experiences
Assisting those with dementia