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| **Chapter Name** | Chicagoland |
| **Chapter Number (ex. CH0000)** | CH5009 |
| **Chapter Location (City, State)** | Chicago |
| **Chapter Membership Size** | Large (350+) |
| **Contact Person for this Submission:** | Tiffany Prince |
| **Email Address:** | [tiffprince@gmail.com](mailto:tiffprince@gmail.com) |
| **Phone Number:** | (312) - 919 - 5568 |
| **Chapter Board Position:** | VP Membership |
| **Chapter Website URL:** | [http://atdchi.org](http://enotification.td.org/track/click/30530608/atdchi.org?p=eyJzIjoiY2xJaEQzOWh3MWExSmwxYTBXQ294dVVEdWRJIiwidiI6MSwicCI6IntcInVcIjozMDUzMDYwOCxcInZcIjoxLFwidXJsXCI6XCJodHRwOlxcXC9cXFwvYXRkY2hpLm9yZ1wiLFwiaWRcIjpcIjcyYWMzMDdjYTA0YzQ0NmViMmUzODFiMzk0NzdmNWQ2XCIsXCJ1cmxfaWRzXCI6W1wiMTVjZDM3ZDA2Y2NhNWRkZDc0M2U4OGIzMmNiNDI1MGJlZDcyNTFkNVwiXX0ifQ) |
| **Submission Title:** | Multilocation member networking event |
| **Submission Description:** | \*Transcribed by L.Goodpaster, CRC member via SOS interview  Chapter held a networking event over 4 different locations at the same time/date to accommodate geographical challenges. |
| **Need(s) Addressed? Please be specific.** | Due to Chicago being a large metropolitan area, there is difficultly in having people showing up to networking events. It can be a couple of hours to event locations depending on where the event is held and where a chapter member is located. They wanted to find a way to be able to have an event get more people to come but still have some coordination and cohesiveness throughout. They also did not want it to be cost prohibitive for the chapter. |
| **What is your chapter's mission?** | ATDChi provides its members with the knowledge, skills, tools and resources necessary to ensure ongoing professional development and the ability to deliver exceptional value to their organizations in the area of workplace learning and performance. |
| **How does this effort align with your chapter's mission (Please provide specific examples)?** | This effort aligns with the chapter's missions by providing members with career development and networking opportunities. By conducting the networking event at multiple locations, members have the opportunity to select the event location that best serves their individual needs(close proximity to their work location, or home), which allows them to connect with professionals from the same region/area, who may not always be easy to find/meet at regular monthly chapter events. |
| **National ATD's mission is to "empower professionals to develop talent in the workplace". How does this submission align with ATD's mission? Please provide specific examples.** | Same or similar to the alignment to the Chicago chapter. See above. |
| **Target Audience: (Who will benefit/has benefited from this effort?)** | All chapter members( and other professionals) who seek to network with like-minded professionals without having to commit to a full night of standard monthly chapter event( and at a reduced cost). Also, the chapter board looking to offer better value and more desirable networking opportunities for its members. |
| **Costs/Resources Used: (include any details regarding use of resources including monetary, donations, contributions, volunteer hours, people resources, etc. and how you went about getting these resources)** | Minimum spend for host facilities( food/beverage, room rental if required) Cost of name tags and printing. However, the second year they had each person create their own name tag Volunteer hours: ( host/hostess at each location and a back up 2-3 hours x 4 as well as the planner's brainstorming of efforts approximately 2-3 hours. |
| **How did you implement: (please give a brief description)** | First divided the region of the chapter into 4 sections( Downtown, North, West and South suburbs)  Scouted venues in each region that were either easily accessible to members and/or affordable for the chapter.  Sought out board members from these regions who could coordinate the planning and be the leader for their respective locations.  Marketing was done via Wild Apricot and via their newsletter  Had name tags that included an icebreaker, attendees could choose from 4 different statements such as "I'm an expert in.., I want to learn about.. " The second year they also choose a different ice breaker such as a favorite food( create that symbol), favorite place.  For the RSVPs they had a volunteer call a few days prior to the event as a reminder and a personal touch. |
| **What were the Outcomes: (Please include hard data regarding financial gains, membership increases, target audience satisfaction levels, publicity for the chapter or for the profession, etc.)** | There was a large attendance( collectively there were 100+ compared to regular monthly event of around 40.  There was evident satisfaction in feedback from attendees. Attendees particularly noticed the "high touch" of the event. Esp the phone call reminders prior to the event for those that RSVPd as a reminder.  The Chapter return on investment (cost/# of attendees) was high.  Gained new members from events. approx. 20.  Increase in brand/visibility of the chapter.  Had previously shown July(summer)events were hard to get attendees as well and the first year they used this as a test and since it was so successful they are continuing to hold during this time of the year. |
| **Lessons Learned: (hints and tips for other chapters who may be considering a similar effort)** | Attendees appreciate the convenience of multiple locations.  Many attendees stated having the open bar was a nice bonus, but the value of the event even with the free drinks was good. ( Appetizers were welcomed since it was an after work event).  Chose your own nametag message component of the event was well received as an ice breaker for getting to know people and to connect, even when not followed to the letter of the instructions.  Ample table and chair spaces for people to gather in small groups and have places to put their drinks/plates was beneficial to the attendees.  One thing they would like to figure out for future events to take it to the next level is to find a way to virtually connect the simultaneous events as they are going on, whether Facebook live, Skype etc. They have not figure out the best way to do this yet without taking away from the events themselves. |
| **Please list the specific ATD chapter resources that helped guide you in the process of completing this best practice (e.g. people, documents, policies, by-laws, etc.):** | None utilized |
| **How did you become familiar with the Sharing Our Success (SOS) program?** | Saw or heard of SOS from another Chapter Leader |
| **Would you be willing to present on this submission at the ATD Chapter Leaders Conference (ALC)? \*Request for Proposals (RFPs) open in May of each year at** [td.org/alc](http://enotification.td.org/track/click/30530608/td.org?p=eyJzIjoiWGRwZVVoNTZvTy1yS3BqNk5VYmh3V2YxQ1dzIiwidiI6MSwicCI6IntcInVcIjozMDUzMDYwOCxcInZcIjoxLFwidXJsXCI6XCJodHRwOlxcXC9cXFwvdGQub3JnXFxcL2FsY1wiLFwiaWRcIjpcIjcyYWMzMDdjYTA0YzQ0NmViMmUzODFiMzk0NzdmNWQ2XCIsXCJ1cmxfaWRzXCI6W1wiNTYzOWQ5MmYyNjI4ZmQ3YjQ3YmRjNDRhNzYxY2IwMDliZWVkYzA3ZVwiXX0ifQ)**. Selected session facilitators receive complimentary registration.** | Yes |