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| **Chapter Name** | ATD - Central Indiana Chapter |
| **Chapter Number (ex. CH0000)** | CH5010 |
| **Chapter Location (City, State)** | Indianapolis, IN |
| **Chapter Membership Size** | Medium (101 - 349) |
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| **Phone Number:** | (317) - 701 - 5794 |
| **Chapter Board Position:** | Past-President |
| **Chapter Website URL:** | [http://atdcentralindiana.org](http://enotification.td.org/track/click/30530608/atdcentralindiana.org?p=eyJzIjoiQ2xIaGN5V0dkMHNaNEZKOFFOd0pSek9qMjlBIiwidiI6MSwicCI6IntcInVcIjozMDUzMDYwOCxcInZcIjoxLFwidXJsXCI6XCJodHRwOlxcXC9cXFwvYXRkY2VudHJhbGluZGlhbmEub3JnXCIsXCJpZFwiOlwiYzJlNTJlZjcyN2Q0NGE5YmFjMDBiMmYxN2FiYjNlYzNcIixcInVybF9pZHNcIjpbXCI2NDNmMTY5ODFlZWRhNDViYzkwOGYyOTAwYjRlM2I1NjIzNDcxOGRmXCJdfSJ9) |
| **Submission Title:** | Making Connections at ALC |
| **Submission Description:** | In 2017, ATD-CIC was thrilled to be in a position to send 7 board members to ALC - this is the first time we have had the means to send the majority of our leadership team to the conference. Among the group, there was a large mix of experience levels: - Brand new board members who hadn't even started their term yet - Existing board members who hadn't attended ALC in the past - Longtime board members who may or may not have attended ALC in the past, but have become "comfortable" in their roles  In an effort to engage all attendees and encourage our team to get out of their comfort zones and make connections with other chapter leaders, our chapter president (me) gave each board member a package of stickers with all 50 US states. She challenged the team to make an effort to meet chapter leaders from around the country in general and breakout sessions, during meals and networking periods - sit by them, learn about their chapter, ask about their board role, challenges they face, cool things they are doing, etc. When they meet someone, ask them to take a sticker from the state they live in/where their chapter is located to place on their name badge.   The board member who gave away the most stickers at the end of the conference won a small gift card!  (If you attended ALC in 2017, you may have met someone and was given a state sticker....that was us, and that was why!) |
| **Need(s) Addressed? Please be specific.** | We attend ALC with the specific purpose of learning how can more effectively lead our chapter, and taking away ideas and strategies to continue our success. Meeting other awesome chapter leaders from around the country and making connections is often just as powerful as attending sessions! This was an incredibly fun, successful initiative that turned sometimes-awkward networking into a fun, purposeful game and EASY icebreaker....especially for our new/incoming board members who were unsure of what to talk about when meeting new chapter leaders! |
| **What is your chapter's mission?** | We align to ATD's vision to "create a world that works better" by operating under three simple tenets: CONNECT, LEARN, SHARE.   (From our website:)  Through ATD-CIC, members are encouraged to:  CONNECT: Network with like-minded professionals during CIASTD events and meetings, get involved in a Special Interest Group, join us in on-line forums Twitter, LinkedIn and Facebook, or meet future employees or employers through our ATD-CIC job bank.  LEARN: Attend a monthly meeting, webinar, or special event. Learn about topics ranging from facilitation skills, instructional design, leveraging technology in development, and other engaging Talent Development-related topics.   SHARE: Support your profession and develop your skills by volunteering with ATD-CIC. Opportunities exist in a variety of areas, spanning from programming to finance. Share your knowledge with others in a Special Interest Group, present at a chapter meeting, or join a discussion in our LinkedIn group. |
| **How does this effort align with your chapter's mission (Please provide specific examples)?** | This practice directly enabled our board members to achieve each of these three things at ALC!  CONNECT - helping our team break out of comfort zones and make introductions/connections with other chapter leaders from across the country  LEARN - providing an opportunity for our team to ask about those chapters' practices, challenges and strategies through informal conversations  SHARE - share our own successful strategies and ideas with other chapter leaders, as we have had a very successful period of growth over the past couple of years! |
| **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.** | While this is not a practice that directly aligns to our members by their personal involvement, it DOES strategically align by strengthening the leadership of our chapter, which enables us to build a stronger chapter that does exactly that...."empower professionals to develop talent in the workplace." |
| **Target Audience: (Who will benefit/has benefited from this effort?)** | Directly = our board members as part of their ongoing growth and development  Indirectly = our chapter and membership |
| **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)** | The cost of individual packs of stickers with all 50 states (about $5.00 each) + one small Starbucks gift card for the winner (I think it was a $10.00 gift card) |
| **How did you implement: (please give a brief description)** | On the first day of the conference, I gathered the team at breakfast and introduced the challenge, and why we were doing it. They took it from there! |
| **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.)** | By looking around at ALC attendees, it was clear that we had "reached" a number of people. Most people were able to get rid of at least 15-20 stickers, and our "winner" connected with over 30.  This isn't exactly a practice that provided "hard data" to track specifically, but it was an engaging, easily replicable idea that helped us build relationships, engage new and existing board members and helped us make the most of the investment we made in sending 7 board members to ALC in 2017. |
| **Lessons Learned: (hints and tips for other chapters who may be considering a similar effort)** | I would have put more stipulations on when to give a sticker......I did notice some people did a quick blitz around the room just for the sake of giving away some stickers without making much of a connection. |
| **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.):** | I made this up myself.... |
| **How did you become familiar with the Sharing Our Success (SOS) program?** | Other |
| **If you selected "other", please explain your response.** | Learned about it at ALC in 2014 and have had 10 approved SOS submissions in 2016/2017! |
| **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=eyJzIjoiX05fY2xmaUhtc2lMbEl2Qk9ZWW9wNXhHS1M0IiwidiI6MSwicCI6IntcInVcIjozMDUzMDYwOCxcInZcIjoxLFwidXJsXCI6XCJodHRwOlxcXC9cXFwvdGQub3JnXFxcL2FsY1wiLFwiaWRcIjpcImMyZTUyZWY3MjdkNDRhOWJhYzAwYjJmMTdhYmIzZWMzXCIsXCJ1cmxfaWRzXCI6W1wiNTYzOWQ5MmYyNjI4ZmQ3YjQ3YmRjNDRhNzYxY2IwMDliZWVkYzA3ZVwiXX0ifQ)**. Selected session facilitators receive complimentary registration.** | Yes |