PR3 Training Toolbox

Networking Bingo

1) NAME AND DESCRIPTION OF THE TOOL

The "Networking Bingo" activity is a dynamic and interactive tool designed to enhance networking skills by encouraging meaningful conversations and connections. Participants engage in a structured networking event where they aim to fill their bingo cards by interacting with others and discovering commonalities, fostering the development of professional relationships.

2) OBJECTIVES OF THE TOOL

1. **Encourage Meaningful Conversations:**
   - Facilitate conversations that go beyond surface-level introductions.
   - Encourage participants to share experiences, challenges, and aspirations.
2. **Expand Professional Networks:**
   - Provide a structured format for participants to connect with a diverse group of individuals.
   - Expand their professional networks by discovering shared interests and goals.
3. **Develop Active Listening Skills:**
   - Emphasize the importance of active listening during networking interactions.
   - Enable participants to gather valuable information about their counterparts.
4. **Foster Collaboration and Support:**
   - Create an environment where participants can offer support, insights, and collaborative opportunities.
   - Strengthen the sense of community within the networking group.

3) CONNECTION OF THE TOOL WITH EMOTIONAL INTELLIGENCE/SOFT SKILLS

- **Empathy:** Encourages participants to understand the perspectives and goals of others.
- **Social Awareness:** Fosters awareness of individual needs and aspirations within the professional context.
- **Communication:** Enhances communication skills through meaningful conversations.

4) RESOURCES & MATERIALS

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- Bingo cards with prompts related to professional experiences, skills, and aspirations.
- Pens or markers for participants to mark their bingo cards.
- Facilitator guide with instructions and discussion prompts.

5) IMPLEMENTATION OF THE TOOL

1. **Introduction and Bingo Card Distribution (10 minutes):**
   - Introduce the purpose of the activity: to foster meaningful connections.
   - Distribute Bingo cards to participants, each containing prompts related to professional experiences.
2. **Networking Rounds (40 minutes):**
   - Participants engage in a series of timed networking rounds.
   - Conversations are prompted by the bingo card, with participants aiming to find individuals who match the criteria.
3. **Bingo Card Completion (20 minutes):**
   - Participants mark their bingo cards as they successfully connect with others.
   - Encourage participants to exchange contact information for future collaboration.
4. **Debrief and Reflection (15 minutes):**
   - Facilitate a group discussion on the networking experience.
   - Explore commonalities discovered, insights gained, and potential collaboration opportunities.
5. **Follow-up and Action Items (15 minutes):**
   - Participants identify specific actions they can take to follow up with individuals they connected with.
   - Facilitate the exchange of contact information and any promised resources.

6) EXPECTED LEARNING OUTCOMES

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- Improved networking skills through meaningful and purposeful conversations.
- Expanded professional networks by connecting with a diverse group of individuals.
- Development of active listening skills in a networking context.
- Fostering a collaborative and supportive professional community.
- Identification of potential collaboration opportunities and future connections.