## Fostering a Culture of Internal and External Customer Service for Business

Gene Luster, Customer Experience Technology Consultant, MA Anthropology

## Making People Matter.





## The Challenge - Not focusing on Customer Service

- With growth, person to person communication, empathy, and shared responsibility diminish. Employees feel isolated and don't share new ideas. Teams feel pitted against each other, Us Vs. Them.
- Customer Service is seen as a cost center. Funds are allocated to sales to get new customers to offset attrition. Customers are perceived as commodities.
- Word of mouth and Social Media ensure bad customer experiences are shared with large audiences, leading to unhappy customers and low employee morale.
- Employees feel powerless, become less productive, leading to the loss of existing and new talent.





## The Rewards - Institutionalizing Customer Service

- Growth become manageable, face to face communications and empathy are encouraged. Employees feel free to express new ideas. Teams work together, the Them becomes Us.
- Customer service is seen as a revenue generator. Lower turnover means higher profits and sales are additive to the customer base. Customers are perceived as high value.
- Word of mouth and Social Media ensure good customer experiences are shared, leading to happy customers and high employee morale.
- Employees share the sense of success, become more productive, leading to high retention and attraction of quality talent.