

# Hospitality

Cheerfully sharing food, shelter, and friendship with others

## To have a friend, be one!

Hospitality: *n* 1: extending welcome by treatment, reception, and disposition 2: being cordial in the receiving and care of guests 3: being generously open to others

Hospitality is the character quality by which strangers become acquaintances, acquaintances become casual friends, and casual friends become close or even intimate friends. By hospitality, a spirit of community is fostered among a group of people who live and move in the same circles.

Without purposeful hospitality, our ever-widening communities risk the shallowness of social isolation, where a person rubs shoulders with thousands but can share his heart

with none. Hospitality is building open relationships in a growing community.

Be a friend to the people in your work, home, and neighborhood community. In an age where businesses and communities are rapidly changing, make sure there is still community in yours.

The skill of conversation is an asset to hospitality. Today's entertainment choices tend to be one sided: television, CD's, and sports commentators make noise or talk but require no involvement on the observer's part. Exercise your conversation skills, create relationships, and get to know people better!

*"To have a friend, be a friend."*

*– common proverb*

*"A guest remembers all his days the host who shows him kindness."*

*– Homer (c. 850 B.C.)*

*"There is an emanation from the heart in genuine hospitality which cannot be described, but is immediately felt and puts the stranger at once at his ease."*

*– Washington Irving*

## Hospitality vs. Loneliness

Hospitality is making others feel welcome!

Hospitality is :

- welcoming visitors
- making others feel important
- preparing for guests
- gladly sharing your things
- not expecting anything in return

## Invite someone!



When it comes down to the bottom line, hospitality is getting out and inviting someone to participate in a meal, an activity, or virtually anything *with you*. Hospitality is extending an invitation.

The quality of a community is measured by the friendship of its members. As technology enables us to enjoy an increasingly global community and to spread our relationships far and wide, the character quality of hospitality is what will keep relationships from stretching thin.

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## From the Executive Director:

The three steps to encourage good character in yourself and those around you are to:

1) emphasize good character, 2) require good character and 3) recognize good character. Recognizing good character is important because what you reward you receive. If you reward getting an A or an increase in the bottom line or top sales, will your employees or students be dishonest to achieve the goal? Student cheating has been increasing at every educational level including high schools in recent decades. USD 501 has begun a character education program. They recognize good

character through character walls of fame, certificates and everyday praise. Topeka City of Character will soon be launching a Champions of Character recognition program where the community will be able to nominate people who exhibit good character that significantly improves the health, safety or quality of life of the community. Make it your goal to praise and reward good character in people around you.

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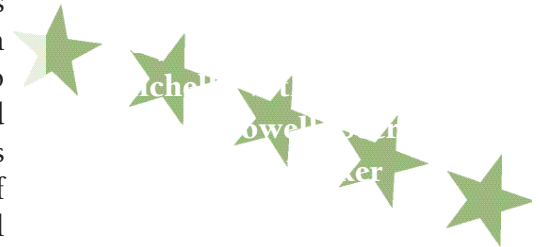
## This month's Sponsor:

Capitol Plaza Hotel emphasizes character qualities that promote hospitality in their employee training programs. Some of the character qualities

recognized as "Capstones of Character for Hospitality Heroes" are Dependability, Team Spirit, Positive Attitude, Thoroughness, Exceptional Service, Integrity, Pride in Work and Going-the-Extra Mile. Topeka City of Character thanks Capital Plaza Hotel for their support of good character in the community.



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Good character is the key to success!