

# FROM ANYWHERE WITH IMPACT: MANAGING HYBRID TEAMS WITH THEIR WELL-BEING IN MIND

A WEBINAR FOR SUPERVISORS FROM YOUR EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

March 27, 2024

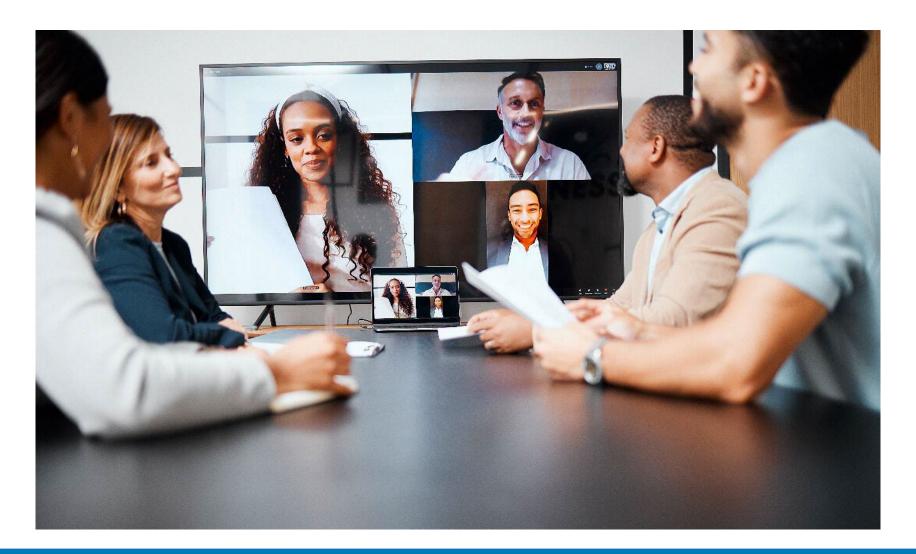




# What is the biggest challenge you face as a hybrid team manager?



#### INTRODUCTION



#### **OBJECTIVES**

- Understand the unique dynamics of hybrid teams
- Review common hybrid team challenges and recommend tactics to overcome them
- Explore techniques to sustain productivity, engagement, and motivation
- Discuss tips for hybrid supervisor self-care



### True or False:

## Hybrid work increases employee productivity.



Both are correct. Some people thrive in a hybrid environment, while others do not.



**SECTION 1** 

## HYBRID TEAM DEFINITION AND DYNAMICS

#### **HYBRID TEAM DEFINED**

#### Hybrid teams may be comprised of employees who:

Work full-time in the office alongside either full- or part-time remote team members or both





All come into the office some days and work from home on other days each week or month

#### **HYBRID TEAM DYNAMICS**

How people work together is influenced by a leader's behavior and management

style



#### **SECTION 2**

# HYBRID TEAM BENEFITS AND CHALLENGES

#### **BENEFITS**





Improved work-life balance



More efficient use of time



Less burnout or fatigue



Greater flexibility



Higher productivity

#### **CHALLENGES**



- 1 Communication
- Coordination
- Connection
- 4 Creativity
- 5 Culture

**SECTION 3** 

### COMBATING THE FIVE Cs

#### **Evaluate your effectiveness**



Do you tend to get a lot of follow-up questions?



Predict potential questions



Consider the recipient's perception



Read through your message before sending

#### **Set clear expectations**

- Stay abreast of employees' workload, deliverables, and deadlines
- Set aside time in meetings to answer questions
  - Regarding duties, roles, responsibilities, policies, or any other topic

#### Choose the appropriate method

#### **Email**

Use when:



You need to provide detailed information, documentation, or instructions

The information is not time-sensitive and does not require an immediate response

You need to reach multiple people at once, ensuring everyone has the same information

You want to have a record of the communication that can be easily referenced or documented

Communicating formal information, such as policy changes or official announcements

#### Choose the appropriate method

#### Instant Message

Use when:



You need a quick response or have a brief question

The matter is informal and doesn't require extensive discussion or documentation

You want to foster a sense of immediacy and connection

You're coordinating or collaborating closely with team members on immediate tasks

You need to communicate spontaneously or share quick updates

#### Choose the appropriate method

Face-toface meeting, phone, or video call

The topic is complex and may require extensive discussion, clarification, or brainstorming

Discussing sensitive or confidential matters

Use when:



Building relationships (e.g., onboarding, conducting one-on-ones, or resolving conflicts)

You need to harness non-verbal communication cues, like body language and tone

The meeting is formal or ceremonial (e.g. annual reviews, project kick-offs, or big announcements)

#### COORDINATION



Be technologically savvy

Familiarize yourself with tools and platforms that facilitate remote work



Manage performance adeptly

- Provide constructive feedback and support
- Meet regularly and establish deadlines



Manage a myriad of schedules

Share work schedules and have a shared group calendar

#### CONNECTION



Address Ioneliness



Bring everyone together



Maintain a team culture

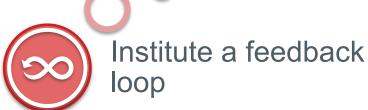


Commit equal time and focus to each employee



Build trust through autonomy

#### **CREATIVITY**





Designate collaboration spaces

Make the most of digital collaboration tools



Recognition and encouragement





Encourage informal interaction



#### **CULTURE**

- Maintain empathy and cultural sensitivity
  - Promote inclusivity and equity
    - Avoid a "them and us" culture
    - Acknowledge each work situation and ensure fairness
      - Ensure rewards and benefits are fair for all
        - Advocate for preferred pronouns and set the example



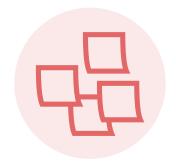
**SECTION 4** 

# MAINTAINING PRODUCTIVITY, ENGAGEMENT, AND MOTIVATION

#### **PRODUCTIVITY**





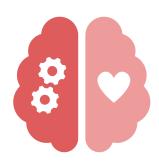


Encourage employees to break down tasks into tiny to-dos



Regularly check in on goal progress

#### **ENGAGEMENT**





- Prioritize employees' mental health and well-being
  - Encourage breaks and downtime
  - Provide mental health resources
- Advocate for professional development
  - Encourage skill development
  - Provide career progression paths

#### **MOTIVATION**

Guiding principles of effective recognition for hybrid workers

- Acknowledge achievements
- Tailor rewards
- Foster a culture of digital accolades
- Offer choices of incentives and acknowledgment

#### **Examples**

Begin your next team meeting with a shout-out to a deserving hybrid worker

Acknowledge 1-3 people every Friday

Find creative ways to make recognition special – mail a card

Regularly connect socially via optional virtual hangouts and use part of the time to encourage, support, and praise your team



**SECTION 5** 

### SUPERVISOR SELF-CARE

#### **SELF-CARE TIPS**

- Establish work-life boundaries
- Take regular breaks and use your leave time
- Escape the urgency trap
- Delegate
- Celebrate success
- Engage in mindful practices
- Do a digital detox

- Reflect and reassess
- Improve your skills
- Make time for hobbies and interests
- Take care of your body and mind



#### **BASK IN THE BENEFITS OF** MANAGING A HYBRID TEAM



Increased flexibility



Wider talent pool



Cost savings



Increased productivity



**Environmental benefits** 



Enhanced employee well-being



Adaptability



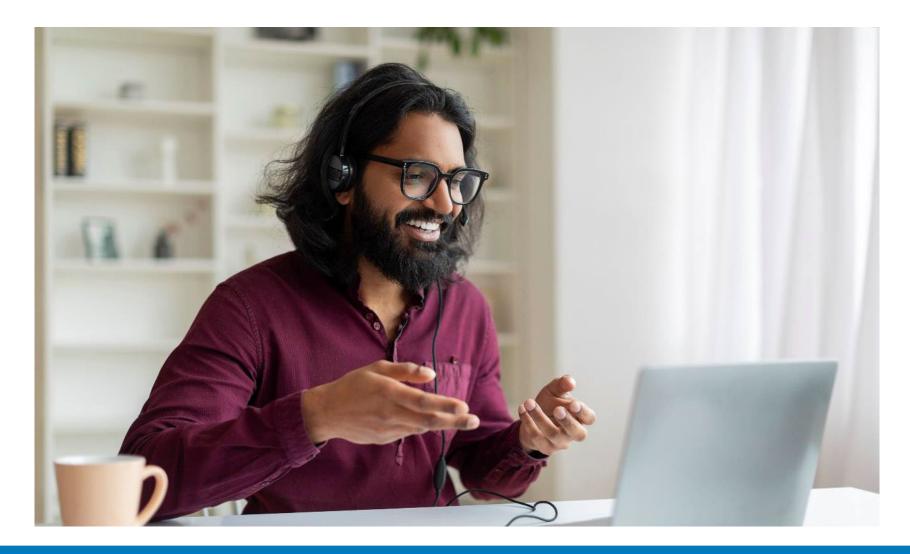
Improved employee retention



Stronger company culture



#### SUMMARY



#### RESOURCES

#### **Books**

- Leading from Anywhere:
   The Essential Guide to
   Managing Remote Teams
  - D. Burkus, 2021
- Managing Hybrid and Remote Teams: Concrete Advice to Increase Output and Engagement
  - L. Dellana, 2024
- Remote Not Distant: Design a Company Culture That Will Help You Thrive in a Hybrid Workplace
  - G. Razzetti, 2022

#### **Online Articles**

- How to Manage a Hybrid Team
  - hbr.org/2020/10/how-to-manage-ahybrid-team
- 5 Rules to Better Manage Hybrid Work
  - forbes.com/sites/glebtsipursky/202
     3/05/12/5-rules-to-better-managehybrid-work

#### **Podcast**

- Building Successful Hybrid
   Teams (Back to Work, Better)
  - hbr.org/podcast/2021/07/buildingsuccessful-hybrid-teams



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