Leading Through Differences in Values

Decision-Making Framework

This guide provides a structured approach to assessing the severity of values-related issues among staff and suggested responses.

Rapid Assessment

Rate from 1-5 (low to high concern) based on impact on:

Client service	Staff wellbeing
Team function	Policy clarity
Situation complexity	Legal/ethical risk

Intervention Guide:

Concern Level	Appropriate Response
Low (5-10)	• Individual coaching • Informal mediation • Team discussion
Medium (11-17)	• Formal mediation • Clarify boundaries • Targeted training
High (18+)	• Formal intervention plan • Policy review • External support

Modelling Best Practices

- Demonstrate curiosity rather than judgment
- Acknowledge validity of diverse viewpoints
- Address microaggressions directly but constructively
- Include multiple perspectives in decision-making
- Show vulnerability about your own learning
- Focus conversations on client needs and service quality
- Create psychological safety for discussing differences

Your response to values differences sets the tone for your team. Model the respect and professional focus you want to see in your staff.

Effective Supervision Conversation

Preparation:

- □ Review situation documentation
- □ Reflect on your own values
- □ Consider multiple perspectives
- □ Arrange uninterrupted time

Key Questions:

- "Can you share your perspective on what's happening?"
- "How is this situation affecting your work?"
- "What do you need to work effectively in this context?"
- "What supports would help you navigate this situation?"
- "What specific actions can we agree on going forward?"

Always include:

- Clear expectations
- Specific next steps and timeframes
- Follow-up plan

Policy Essentials Checklist

- □ Clearly defined shared organizational values
- □ Framework for consistent service approaches
- □ Separating personal values and work conduct
- □ Clear process for addressing values conflicts
- Accommodation and referral protocols
- □ Staff supports and resources

Implementation Must-Haves

- □ Staff training on policies
- □ Supervision integration
- Documentation system
- □ Regular evaluation



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