

PURSUING GROWTH OPPORTUNITIES' LEADERSHIP

What many of us might not know is how to develop our leadership skills as a constant struggle looking to break into leadership roles. How can we grow to become a leader if nobody gives us the chance to develop those skills in the first place? How we can get leadership experience if all leadership roles require previous leadership experience?

There are certain ways that we can grow our leadership skills, regardless of whether we already have a formal leadership role at work or not. Pursuing just one of these ideas over the year can do amazing things for us and our abilities to lead others.

***Leading within the Organization**

It is critical to recognize that leadership is a set of behaviors, not a formal role. In other words, we can act like leaders without being assigned roles that require leadership. Thus, it means that anyone within an organization can take on leadership roles when the opportunity arises.

***Leading within the Community**

Another way to find opportunities to hone our skills as leaders is to look outside our workplaces, especially at volunteer opportunities. Luckily, our skills can be developed whether or not we get paid for it.

***Get an Education**

Another way to grow our skills as leaders is to seek more formal education. While learning about leadership in a classroom is no substitute for practicing it in an organization, it can serve to lay a foundation. Understanding the theory is an important first step toward putting it into practice.

***Start Something**

Another interesting way to develop our skills as leaders is to start something of your own. When we launch a new initiative, club, or organization, we become the de facto leaders, and others will look to us for that leadership.

(by Dr. Fil with Nget Sokla)