





#NARAEI2023

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Practical Tips for Today, Leadership Strategies for Tomorrow

## AE Fundamentals: I'm a New AE, Now What?



### Who is . . . Jessica Coates?





2023 NAR Association Executive Committee
Chair

**REALTOR® Association Executive since 2014** 

VP of Government & Community Affairs | 4 Years CEO of the Howard County Association of REALTORS® | 4 Years NEW CEO of the Sacramento Association of REALTORS®

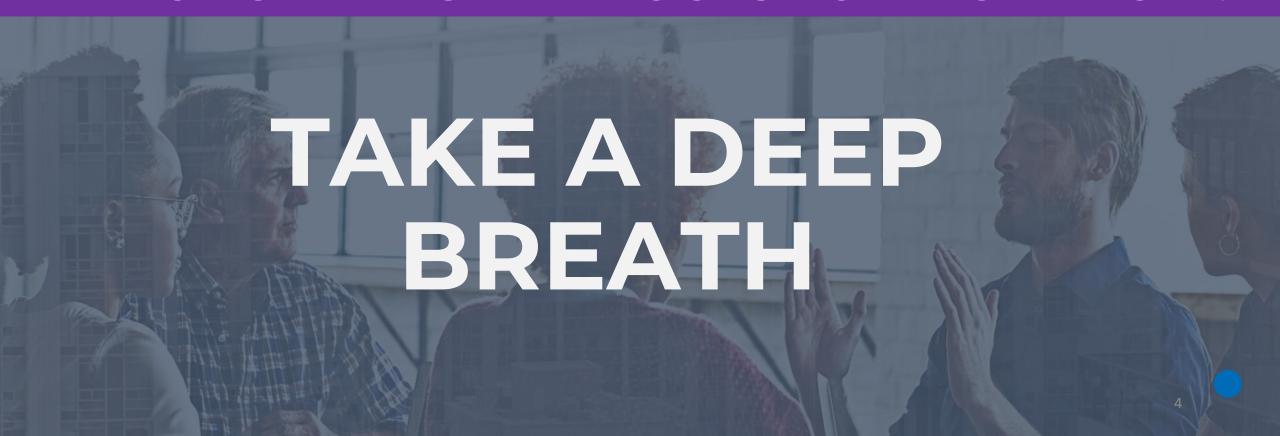
In Transition Again...,



### WHAT I WISH I KNEW



### WHEN I WAS A NEW AE...





# Take the Time to Learn Understand YOUR Association Culture

### PRACTICAL TIPS AND TOOLS FOR RIGHT NOW!

#### What is your Association Culture?

- 1. The attitudes and behaviors of staff/leadership.
- 2. Shared identity and beliefs about Association purpose and why they exist.
- 3. Procedural norms that include;
- 4. Policies, procedures, ethics, and values.

#### How can I learn and understand?

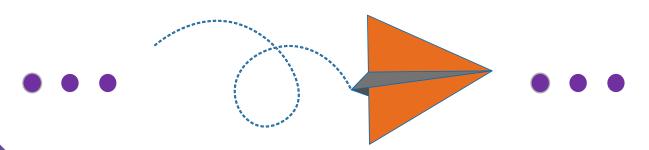
- 1. Talk to your staff and volunteer leadership.
- 2. Conduct field visits to Brokerages and Preferred Partner Offices. (Get to know your members)
- 3. Gain a deeper understanding with member surveys, M1 demographical data, and focus groups.
- 4. Role Clarity (Who does what and why?)

CHEAT TIP: Download the NAR
President/Chief Staff Eexecutive Checklist!

## Policies are your friend

### PRACTICAL TIPS AND TOOLS FOR

- Policies are formalized culture statements
- Align bylaws and policy manual
- Strategic and business plans
- Become familiar with governing documents (local, state, NAR, COE)





# What is Value Proposition Can You Articulate it???

1 WIIFM (What's In It For Me?)

- **2** Value is a moving target
- Help me make more money, secure more deals, gain more clients
- Represent my interests on issues critical to my business
- Protect me
- Make life easier for me

### 3 What are your core services, and do they fill the need?

- Continuing Education & Electives
- ✓ Advocacy
- ✓ Networking Opportunities
- ✓ Products and Services
- ✓ Community Service







- Gather and analyze information/data
- Utilize systems to make your job easier and more effective
- Leverage resources through collaboration (other AEs are your friends!)
- Delegate appropriately to your staff and respect their strengths

### Financial Health is Vital

\*The Association's Financial health dictates everything\*
(Operations, Staff recruitment/retention, member resources, growth potential)

- Protect and Manage Resources
- Annual Audit and/or Review (core standards)
- Transparent Financial Reporting
- Diversify Revenues



## Go social, go mobile



- Utilize social media (meet members where they are)
- Website Design, experience, content
- Email still #1 but embrace text and other ways to communicate



### **Embrace Diversity and Inclusion**

\*Embracing the diversity within your membership helps staff interact more effectively with members from different cultures, backgrounds, and experiences. Cultural competence helps drive initiatives and programming to increase value, growth, and improve how we can serve EVERYONE better.\*

- 1. What is the Makeup of your Membership? Board of Directors? Staff? Leadership?

  Additional Things to Consider: Brokerage Sizes, Part-time agent ratio, Bilingual, hearing impaired
- 2. New Leaders are in Plain Sight
- 3. Core Standards Requirements
- 4. Prioritize DEI Education and Training as standard professional development for you, Staff, and Association Leadership

CHEAT List: Implicit Bias Training, At Home w/ Diversity, Fair Haven, NAR Actionable Road Map, Color of Law



## Volunteer Leadership

- The backbone of your organization
- Board of Directors (BOD) Culture; board orientation
- You won't always agree; Be Flexible
- BOD self-assessment
- Identify new leaders



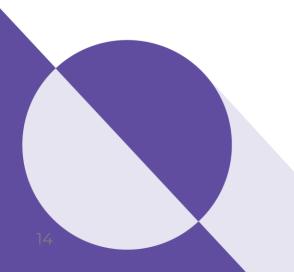
### **Build, Nurture & Invest in your DREAM TEAM**

- Learn HR basics
- Hire the best (hire slow, fire fast)
- Learn to delegate
- Train, pay and mentor
- Performance evaluations and development



## It's Okay to be overwhelmed

- Tell your leadership
- Ask for help
- Talk to a mentor
- Keep things in balance





## Members are watching you

- 1. Be a volunteer
- 2. Practice what you preach
  - Be prepared; show up on time
  - Pay Attention
  - Keep confidential matters confidential and disclose conflicts
- 3. Association events, social events, online (social media)
- 4. Be Ethical, truthful (oh yeah, don't steal!)
- 5. Have a servant spirit; lead with empathy



### Learn the Industry

- Read and stay connected with Industry Trends and updates
- Training through local resources
- AE Institute
- Find Mentors



## **Expect the Unexpected**

- Bad things happen to good people
- Stay Calm
- Marshall your resources
- Everyday is a potential press conference ©







