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WORKSHOP OBJECTIVES

- Define and explore the concept of inclusion in today's context
- Introduce research-based frameworks for inclusive practices
- Identify barriers to inclusion and strategies to overcome them
- · Foster peer learning and self-awareness



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ICEBREAKER

- Name
- Job role / position
- Organization
- Share one value, strength, or quality you bring



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REFLECTION

What can make this space feel inclusive, engaging, and safe for you?



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DISCUSSION & NORM BUILDING

- What do your responses have in common?
- What behaviors or values show up more than once?
- Create 3-5 group norms per table



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INCLUSION ACROSS SECTORS

- Workplace Inclusion
- "An environment where employees feel valued, involved, and respected for the viewpoints, ideas, perspectives, and experiences they bring" (Source: Center for Creative Leadership)
- Inclusion in Education
- "The actions, activities, and approaches aimed at ensuring that all students, regardless of their abilities or disabilities, have equal access to quality education in their least restrictive environment" (Source: Virginia Department of Education)



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INCLUSION ACROSS SECTORS

Social Inclusion

"All people have the best opportunities to enjoy life and do well in society – and making sure no one is left out or excluded" (Source: Sacred Heart Mission)

- Examples:
 - · Access to education and training
 - · Fair employment
 - · Safe secure housing
 - · Access to healthcare, public transport and other services



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REFLECTION

Which definition or framework of inclusion resonates most with your context - and why?



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BARRIERS TO INCLUSION

- 1. Identity Barrier Regulation
 - HR leaders or DEI Officers encourage diverse employees to fit into the existing system
 - Not focusing their efforts on dismantling underlying power dynamics
- 2. The Authority Barrier
 - Leaders who deviate from the norm face more challenges from others in terms of respecting talent and skills they bring

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Source: Martin N. Davidson & Laura Morgan Roberts

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BARRIERS TO INCLUSION

- 3. Things are Working Well for Me Barrier
 - · Those in power are in a place of agency
 - For these leaders, there is less of an imperative to explore those parts of themselves or their organization that might need to change
 - The onus therefore falls on leaders to interrogate themselves to understand the cost of privilege

Source: Martin N. Davidson & Laura Morgan Roberts

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BARRIERS TO INCLUSION

- 4. The Inertia Barrier
 - · Change of any kind is difficult
 - Changing culture, systems, and processes is about removing institutional systems that are harmful
 - This can make change a challenging and complex process

Source: Martin N. Davidson & Laura Morgan Roberts



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BARRIERS TO INCLUSION

5. The Motivation Barrier

- · Danger when organizations value diversity for the wrong reasons
- · Some employees may be at risk of becoming objectified
- The most important question is not "How many people of color or women do we have?"
- Instead it should be, "What differences will help us achieve our larger goals, mission, and purpose?"

Source: Martin N. Davidson & Laura Morgan Roberts

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BARRIER MAPPING

5 Barriers to Inclusion

- 1. Identity Barrier Regulation
- 2. The Authority Barrier
- 3. Things are Working Well for Me Barrier
- 4. The Inertia Barrier
- 5. The Motivation Barrier

Barrier Mapping Prompts

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- · What is the barrier?
- · What are the root causes?
- · Who is impacted-and how?
- · What has been tried before (if anything)?
- What inclusive practices or strategies could help address this barrier? VIRGINIA CENTER FO INCLUSIV

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THE CASE FOR INCLUSION

- **Employees value inclusion**
 - · 99% of employees value a workplace where everyone feels included
- **Exclusion is common**
 - · 31% of employees have felt excluded or marginalized at work in the last 5 years

Source: Traliant

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THE CASE FOR INCLUSION

- Exclusion drives turnover
 - 55% of those who felt excluded considered leaving their job
- · Training makes a difference
 - Only 29% of employees in organizations with inclusion training for all reported exclusion
 - Compared to 47% reporting exclusion where training is required of only the managers

Source: Traliant



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THE CASE FOR INCLUSION

- 1. Talent Attraction & Retention
- 2. Employee Engagement & Satisfaction
- 3. Innovation & Creativity
- 4. Enhanced Decision Making
- 5. Improved Customer & Client Relationships
- 6. Regulatory Considerations

Source: Tony Butler-Sims



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THE CASE FOR INCLUSION

- 1. Talent Attraction & Retention
 - More likely to attract top talent
 - Job seekers drawn to your organization because diversity and equal access are highlighted
 - More inclusive workplaces tend to have have higher retention rates

Source: Tony Butler-Sims



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THE CASE FOR INCLUSION

- 2. Employee Engagement & Satisfaction
 - · Connection is key for psychological health and well-being
 - · By prioritizing inclusion, it helps to cultivate a sense of belonging and community
 - · This enhances job satisfaction and morale

Source: Tony Butler-Sims

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THE CASE FOR INCLUSION

- 3. Innovation & Creativity
 - · Businesses must generate groundbreaking solutions to remain competitive
 - · Diverse teams are more able to tap into new ways of thinking
 - Requires an environment where employees know their creativity an innovation are valued
 - Examples- cross functional teams, employee surveys

Source: Tony Butler-Sims

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THE CASE FOR INCLUSION

- 4. Enhanced Decision Making
 - · Diverse groups encourage more extensive discussion and considerations
 - · Assists with avoiding an echo chamber or group think
 - Diversity of thought and open communication are key to enhancing organizational decisions

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THE CASE FOR INCLUSION

- 5. Improved Customer & Client Relationships
 - In a global marketplace inclusive organizations better adapt to the needs of diverse clientele
 - Assists with developing inclusive marketing strategies that resonate with a broad audience

Source: Tony Butler-Sims



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THE CASE FOR INCLUSION

- 6. Regulatory Considerations
 - Beyond morality, there are legal and ethical reason to prioritize inclusion
 - Discrimination can lead to legal consequences and pose reputational risks
 - Join industry associations to stay abreast of best practices

Source: Tony Butler-Sims



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REFLECTION & DISCUSSION

- Which of these insights resonates most with your experience?
- What are the risks of not prioritizing inclusion in your workplace?
- What's one action your organization could take to better 'make the case' for inclusion?
- 1. Talent Attraction & Retention
- 2. Employee Engagement & Satisfaction
- 3. Innovation & Creativity
- 4. Enhanced Decision Making
- 5. Improved Customer & Client Relationships
- 6. Regulatory Considerations



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MY INCLUSION COMMITMENT

What is <u>one thing</u>
I will do to
advance inclusion
in my workplace?



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