



## Family Mission Statements

Mission statements have long been a part of organizations; they provide a clear path for what the organization wants to accomplish and how they plan to go about doing it. Yet, seldom does a family take the time to write a mission statement, and what organization is more important than the family? By establishing who you are as a family, how you want to be known, and how you plan to do it, you are practicing Habit 2: Begin With the End in Mind®. The process is a great way to practice all of the 7 Habits.

### Step 1.

Ask yourself these seven questions:

- How do we want our family to be known?
- How do we want to treat each other?
- What is most important to us as a family?
- What are some of our talents, gifts, and abilities?
- What makes us the happiest?
- What makes us unhappy?
- What kind of home do we want to invite friends to?

### Step 2.

Write your Family Mission Statement.

Consider all four areas:

- Body (health and physical welfare)
- Brain (learning)
- Heart (relationships)
- Spirit (inspiration)

Keep it simple, one to two lines, so the youngest family members can memorize it and find it meaningful. Examples: “We are builders,” “No empty chairs,” “To serve others,” “All for one and one for all,” etc.

### Step 3.

Stay on course. As parents, you are the role models. Keep smiling and getting back on track.

### The promise.

By writing a Family Mission Statement, the message to your children is that your family is important—you know what you stand for and how you are going to work together to accomplish it.