

# 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, rarely 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 wellbeing)
- Mind (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,” “We love each other,” “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.