

# RECREATION CONFERENCE – SESSION OUTLINE

Session Title:

## RAISING THE BAR IN RECREATION

**SESSION DESCRIPTION (25 words):**

Let's take our performance as Recreation Professionals to the Next Level; turning "Big Ideas" into practical "Action Steps", thus "RAISING THE BAR" for our agencies.

**SESSION DESCRIPTION (Full Text):**

We all want to be better at what we do, right? That's what "RAISING THE BAR" is all about. It means taking our performance as Recreation Professionals to the next level; finding ways to improve how we go about our "business." Ultimately, it means turning those "Big Ideas" into practical "Action Steps" that you can start accomplishing tomorrow, so we can be "RAISING THE BAR" for our agencies.

**SESSION TARGET MARKET:** Recreation Programmers, Agency Directors, Supervisors

Speaker's Name: Mark Honberger

Total Length: 1.25 hour session

**SESSION LEARNING OBJECTIVES:** Participants will:

- 1) Investigate how the phrase "Raising the Bar" comes from the sport of High Jump, with athletes only moving the bar an inch at a time... So surely, we can DO ONE THING to "improve" our agency.
- 2) Track the difference between Knowledge and Wisdom, and how these concepts apply to the Parks and Recreation Profession.
- 3) Internalize what it means to "Mind The Gap" for those things that are not being done or said, and then take a Nuts-&-Bolts approach to apply this foundational concept in very tangible ways to the Parks and Recreation Profession.

**SESSION NEEDS IDENTIFICATION:** All too often, recreation agencies get “stuck in a rut,” not striving to make improvements in the things that we do: our programs, our facilities, our services. This is a dangerous place to be, as it leads to stagnancy. Rather, we should be looking to make improvements, even if it is just ONE THING. By making one improvement and seeing it to fruition; we can then pick another ONE THING to improve. After a few of these, the agency will look back at all of the amazing things they have accomplished. And it all started with “Raising the Bar” on just ONE THING.

**MARK’S EXPERIENCE PRESENTING EDUCATION SESSIONS:** Throughout his 30+ years in the Parks and Recreation Profession, Mark Honberger has annually provided training presentations on a variety of recreation topics. He has provided training sessions for the California Park and Recreation Society (District Training Events & State Conferences), the Arizona Park and Recreation Association (State Conference 2017, 2018, 2020, 2021), the Nevada Park and Recreation Society (State Conference 2018, 2019), & the New Mexico Park and Recreation Association (State Conference 2019). Additionally, Mark has conducted numerous Team Building sessions for parks and recreation agencies.

**MARK’S EXPERIENCE WITH THIS SUBJECT MATTER:** Throughout his 30+ years in the Parks and Recreation Profession, Mark Honberger has strived to “Raise The Bar” for his recreation agencies, as they seek to better provide their community with the services it needs. He has learned that it all starts with “Raising The Bar” on just ONE THING at a time, which leads to tremendous success for his recreation agencies. Mark will bring his experiences to this session, to show how to “Raise The Bar” for your agencies, thus helping your community to THRIVE!

## SESSION OUTLINE

### Introduction of Speaker (2 Minutes)

### Introduction of Topic (10 Minutes)

- A) Attention Grabber: Bring out the importance of “Raising The Bar”. Ask Audience to raise hand to share a reason why they think it is important. Reward those who answer with a sweet treat.
  - a. Get out of Stagnant Ruts
  - b. Better meet our community’s needs
  
- B) NEEDS IDENTIFICATION: Discuss the need for this topic and this session. (from above)

### Cover Learning Objectives (3 Minutes)



## PRESENTATION OF TOPIC SPECIFICS

- **RAISING THE BAR** (15 Minutes) (LEARNING OBJECTIVE #1)

A) Investigate how the phrase “Raising the Bar” comes from the sport of High Jump, with athletes only moving the bar an inch at a time... So surely, we can DO ONE THING to “improve” our agency.

- **KNOWLEDGE & WISDOM** (15 Minutes) (LEARNING OBJECTIVE #2)

A) Track the difference between Knowledge and Wisdom, and how these concepts apply to the Parks and Recreation Profession.

- **MIND THE GAP** (20 Minutes) (LEARNING OBJECTIVE #3)

A) Internalize what it means to “Mind The Gap” for those things that are not being done or said, and then take a Nuts-&-Bolts approach to apply this foundational concept in very tangible ways to the Parks and Recreation Profession.

**QUESTION AND ANSWERS** (10 Minutes)