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March Newsletter



“You may encounter many defeats, but you must not be defeated. In fact, it may be necessary to encounter the defeats, so you can know who you are, what you can rise from, how you can still come out of it.” - Maya Angelou

March 1, 2021

Hi friends,

We're just a few weeks away from the first day of spring, and yet, if there's one thing we can count on, it's that spring is a reluctant force here in New England. Still, to me it's a hopeful time, a time of letting go of the old and a promise of new beginnings.

This pandemic year we've seen iconic businesses struggle and fail; school-aged children suffer learning losses and depression; the grief of so many losing incomes, homes, loved ones. The fabric of our society itself feels torn beyond patching up. We've been living through a collective trauma that we haven't fully acknowledged yet, and we won't completely understand its lasting impacts for a long time to come.

But, there have been profound lessons that we've absorbed along the way, things we will want to take with us into a post-Covid future – and with vaccination distribution ramping up, that's finally a reality we can start to believe in.

What have we learned? Here are my top ten:

1. Adaptability, nimbleness and resilience are superhero qualities.
2. Technology is awesome.
3. Technology can be exhausting.
4. Compassionate leaders make the best role models.
5. Operating from a position of fear is futile and destructive.
6. Maintaining work-life balance takes discipline.
7. A crisis is an opportunity to rethink what's working and what's not.

8. Two-dimensional communication can be efficient, but is no substitute for face-to-face.
9. When things get rough, get outside.
10. Humans are a highly interdependent species and must be able to rely on one another to thrive.

As we gradually come through this devastating time, let's never forget the ways that it shaped us, changed us, and forced us to grow. What lessons have you learned that you want to take into the future? If you'd like to share with me, hit reply.

By the way, we have a great - and timely - webinar tomorrow (March 2nd) on The Future of Work: Preparing for a Post Covid Future, with Michael Messerschmidt of Preti Flaherty. There's still time to register [here](#).

Last week Rhoda McVeigh presented to the Boston Better Business Bureau on the Key HR Trends Business Leaders Need to Manage in 2021. You can watch her excellent presentation [here](#).

Thanks for reading!

Kim Anania
President and CEO
KMA Human Resources

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