

# Your Leadership Matters: Hawaii needs you now more than ever



Mary Kelly, PhD, CSP, CPAE, CDR

US Navy (ret)



**Commander/Doctor  
Mary Kelly**  
**CPAE, CSP, US Navy (ret)**





**Navy background –**

**USNA, ASWOC, IPAC, JICPAC, CINCPAC,  
NAVREG, Barbers PT, PSD, NCTAMS, USNA**

**Pacific Century Fellow**

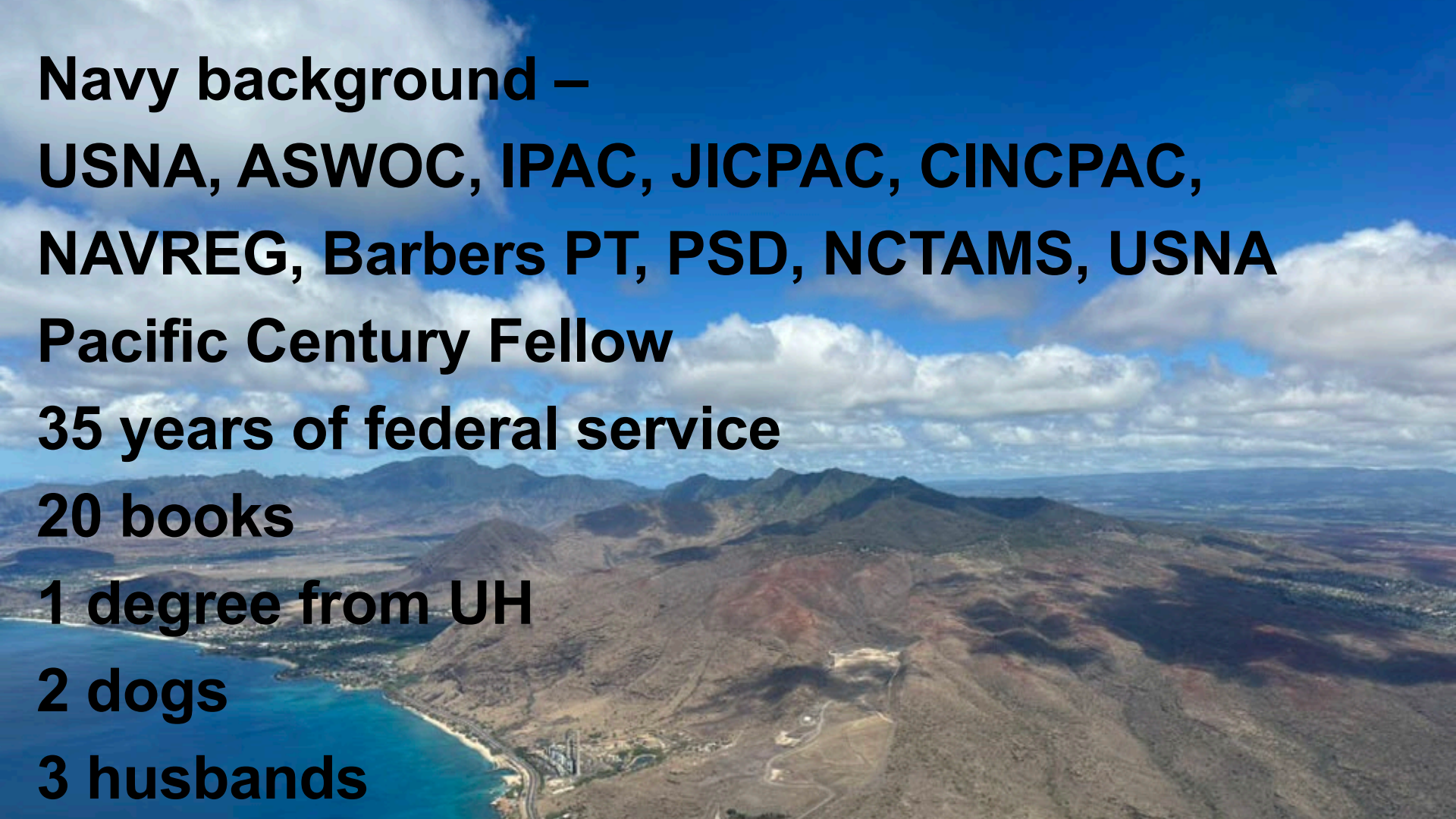
**35 years of federal service**

**20 books**

**1 degree from UH**

**2 dogs**

**3 husbands**

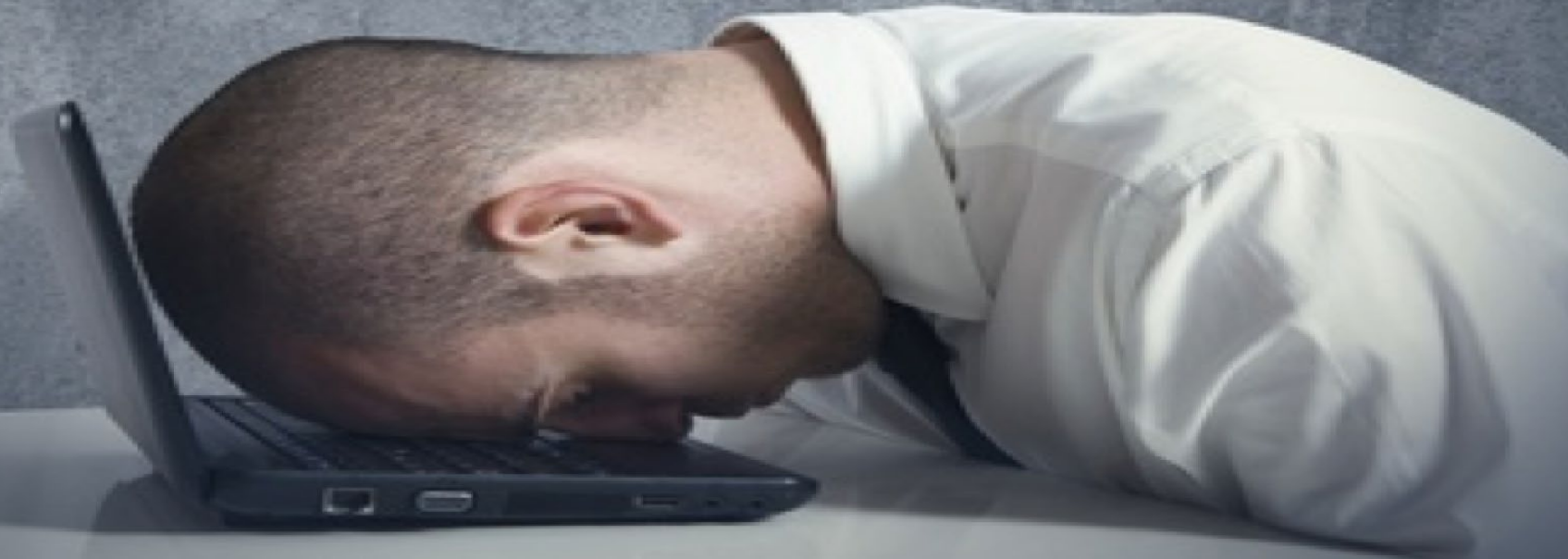


A wide-angle photograph of a sunset over the ocean. The sun is a bright yellow orb partially obscured by a large, dark cloud, with rays of light breaking through. The sky is filled with scattered clouds, some of which are illuminated from below by the setting sun, giving them a golden-orange glow. The ocean is a deep blue with small, white-capped waves. In the distance, a few small boats and a pier are visible on the horizon. On the far right, the silhouettes of palm trees are visible against the sky. The text "Hawaii is a magical place." is superimposed in the lower half of the image in a white, sans-serif font.

**Hawaii is a magical place.**



**Have you ever been  
frustrated at work?**





**Do you feel that  
you are doing  
more than your  
fair share for  
your team?**



**Have you ever  
wanted others to  
have a sense of  
urgency?**





**Leaders have to  
see what could  
happen, and they  
have to have a  
plan**





# Crises are all around us



## Geopolitical

- Hamas invaded Israel
- Russia invaded Ukraine
- China threatens Taiwan
- Iran claims nukes
- North Korea
- Terrorists
- Food insecurity
- Refugees
- Tariffs/Trade

## Economics

- Taxes
- Inflation
- Housing/rental costs
- Jobs
- GDP
- National debt
- Labor force participation
- Labor costs
- Medical costs

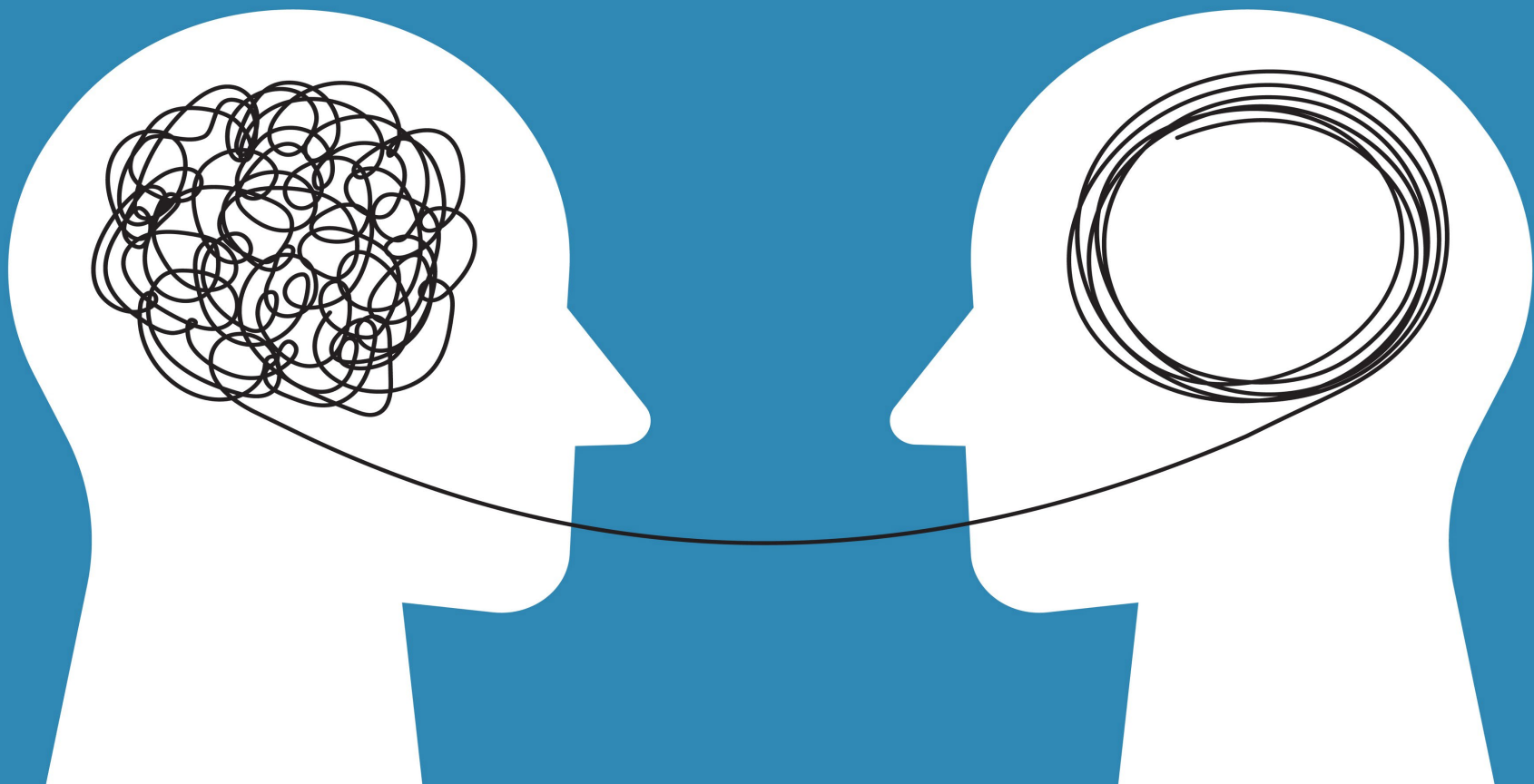
## Workplace

- Attract and retain
- Quiet quitting
- Great resignation
- Talent acquisition
- Employee engagement
- Morale
- Collegiality/Teamwork
- Regulations
- Citizens
- AI

## Domestic

- Crime
- Justice
- Education
- Supply chains
- Immigration
- Elections
- Social capital
- Healthcare
- Climate issues







**Reasons  
why  
leadership  
is tougher  
now.**





**1**

**There are more variables in the workplace.**  
**There is more to know.**  
**There is more technology to master, more complications with supply chains, personnel, budgets, legalities, and industry regulations.**



2

**Accelerating pace of change.**

**Managing change is a  
continuous process.**





3

**Available resources and sourcing  
is no longer local, it is global.  
Leaders have to think globally and  
act locally.**



4



# Products and services deliveries are more complex.

**5**

**Leaders need  
engaged  
employees who  
are intent on  
serving citizens,  
who want  
everything right  
now.**





6

**People are still feeling  
disengaged and  
overwhelmed.**



7

**The stakes are  
higher.**

**Decisions can make  
or break a city,  
county, or company.**



# CREATING VISION FOR 2026 AND BEYOND

## PEOPLE

- Attract
- Recruit/Retain
- Mentor/Manage
- Evolve
- Develop

## TECHNOLOGY & TOOLS

- Innovations
- Advancements
- Artificial Information = Aloha Intelligence
- Robotics

## VALUE

## GROWTH

- Strategize
- Optimize
- Find opportunities
- Differentiate

## MANAGING UNCERTAINTY

- What is worrying your citizens?
- Are your people confident in your leadership and your actions?
- What are your employees thinking about?



# 97%

of business owners  
believe ChatGPT will  
help them grow their  
business



Forbes 2024

# SO MUCH POTENTIAL...

- ✓ Efficient way to automate repetitive tasks
- ✓ Increase data collection
- ✓ Enhance employee engagement
- ✓ Improve employee productivity
- ✓ Better decisions based on patterns + insights
- ✓ More 24/7 responsiveness to user/citizen needs
- ✓ Minimize loss + risk
- ✓ Hire better-qualified candidates
- ✓ Train employees more effectively

# 64%

of businesses  
expect AI to increase  
productivity



The background of the image is a blue-tinted city skyline, likely New York City, with numerous skyscrapers. Overlaid on this background are several financial charts. A prominent candlestick chart with green and red bars is visible, along with a line chart showing fluctuations over time. The overall aesthetic is professional and data-driven.

# 21%

GDP increase by  
2030 due to AI

# WATCH FOR PITFALLS...

- ✓ People still need to do quality control
- ✓ Needs good collection mechanisms
- ✓ People don't understand the processes they manage
- ✓ People need soft skills, like critical thinking
- ✓ Depends on robust, quality data
- ✓ Cold, impersonal, and frustrating when it is wrong
- ✓ Monitoring leads to a lack of privacy
- ✓ AI bias & often lacks data
- ✓ Not a substitute for leadership & mentorship



**75%**  
of Americans  
worry about  
**misinformation**  
from AI



# 77%

of employees  
worry that AI  
will take jobs



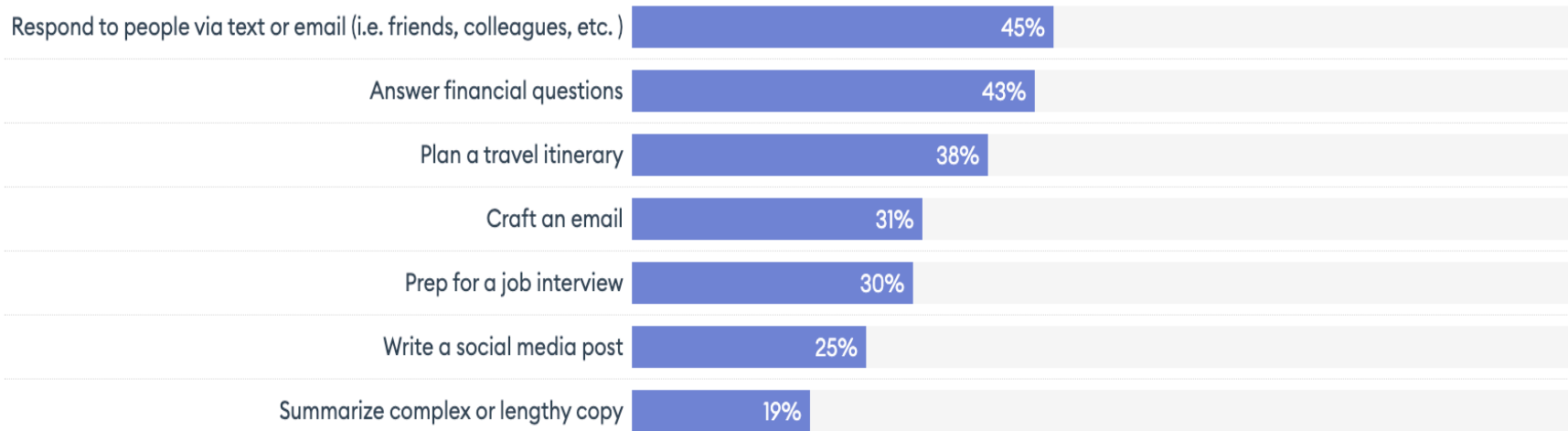
Forbes 2024



# Most Popular AI Uses in 2024

The most popular AI uses include responding to messages, answering financial questions, planning travel itineraries and crafting social media posts as its versatility transforms everyday tasks.<sup>[7]</sup>

## Most Common Way Consumers Plan to Use Artificial Intelligence





# 43%

of businesses are  
concerned about  
technology dependence





# THE SKILLS GAP

Communication

Teamwork

Conflict  
Resolution

Leadership

Professionalism

Self-Awareness

Accountability

Attitude

Critical Thinking

Problem-solving

Time  
Management

Technological  
Literacy

Cross Cultural  
Competencies

Networking

Collaboration

Creativity

Innovation

Adaptability

Flexibility

Emotional  
Intelligence



# WHAT LEADERS SAY...

Only **4%**

AI  
Readiness  
Assessment

Have a roadmap for AI





STOP CHASING THE  
**WAVE**

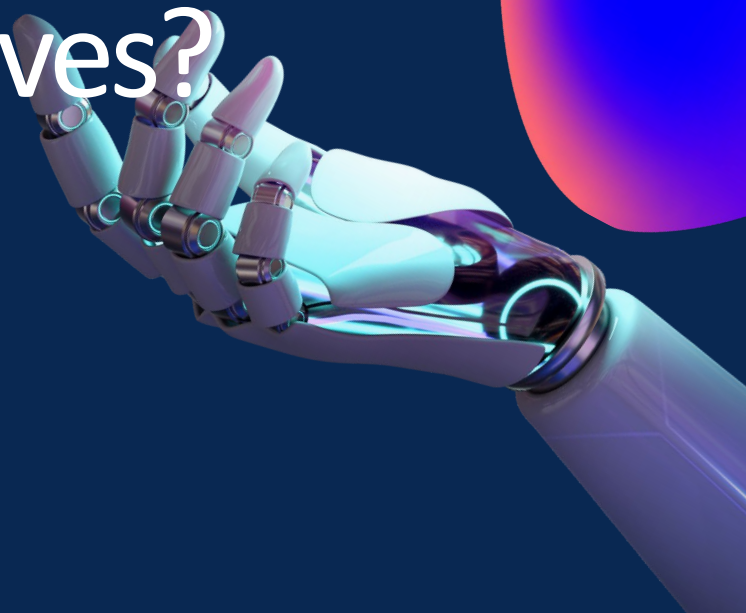




# Questions to consider for **your state's** AI strategy



1 How can we align our AI initiatives with our state's strategy and objectives?



## 2 What ethical issues should we consider?



3

How can we  
leverage AI to  
create greater  
efficiencies and  
effectiveness?



4

What are the potential risks associated lack of AI strategies?





# 5 Is our data infrastructure robust enough to support advanced applications?



# 6 What knowledge, skills and abilities do we need, and how do we get them?



# 7 How do we measure the success of our AI initiatives?



8

What emerging AI technologies or trends should we know about?  
(What are other states doing?)





9



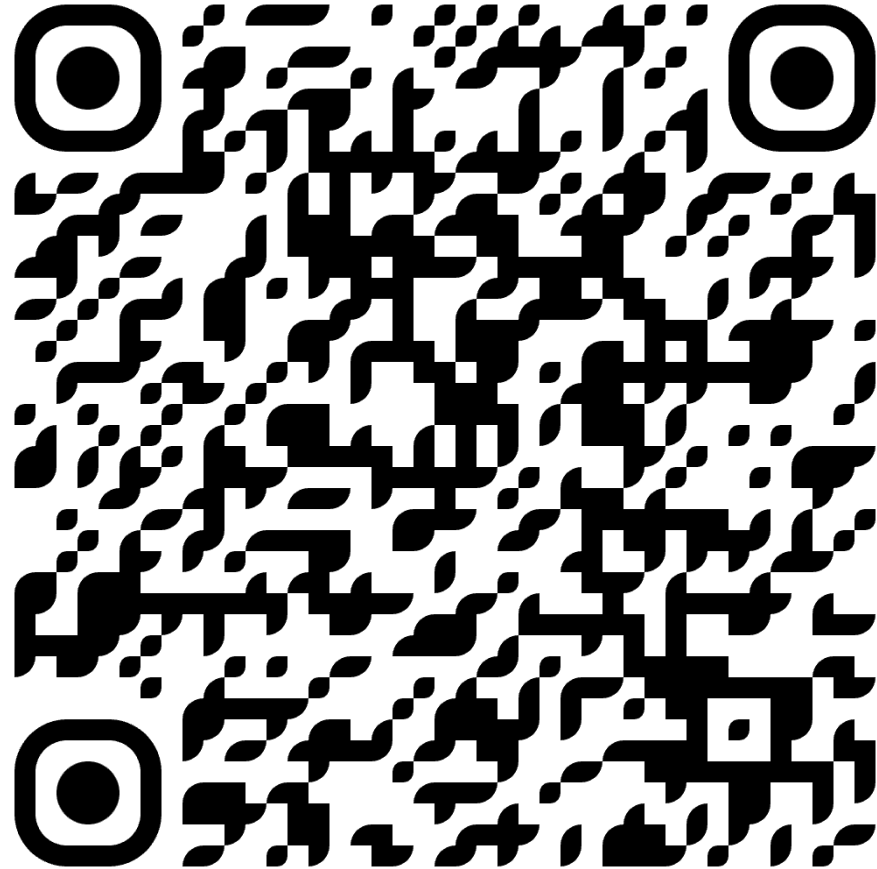
How do we change the mindset that makes AI development a priority in our organization?

10

What partnerships  
can accelerate our  
AI  
implementation?



# How AI Ready Is Your State?





# **We need the right people**

- Attract
- Recruit/Retain
- Mentor/Manage
- Evolve
- Develop







**YOU HAD**



**ONE JOB**











RETHINK  
REPOSITION  
CHANGE  
NEW PLAN  
SHIFT  
PIVOT!  
ALTERATION  
RESET  
MODIFY  
CHANGE COURSE

**P = Purpose**



# 5-MINUTE VISION PLAN

Our mission is what we do, such as “we play baseball.”  
A vision is “we are going to the World Series.”  
Leaders need to create a vision that gives people purpose and direction,  
and coalesces them around a goal bigger than themselves.

**Before establishing the vision, we need to know our mission.**

**What do we actually do?**

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**Who do we serve now?**

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**Think about the Really Big Picture to create the vision.**

With a clearly understood mission, we can move into creating the vision.

Strategic thinking considers the big picture, potential changes, and every possible variable.

**Who will we serve in the future?**

**In 5 years?**

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**In 10 years?**

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**In 20 years?**

**What major changes will we see in the future?**

1. 

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2. 

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3. 

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**How will these changes affect our purpose?**

1. 

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2. 

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3. 

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**What legacy do we want to leave? What do we want to be known for?**

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**If there were no constraints, what would we do?**

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**What is our vision?**

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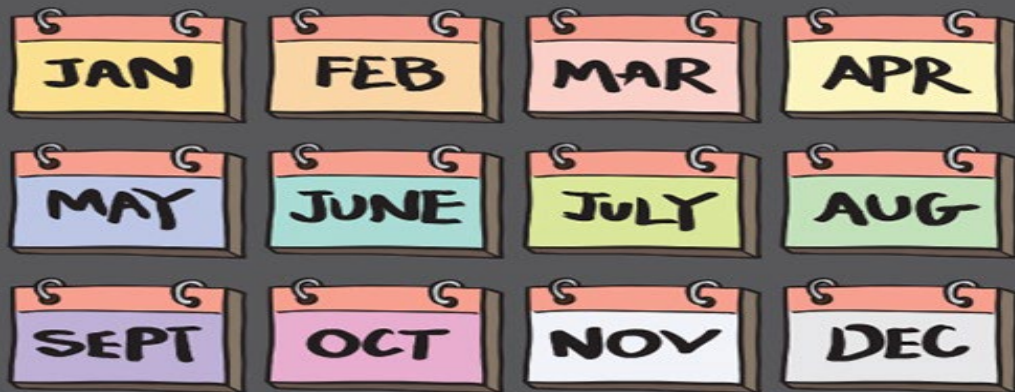
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# **12 MONTHS OF ACTION**

**STRONGER STRATEGY**

**BETTER DECISIONS**

**FASTER RESULTS**

**MARY C. KELLY**

[www.ProductiveLeaders.com](http://www.ProductiveLeaders.com)

## JANUARY

### BUSINESS SUCCESS AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Goals for the month:

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_

This month I want to do more of these activities:

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

This month I want to do less of these activities:

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

This month I resolve to delegate/outsource:

\_\_\_\_\_

This month I am going to streamline this process:

\_\_\_\_\_

This month I am going to complete this project:

\_\_\_\_\_

This month I am going to resolve this situation:

\_\_\_\_\_

I will contact these 3 people for advice:

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

I will reach out to these 3 potential decision makers/clients:

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

On a scale of 1 through 5, this month was a

5 ○      4 ○      3 ○      2 ○      1 ○  
Fabulous      Good      Okay      Meh      Terrible

What could have made this month better?

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

I am grateful for:

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

This month I learned:

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

## **JANUARY**

### **BUSINESS SUCCESS AND ACCOUNTABILITY**

**Goals for the month:**

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_

**This month I want to do more of these activities:**

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

**This month I want to do less of these activities:**

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

**This month I resolve to delegate/outsource:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**This month I am going to streamline this process:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**This month I am going to complete this project:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

# JANUARY

## BUSINESS SUCCESS AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Goals for the month:

1. Lose 20 pounds
2. Clean the house
3. Drink more water
4. Make \$100,000 more!
5. Negotiate world peace



**I = Influence/  
Inspire**

Communicate  
more than  
you think you  
should







**v = Volatility**











**O = Opportunities**





# COVID-19 ESSENTIALS







**T =  
Tools/Training/Tech**









# THE TREASURE CHEST OF RESOURCES! (\$497 value!)

- ✓ Leader's Blind Spot Assessment
- ✓ 12-Month Business Success and Accountability Planner
- ✓ Who Comes Next Tools Workbook
- ✓ 2023 Succession Planning Trends White Paper
- ✓ 15 of Mary's 5-Minute Solutions
- ✓ Generate Ideas. Focus on Solutions. Be Productive. (book)
- ✓ Resiliency: 7 Skills to Bounce Back During Tough Times (book)
- ✓ Dealing With Uncertainty Crisis, and Change (book)
- ✓ How to Manage Difficult People (book)
- ✓ How to Manage Difficult People (workbook)
- ✓ Successful Leader's Checklist (workbook)

## The Leaders Blind Spots Assessment



**DISCOVER YOUR BLIND SPOTS!**

Get Immediate Results [blindspots.com](https://blindspots.com)

Authorized use of the Official Blind Spot Assessment

## The Official Blind Spot Assessment

**GET STARTED**

## The Leaders Blind Spots Assessment

**SELECT ONE ANSWER**

**Choose the word pair that best describes  
you.**

Put yourself in a work environment. Don't overthink it.

Thinker – Inquisitive

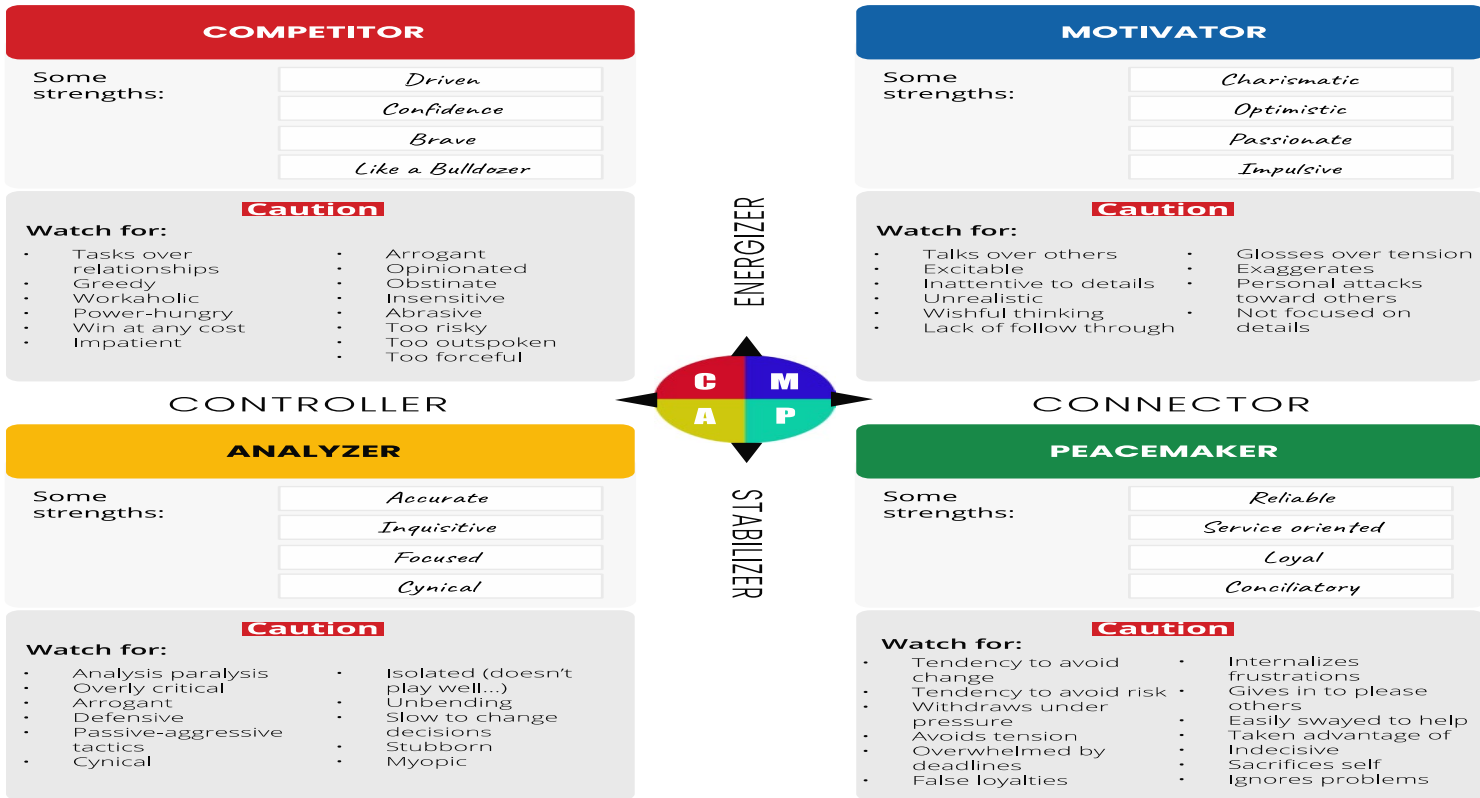
Animated – Charming

Loyal – Sacrificing

Ambitious – Bottom Line



**Every Strength**  
comes with potential **Blind Spots**





**Text the word dog to 66866**

**[ProductiveLeaders.com/2025-success](https://ProductiveLeaders.com/2025-success)**





**WEEK STARTING:** \_\_\_\_\_

[illegible]





# 5-MINUTE DAILY PRODUCTIVITY PLAN

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

Calls to Make	
Phone # or Person	Regarding

Appointments/Meetings	
Time	Person/Place

Appointments/Meetings	

Follow Up	

To Do	

Today's Accomplishments	











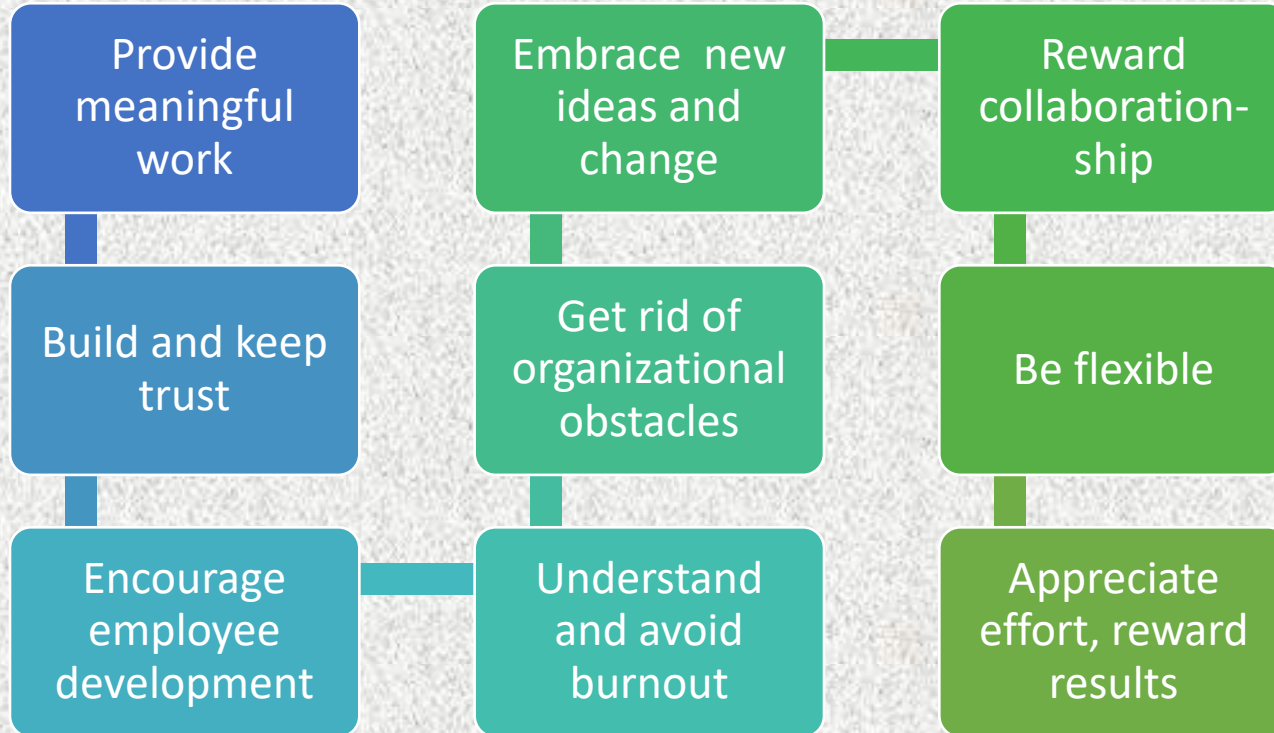








# What are great workplaces doing now?







A man with a beard and a woman with dark hair are shown from the chest up, facing each other in conversation. The man is on the left, wearing a white shirt and a dark tie, gesturing with his right hand. The woman is on the right, wearing a red blazer, looking at him with an expressive face. A dark blue horizontal banner is superimposed over the middle of the image, containing white text. The background is a plain, light color.

If you are going to be good at  
ONE leadership trait,  
be good at COMMUNICATION

# Improve productivity and morale!

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# Improve productivity and morale!



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