



Background

Summer 2003

Background

Character Qualities

- Perseverance (January)
- Unity (February)
- Integrity (March)
- Service (April)
- Moral Courage (May)
- Citizenship (June)
- Fairness (July)
- Self-Control (August)
- Responsibility (September)
- Respect (October)
- Thankfulness (November)
- Caring (December)

City of Mission Viejo
 200 Civic Center
 Mission Viejo, CA 92691

Character Corner

Beginnings

In January, 2003, a volunteer group representing all segments of our community including schools, businesses, city, houses of faith, students, parents and civic organizations met to explore creating a Mission Viejo Community of Character Initiative. A suggested city resolution and mission statement were the key topics of discussion.

City Council Adoption

At the February, 3, 2003 City Council Meeting, Council Member Trish Kelley recommended the City Council adopt conceptual approval of the City becoming a City of Character. At the February 17th Council meeting, a resolution was passed establishing the City of Mission Viejo as a Community of Character. On March 21, the Council adopted a mission statement.

City of Character Mission Statement

"To create a positive environment in our community by using a framework that builds good character values and assets, thereby making Mission Viejo a stronger, healthier and safer community."

Selection of Community Core Qualities

What character qualities are important to the residents of our community? Over a three-month period from mid April to early July, input was requested through newspaper ads and voting forms that were distributed at the city library and at various community activities like Fun with Chalk and the July 4th Street Faire.

Individual groups were also invited to provide their ideas. When the voting closed on July 4th, 176 qualities had been presented from nearly 800 residents. Many of the words could be consolidated such as caring, compassion and kindness. Fourteen qualities were finally identified, representing those most voted upon by community residents. These fourteen character qualities were explored by the Community of Character committee in mid-July and combined into twelve.



The Community's Character Qualities

Twelve character qualities were selected. They are identified on this page. Each character quality will be highlighted monthly in our community beginning in September, 2003, with ***Responsibility***.

What's Next?

The first objective is to provide, during the next year, information and programs to individuals, families and all segments of our community about the twelve core qualities.

Getting Involved

If you would like to become a Community of Character Committee volunteer, provide suggestions for programs, or help fund a special project, contact the City of Mission Viejo at 949-470-3061.