

Serving Our Youth: Leadership for Non-profit Youth Sport Organizations

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Introduction

- Personal Background
- Childhood Obesity & Onset Type II Diabetes
- Youth Sport as a Possible Solution
- Problem???

Problem Statement

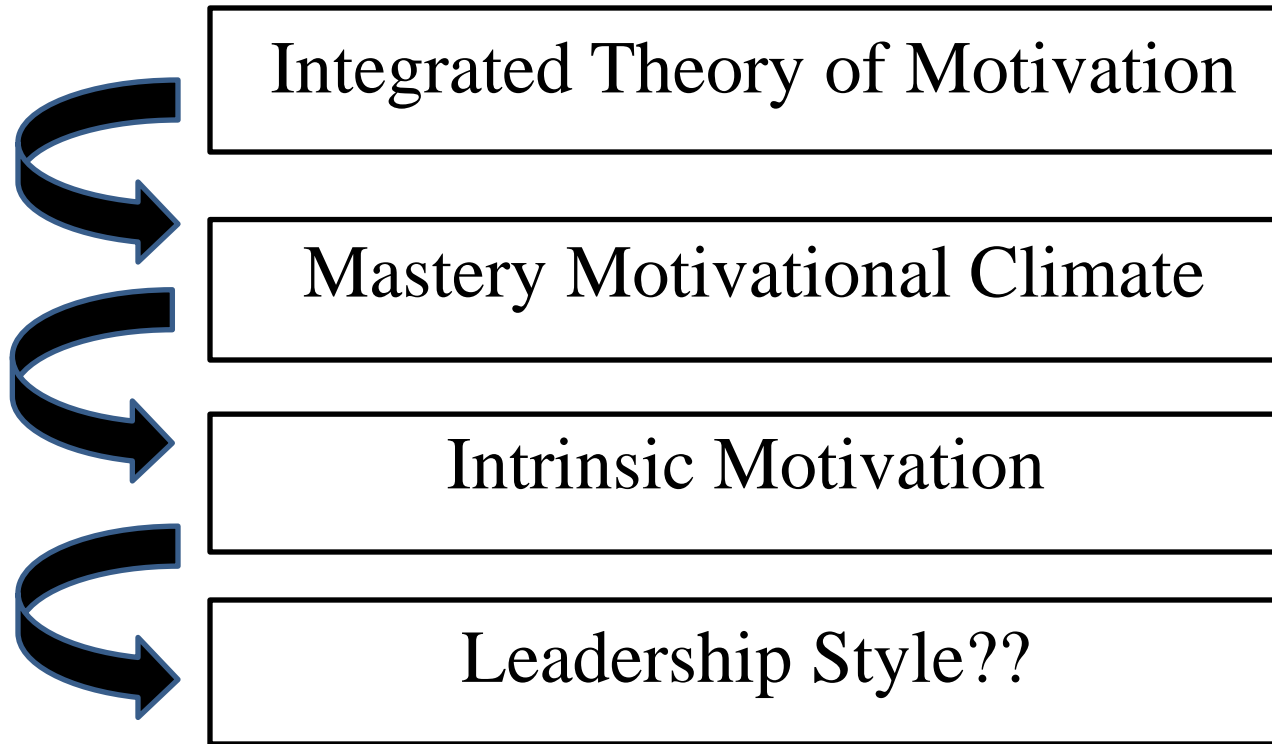
- The problem is youth sport participant attrition and burnout rates.
- Why???

Why Youth Participants Stop Participating (Cox 2007)

- 1) Participation in sport is not fun anymore;
- 2) Failure to learn new skills or to improve upon existing skills;
- 3) Lack of physical activity;
- 4) Lack of thrills, challenges, and excitement;
- 5) Poor team atmosphere, not making friends.

Possible Solution???

Theoretical Framework(s)



Servant Leadership

- Servant Leadership coined by Robert Greenleaf in 1977
- Seeks to create followers who become “healthier, wiser, freer, and more autonomous” (Greenleaf, 1977, p.13-14).

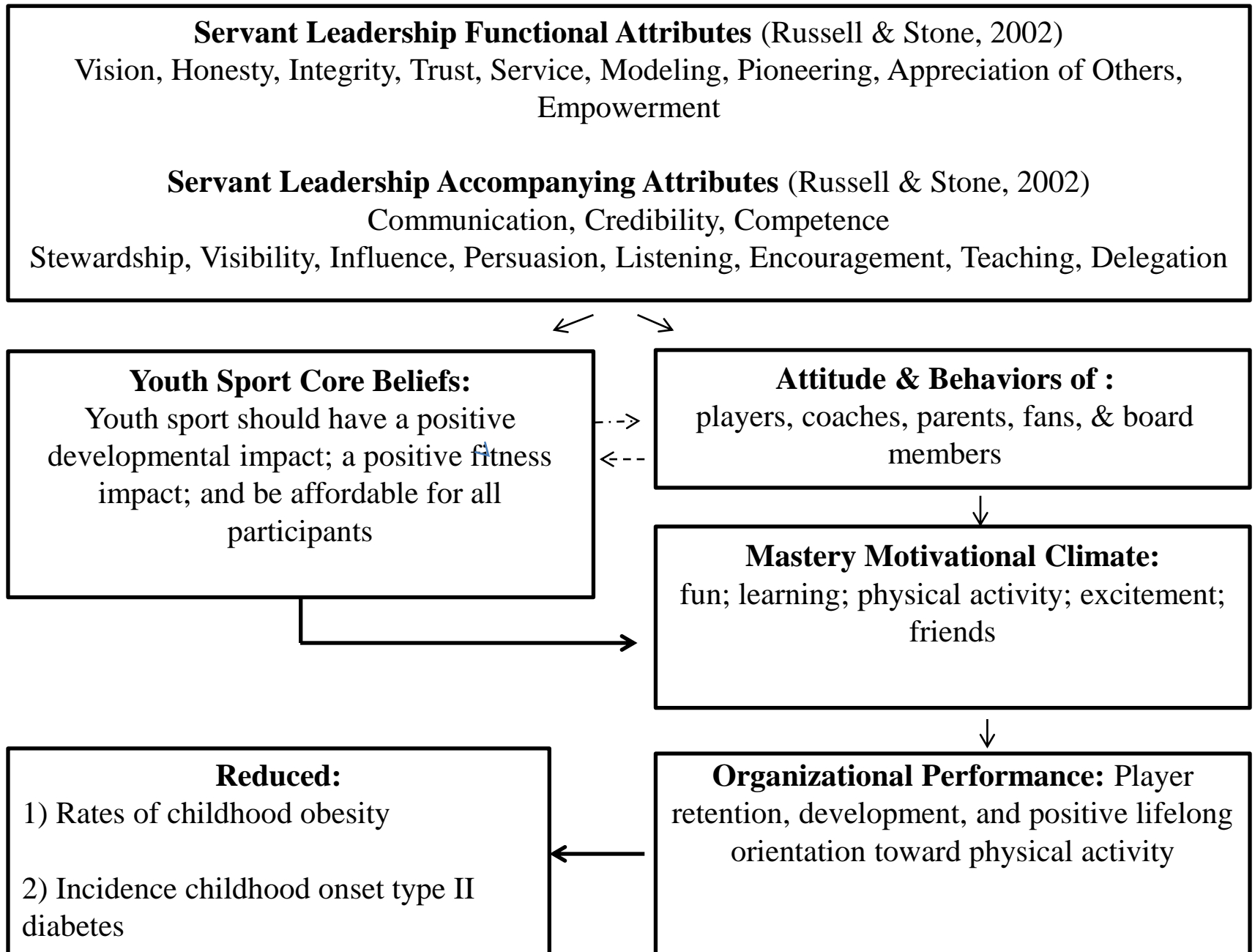
Servant Leadership in Sport

- Rieke, Hammermeister, and Chase's (2008) research found that high-school basketball athletes coached by servant leader coaches indicated higher levels of:
 - Intrinsic motivation
 - Task orientation
 - Satisfaction
 - Performance (than athletes coached by non-servant leader coaches).

Possible Solution

- A body of research needs to start to be developed that explores the relationship between servant leader coaches, mastery motivational climate, intrinsic motivation, and the reduction of youth sport attrition rates.
- Where to begin?

Figure 1: SLCDP Conceptual Model



SLCDP Logic Model Discussion

Inputs	Activities	Outputs	Initial Outcomes	Intermediate Outcomes	Long-Term Impact
<p>1) One program director and four program assistants</p> <p>2) Program accepted by Reading Berks Junior Soccer League (RBJSL) and endorsed by Eastern Pennsylvania Youth Soccer Association (EPYSA), RBJSL affiliated clubs, RBJSL parents and players, and affiliated school districts</p>	<p>1) Secure \$85,000.00 grant & program acceptance and endorsements</p> <p>2) Hire and train four assistants</p> <p>3) Create a website link from the RBJSL to a SLCDP website that explains the program</p>	<p>1) 90% attendance by parents and children at the information sessions as measured by attendance sheets</p> <p>2) 90% return rate of signed parent and player SLCDP understanding and support document as measured by document collection and related database entries</p>	<p>1) Coaches increase their knowledge of what it means to be a servant leader coach as measured by a knowledge pretest/posttest</p> <p>2) Coaches have a positive reaction to the SLCDP as measured by participant observation , opportunity interviews, and focus groups</p>	<p>1) Coaches implement principles of servant leadership into their coaching practices as measured by RSLP-S, IMI, and ASQ pretest/posttest of athlete participants, opportunity interviews with coaches and players, focus groups with coaches and players, and participant observation</p>	<p>1) The attrition rate of youth participating in RBJSL will decrease as measured by longitudinal participation tracking</p> <p>2) The participants of RBJSL will adopt a positive lifelong orientation toward physical activity as measured by surveys, interviews, and focus groups</p>

Assumptions: 1) Servant leader coaches create a mastery motivational climate; 2) A mastery motivational climate increases intrinsic motivation, fun, thrills, challenges, excitement and creates a positive team atmosphere that makes it easy to make friends; 3) As a result of youth sport participation that occurs in a mastery motivational climate, youth sport participants will adopt a positive and lifelong orientation toward physical activity and will not dropout of youth sports.

Questions?

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