



**TRAINING OF CHAMPIONS:
BRANDING AS A STRATEGY
FOR ORGANIZATIONAL
CHANGE**

OCTOBER, 2025

AGENDA

- What's a brand?
- Why do brands matter?
- How do you live the QPI brand?
 - Who are your “customers?”
 - What do they need?
- How will your brand support organizational change?
- What needs to change?





WHAT'S A BRAND?



**“BRANDING IS WHAT
PEOPLE SAY ABOUT YOU
WHEN YOU’RE NOT IN
THE ROOM.” - JEFF
BEZOS**

WHAT’S A BRAND?

WHAT'S A BRAND?



“A brand is a singular idea or concept you can own inside the mind of a prospect” – Ries

“A brand is a set of expectations, memories, stories and relationships that, taken together, account for a customer’s decision to choose one product or service over another” – Godin

- What you stand for
- Not just a logo or a symbol
- A Brand is a Promise – every interaction either reinforces or dilutes the promise
 - Communication, customer/client experience, etc.
 - **Foster Care Examples?**

WHY DO BRANDS MATTER?



WHY DO BRANDS MATTER?





**WHY DO BRANDS
MATTER?**





WHY DO BRANDS MATTER?



- What does Kroger stand for?
- Who are Kroger's customers?
- What makes Kroger *different* than other retailers?
- How does Kroger live its brand?

WHY DO BRANDS MATTER?

TRADER JOE'S

WHY DO BRANDS MATTER?

- What does Trader Joe's stand for?
- Who are Trader Joe's customers?
- How does Trader Joe's live its brand?
- What makes Trader Joe's *meaningfully different* than Kroger?

HOW DO YOU LIVE YOUR BRAND?

*What does foster
care stand for?*

What has contributed to this perception?

HOW DO YOU LIVE YOUR BRAND?

What does QPI stand for?

Internal & External Perception of QPI

The **Quality Parenting Initiative** is a strategy of the **Youth Law Center** to strengthen foster care by refocusing on excellent parenting for all children in the child welfare system.



QPI PRINCIPLES

The Quality Parenting Initiative (QPI) is an approach to foster care based on the following core principles:

1. The most important thing we can do for every child in out-of-home care is to nurture strong relationships and particularly to provide excellent parenting every day.
2. The results of child development research should drive policy and practice in child welfare.
3. Those who are closest to the work should shape policy and practice.



HOW DO YOU LIVE THE QPI BRAND AMONG DIFFERENT AUDIENCES?

Key elements of the process:

- *Defining the target “customers” and their needs*
- *Clearly articulating brand benefits and how it meets those needs (the brand statement)*
- *Aligning the system so those goals can become reality*



- ❖ Communications Materials
- ❖ Integrated Recruitment, Training & Retention Systems
- ❖ Operations/Practices

DIFFERENT AUDIENCE S?



**Among Whom - Who are your
customers?**

CUSTOMERS



The child is the most important customer!

How can you best serve their needs?

Customer	Key Needs
Customer A	
Customer B	
Customer C	
Customer D	
Customer E	

What do these customers need?

**HOW DO YOU LIVE THE
QPI BRAND AMONG
DIFFERENT
CUSTOMERS?**



HOW DO YOU LIVE THE QPI BRAND AMONG DIFFERENT CUSTOMERS?



What kind of efforts have you made so far?



**What works well?
What needs to be improved?
Any hurdles?**

HOW WILL YOUR BRAND SUPPORT ORGANIZATIONAL CHANGE?



HOW WILL YOUR BRAND SUPPORT ORGANIZATIONAL CHANGE?

Work in small teams for 15 minutes

- How will Champions spread the QPI message?
- Who needs to be involved?
- How might you encourage their involvement?
- Share with whole group

SO, WHAT NEEDS TO CHANGE?