

June/July 2025

Leading with Purpose



Insights + inspiration for those building a more perfect union.



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from the Founder: Welcome Back!

It's been a while since we've landed in your inbox, and given everything going, and we thought the time was right to return with renewed purpose.

As the urgency of this moment grows, so does our commitment to you, the public service professionals, policy leaders, advocates, and community builders working every day to preserve what's most essential about our democratic institutions - the vision, commitment to service, and grounding values of those who lead them.

Leading from the inside out isn't always easy, especially when the systems you serve don't always see or support you, but we are here to remind you that there is power in community, and that the strength of our leadership begins with a commitment to ourselves.

We've refreshed our newsletter with a new name, resources, tools, and inspiration to help you lead with confidence, clarity, and courage. We'll also spotlight practical trainings designed to meet this moment and whatever is to come. Please drop us a line if there is something you'd like to see.

This month has been particularly busy in good ways, and unfortunately bad ways, too. That is why our theme for June, "The Power of Story" is all the more impactful. Through it, we reflect, not just on story as memory, but as a force that shapes leadership, policy, and possibility.

In honor of Pride, Juneteenth, and Disability Pride Month, and in response to the silencing of immigrant voices, this post invites us to speak, witness, and lead with courage.

Thank you for being part of this work and remember, the future is shaped by those who show up.

Maria Robles Meier



www.wearethepeople.community



What We're Saying

Encompass Blog -
guidance to show you the way



The Power of Story

"Once upon a time..." like many stories, this month's blog begins with words that may invoke childhood memories of a favorite tale. Stories don't have to be imaginary. They can be powerful tools to help us navigate. [Read more here.](#)

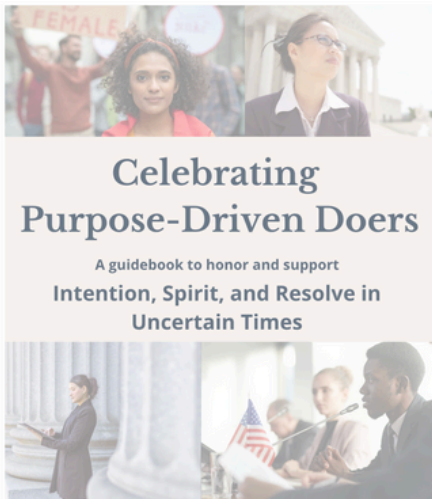


Artwork: Storyteller by [Jade Leyva](#)



What's New

New Ebook: Celebrating Purpose-Driven Doers Honoring Intention, Spirit, and Resolve in Uncertain Times



Celebrating Purpose-Driven Doers

A guidebook to honor and support
Intention, Spirit, and Resolve in
Uncertain Times



WeAreThePeople.community

We created this guidebook to recognize those who keep showing up—especially when the path is unclear. ***Celebrating Purpose-Driven Doers*** is for the quiet leaders, the behind-the-scenes changemakers, and the public service professionals who act with intention, lead with spirit, and stay grounded in their resolve.

If you're navigating transition, reflecting on your purpose, or are simply looking to affirm your passion for making a difference, you'll find encouragement, reflection prompts, and inspiration inside.

Available for a limited time, download the free ebook here, because your impact deserves to be celebrated.

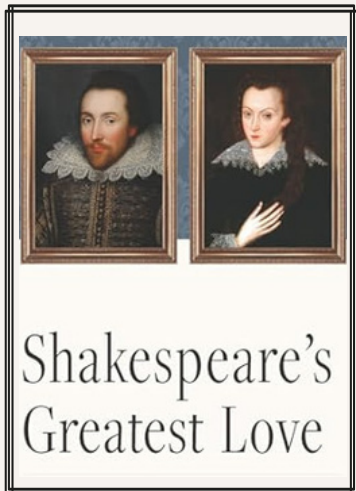


Tool for Impact



Explore the power of your story as well as how to make space for others' stories with the ***Power of Story: A Reflection & Connection Worksheet***. This month's tool includes thoughtful prompts to reconnect with your "why," reflect on what has shaped your values, and practice witnessing others with intention. It's a small, meaningful step toward purpose, empathy, and leadership rooted in truth. [Find the worksheet here.](#)

Worth Sharing



— If the name Shakespeare gives you uneasy flashbacks to high school English class, don't worry, this book won't make you parse the Bard's most cryptic lines. Instead, author and former Senate and White House staffer, David Medina, uses his new work, ***Shakespeare's Greatest Love***, to explore the idea that the true inspiration behind Shakespeare's most famous expressions of love may have been the Earl of Southampton and that this fact may have been deliberately hidden and rewritten. Today, as books with inclusive voices are being banned from schools and libraries, this story offers a timely and vital reflection on truth, identity, and who gets to shape history.

Reflection

- When did I first feel the pull toward what matters to me?
- What did that moment teach me about who I am?
- What would it mean to honor that part of my story now?

Your purpose lives in the stories you choose to keep alive.

