What Is Root Cause Analysis?

Remove The Root Cause = Remove The Problem

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Root Cause Analysis is a solutions based approach to problem solving that uses a wide array of tools and strategies to help individuals and organizations identify and remove the origin of a problem.

Dr. Phyllis SHU became a Root Cause Analyst in early childhood. She began to notice the suffering of people all around her, whether it was via disease, such as high blood pressure, diabetes and cancer or lifestyle issues such as financial stressors, domestic abuse and sexual perversion. As she began to study people and lifestyles, she realized that specific behavior patterns were connected to suffering. After receiving a microscope as a gift, she began to teach herself many different forms of scientific observation.

In high school, she took a psychology class that put her hypotheses into a broader perspective. Determined to avoid falling into the same patterns as the people she observed, she embarked upon a lifelong study of human behavior and health.

COPD (Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease) was a health problem that Dr. Hubbard grappled with for 27 years. The allopathic process of treatment forced her into a cyclical pattern that made the symptoms progressively worse.

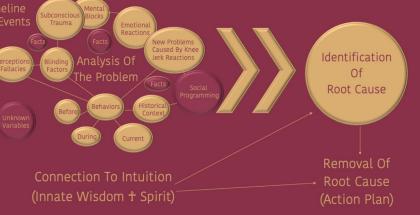
When she discovered Ayurveda, an ancient system of healing, with African origins that was developed and refined in India, she was introduced to the concept of healing a dis-ease (lack of ease in the body) by using a series of Ayurvedic techniques to identify and remove the root cause. After 27 years of struggling with debilitating coughing sessions, extreme mental fatigue and body aches, she experienced what seemed to be a miraculous healing. In just three months of practicing Ayurveda, her cough stopped and her journey with COPD came to an end.

Dr. Hubbard was awe-struck by the sudden healing of her body and began to apply these approaches to all aspects of life. In her formal studies of Root Cause Analysis in the business and science worlds, she noticed that their problem solving approaches were inconsistent, monolithic and focused on the symptoms instead of removing the root cause.

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Root Cause Analysis helps us to focus on the solution instead of placing a band-aid on the problem. Band-aids can be of use in certain acute situations.

For example, if we have a minor cut on our hand, we'll need to disinfect the wound and apply a bandaid to keep it clean while the wound closes. However, if we leave the band-aid on for too long, the wound will get infected, and the problem will become worse than the original injury. Potential root causes of the injury could include:

- A lack of self-awareness which causes us to be careless
- $^{
 m t}$ Sharp objects that are in a poor location
- A message from our body that we are neglecting self-care

Every challenge that we face in our community has repeated and will continue to repeat itself until we focus our efforts on identifying and removing the root causes.

Check out www.phyllishubbard.com/consultancy to learn more about Root Cause Analysis and its practical implications. Hire PHYLLISHUBBARD.COM for Root Cause Analysis Leadership Training, Solutions Based Strategy Sessions or for the development and customization of visually engaging multimedia and print materials focused on root cause identification and removal.