

Week 3- Trust and Mutual Assistance

Facilitator Guide

Program Information	
Content Area(s)	Beta lore, establishing deep relationships
Core Value (s)	Mutual Assistance and Trust
Length of Program	120 minutes
Recommended Facilitators	Recommended advisors that would be good sources of support are brotherhood/VP advisor, education and chapter counselor.

Logistics		
Room Set-Up	Classroom OR Circle of chairs	
Audio Visual Needed	Laptop, A/V, Screen, Projector	
Collateral Materials	Participant Handouts	Yes
	Video	None
Supplies Needed		

Session Notes
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. This is jam-packed with information. Be patient and flexible with the time markers, as certain activities may take more or less time than others.2. You can rearrange the sessions (Trust and Mutual Assistance) if you prefer.

Facilitator Reminders
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. If you feel uncomfortable with any of the activities, consult with an advisor or your leadership consultant for tips on how to best facilitate them

5 min	Announcements and Review of Post-Work
	<p><i>This is an opportunity for you to make any pertinent announcements for the week. This will vary based on the local program.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Quick review of last meeting</i> • <i>What questions or thoughts do you have from the readings?</i> • <i>Who knows what “being a brother’s keeper” means form Chapter 1? How does this relate back to Beta’s values</i>

Session Outline – Trust (40 mins)	
15 min	LORE: Beta Spirit and John Hanna Grey
	<p><i>Facilitator Note: This is a lot of material to cover in 10 minutes so watch your time carefully! Be sure that new members have read both pieces prior to this meeting.</i></p>
FN	<p><i>The purpose of reading “The Beta Spirit” is to gain an understanding of Beta Theta Pi’s culture. Over the years, the fraternity may have changed its’ language, practices, and even structure of chapters, but the internal spirit that makes a Beta a Beta is consistent.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What were your initial reactions to the reading? • What words or phrases stick out to you? Why? • What do you think he means by, “future will copy fair our past”? <p><i>Reading included here as reference for the facilitator:</i></p> <p>THE BETA SPIRIT</p> <p>From The Handbook of Beta Theta Pi 1906:</p> <p>Men are not apt, in this age, to give public expression to their feelings, and it is, therefore, difficult to find many public utterances concerning the fraternity, and none are known to us that have been given expression, other than the frank, outspoken opinion of the speaker at the moment. In the quoted extracts which follow there are expression of opinion from men in all walks in life, but chiefly from those whose prominence gives their tittered expressions weight.</p> <p>We find nowhere any statement of the value of the fraternity made for the sake of influencing opinion. Our record does not need it. At the convention of 1890 Willis O. Robb, long an ardent worker for the fraternity felicitously phrased its deeper meaning as follows:</p>

	<p>Brethren of the Beta Theta Pi fraternity, the fraternal relation that is to some of us so dear a present joy, to others so hallowed a memory, is to all of us something more than we are wont to think it. It consists not in forms or rites, in organization, or hodings of laws; these are mere machinery. Nor does its chief glory lie even in the several friendships it produces and shelters, dear as these are, unrivalled as they must always be in freshness and in youthful ardor. Behind and beneath both these aspects lies its more essential character, its capacity of culture. Its richest gifts are not friends, but the desire, the power and the habit of making friends. These constitute the real "fraternity spirit."</p> <p>The same speaker, fifteen years afterward when he had broadened his experience expressed his riper judgment in the following happy phrase:</p> <p>Again, the Beta is distinguishable and distinguished from all other kinds of fraternity men whatsoever by just a little warmer and stronger, just a little tenderer and more enduring fraternity feeling than any of them can attain to. For it was always so. I do not in the least know how it happened, nor why it persisted after it happened, but a long time ago there came into Beta Theta Pi a fraternity spirit that was, and is, and apparently will continue to be, unique. We know it, who are inside, and they see and record it who are outside the Beta pale. Whether young or old, in college or out, from the small school or the great university, we are conscious of a heritage of genuine fraternalism that has not been vouchsafed in like measure — I say it deliberately — to any other of the great college fraternities. And we cannot doubt that in this, as in other respects, our "future will copy fair our past." and that in the world of fifty years from now, as in that of years ago, — as in that that lies around us to-day — the first mark of a Beta will be his Beta spirit.</p>
	<p><i>Switching gears a little, the purpose of reading the story of John Hanna Grey to convey the high level of brotherhood and trust the chapter had in one another in order to act in the way that they did. Ask the questions below and facilitate in a way to lead them to that outcome. Also highlight the fact that his father had such trust in the men for their character that without knowing them he still wanted to be a part of the group.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What were your initial reactions to the reading?• What words or phrases stick out to you? Why?• How does the story of John Hanna Gray relate to the core value of trust? <p><i>Reading included here as reference for the facilitator:</i></p> <p>THE STORY OF JOHN HANNA GRAY</p>

	<p>Hanover College is a modest private school near Madison, Indiana. From a quiet promontory the campus overlooks the Ohio River and beyond to Kentucky. Founded in 1853, Iota chapter existed sub rosa, like most fraternities at the time. Membership in Beta Theta Pi was cause for expulsion from college.</p> <p>On June 12, 1856, John Hanna Gray, <i>Hanover 1856</i>, then a sophomore, died and was buried in the college campus cemetery. The Betas erected a marble monument at his grave. To the surprise of the college, the monument contained a facsimile of the chapter seal and a motto in Greek, which disclosed Beta's existence at Hanover.</p> <p>The action so angered some students that they attempted to desecrate the monument. The Betas formed teams and guarded the monument around the clock for an entire month. Three times the monument was knocked over; and three times, re-erected. Ultimately, the Beta tombstone was kept intact, and this man-size pylon still graces the Hanover cemetery today.</p> <p>When Gray's father, Daniel L. Gray, a Presbyterian clergyman, arrived from Mississippi, he was so touched by the Betas' respect for his son that he, too, wished to belong to Beta Theta Pi. As a result, he was initiated by the Betas, number 21 on the Hanover roll, joining his son, John Hanna Gray, number 13.</p>
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30 min	Knee to Knee
CUSTOM	<p><i>Facilitator Note: This activity can be swapped out for something different, but it should still rely on vulnerability and sharing stories beyond surface-level things. However, Knee to Knee has been done by countless chapters and is an incredibly effective and powerful activity!</i></p> <p><i>Another alternative could be something where one person at a time answers a few questions about their life/childhood/whatever you choose. The questions can be increasingly more complex, but the important thing to hit is debriefing the activity. We want them to realize how much more they have to learn about their brothers. An example of this is 'Personal Histories' located at www.agilecafe.org/vulnerability-shame</i></p>
	<p><i>Set up two rows of chairs facing each other, so that participants will be "knee to knee."</i></p> <p><i>The facilitator needs to set the tone from the very beginning:</i></p> <p>Now we are going to shift the focus to developing our brotherhood and the personal ties we share with each other. Remember that to have a strong brotherhood, we need to continue to build relationships by telling stories. In this next activity, I ask that you each approach the questions with reflection so your brothers in this room can continue to learn your own personal story. I'm going to ask that everyone here commit himself to being honest and vulnerable.</p>

	<p>Now the facilitator shares his answers to the following questions. It is vital that this part be tailored to their personal stories. Equally important is that they remain authentic with the participants when sharing their Beta story.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General personal insecurities and fears • Fears in joining Beta or other organization • What makes you happy in life <p>Now the facilitator should walk around the room, asking the following questions. After 3-5 minutes, direct one line to move down so that they are “knee to knee” with someone new, and ask the next question.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What were your fears about joining Beta? • What are your fears in life? • What is one thing you love about your life right now? • What is something you want to change about your life right now? • What makes you the happiest? <p><i>*Keep an eye on time. If the men are enjoying the activity and want to keep going, feel free to add a couple questions of your own.</i></p>
	<p>Discussion:</p> <p><i>This is a full group discussion.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Did anything surprise you? • What did you learn about yourself through the activity? • What did you learn about your new brothers through the activity? • Has what you learned affected how you can relate and communicate to others? And how does that make you feel? • Any closing thoughts before we shift away from Beta’s value of Trust and begin discussing our next value of Mutual Assistance?

Session Outline – Mutual Assistance (45 mins)

5 min	Mutual Assistance
	<p>Next, let’s talk about Beta’s core value of Mutual Assistance.</p> <p>Betas believe that men are mutually obligated to help others in the honorable labors and aspirations of life. What does that mean? What sticks out to you from this statement?</p> <p>We talk about it as an obligation. It is our duty to give back. To help. That we don’t exist to simply help each other, right? That we exist to help <u>others</u>. You don’t have to be a Beta for me to help you. In fact, we seek out ways to help others – even if it’s just a well-timed smile. And beyond helping, that there are only certain tasks and ways we will help. We commit ourselves to helping in the honorable ways, right? We’re going to return to this in just a little bit, but be thinking about those things as we move through tonight.</p>

10 mins	Service and Philanthropy – Honorable Labors
FN	<p>So, what <i>does</i> mutual assistance look like in everyday life? We talk about how we believe that it's our duty/we're obligated to help others, but does that mean that we're obligated to help others in every situation? What do you think?</p> <p>We feel that we are obligated to help in the honorable labors. So, what does that mean? What are we saying when we talk about helping in the honorable labors of life? What are some things that we do as Betas to promote this core value?</p> <p>If we take this idea of being connected and the idea of being obligated to one another in the honorable labors of life let's talk about what that means for service. What communities are we a part of? How do we serve our communities? What are ways we can serve all of them?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Greek community at the school - Community of the city/town - Community of Greek members all over the country - IFC - Beta (the General Fraternity) - Others? <p>Beta allows each of its chapters to choose their own philanthropy and service causes. Why do you think we do that as an organization?</p> <p><i>Answer: To allow our members to be fully invested in the cause that they're working with, have an impact on a local level, etc.</i></p> <p><i>Shift the conversation toward service and philanthropy. Lead a conversation about the importance of service and philanthropy. Define the differences:</i></p> <p>Service is putting in hours to better the community around you, such as helping at a homeless shelter, Big Brothers Big Sisters, a beach clean-up, etc.</p> <p>Philanthropy is either raising awareness or raising money for a certain cause. You do not have to bring in 50 thousand dollars to have a philanthropic effort.</p> <p>Just as much as we strive to make our brotherhood great it is also important for us to remember what it takes to make our communities great. When we talk about service and philanthropy it's how can this community, our Beta community, have an impact on our larger community. When we serve, we are able to help those in the honorable labors and aspirations of life with action. With philanthropy we are able to advocate for others who may not be able to do so for themselves. We are given a platform to make a statement about communities we are connected to and give them voice.</p> <p>When we think about both service and philanthropy in this way we can see how it changes the why of those activities and allows us to build stronger relationships with each other and our</p>

	<p>greater community.</p> <p>This value is about more than just building a strong brotherhood. It is about promoting the social welfare of everyone.</p>
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10 mins	<p>LORE: John Holt Duncan</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Have new members read the story of John Holt Duncan in 'popcorn style'</i> • Debrief: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. What are your initial reactions to this story? b. How does it relate to mutual assistance? c. How does it relate to what we have been talking about with Friends of Beta and Interfraternalism? d. How can we relate these lessons to what we are doing as a chapter/colony at (school name)? <p>JOHN HOLT DUNCAN</p> <p>Founder John Holt Duncan was the first president of Beta Theta Pi, having been selected for the position prior to the Founding on August 8, 1839. Perhaps you have been to the Administrative Office and seen John Holt Duncan's wooden leg in the Beta Museum. I wonder if you know how he got that wooden leg or what happened after he got it.</p> <p>For about 10 years after graduation from Miami University, John Holt Duncan practiced law in his home state of Mississippi. He then moved to Bexar County, Texas, and became a judge. But in that terrible war that divided the United States, he also was called to service in the Confederate Cavalry and became a Captain in Company C of Col. Haupt's Regiment of the Texas Cavalry. He fought with General Price in one of the most bitter campaigns, the campaign in Missouri and Arkansas where you never were sure who was a soldier and who was a guerrilla. Price's forces made a raid in the northern-held territory and engaged the Union Army on September 30, 1862, at Newtonia in extreme southwestern Missouri south of Joplin. During that engagement when his Company was facing Union forces with superior numbers, John Holt Duncan was wounded in the leg while "gallantly charging the enemy." To save him, the Confederate surgeons had to amputate his right leg. But they could not take him with them because of the pursuit of the Union forces.</p> <p>So they left him at a farmhouse where a member of the Confederate army lived. There he was cared for by the farmer's wife and his family. It was well known that the penalty for harboring Confederates was death. As fate would have it, the farmer came home on leave soon after Duncan was left there. A few days later along came the Union Cavalry and found John Holt Duncan, the farmer who had cared for him, and the farmer's wife and his children. They took Founder Duncan and the farmer and stood them up against the barn. They killed the farmer in full view of his family and in full view of John Holt Duncan. They would have killed John Holt</p>

	<p>Duncan too if it had not been for the intercession of the farmer's weeping widow and children. After recovering Duncan returned to Bexar County and served as a judge for a year. He then relocated to Houston and practiced law while also serving as city attorney, county clerk, and city recorder for a number of years. Though these positions provided him with an adequate income, he lived very frugally, almost as if he were destitute.</p> <p>He never married even though deeply enamored with a lovely woman. Though their relationship spanned the years, they denied themselves the pleasure of marriage and children. Even his friends were puzzled by his strange behavior and some regarded him as an eccentric miser.</p> <p>On May 27, 1896, John Holt Duncan died in an old soldier's home in Austin, Texas, virtually penniless. Do you know why he was penniless? Because from the day that he was wounded and saw the devotion of that farmer, he deemed it his solemn duty to support and educate the children of the man murdered for his sake. So, from the day he was wounded until he went into the old soldier's home, he spent virtually every cent he made caring for and supporting the farmer's widow and family. You see, John Holt Duncan had character – Beta character. Character sparkles like the diamond of our badge.</p>
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20 min	Board of Directors
	<p><i>Instructions for this activity are below.</i></p> <p><i>Have new members refer to the Board of Directors worksheet. Have extras in case someone forgets their binder.</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To understand how we interact with other people, filter relationships, participate on teams, and engage the workplace, it is critical that we are aware of how we have constructed the current relationships in our lives and how that impacts our values, behavior and ability to grow. This exercise helps us reflect on that infrastructure through Board of Directors illustration. 2. Boards are typically made up of a chairperson and members. A board has general control for the direction, stability and viability of an organization. Taking this concept to a personal level, who or what is on your board? Who do you rely upon for guidance, support or advice? Who holds a chair of influence or control in your life? What other things impact you and your decisions? 3. Write your personal mission statement for life in the center of your page. 4. List the names of the <u>people, things, feeling or pressures</u> that currently hold a place on your Board of Directors. List each separately. (ie: Fear of failing, health concerns, parents want you to perform in a certain way, family expects you to have a certain type of job, significant other, etc.)

- a. "What Questions do you have?"
- b. "I will give you 10 minutes to complete this."
- c. "Please keep to yourself and refrain from talking"

5. *Allow 10 minutes for participants to complete, then ask the following (if you have time constraints, feel free to eliminate questions as you see fit):*

- a. Are there people, things, feeling or pressures on your Board that have veto power over any decisions? If so, place a "v" next to them.
- b. Underline the names of people, things, feeling or pressures that wouldn't have been on your Board three years ago.
- c. On the bottom of the page, list any person, thing, feeling or pressure that has been on your Board in the past three years, but is no longer.
- d. Are there people, things, feeling or pressures you would like on your Board that aren't there now? If so, list them at the top of the page.
- e. Circle the names of people, things, feeling or pressures on your Board which you would like to remove.
- f. If there are people, things, feeling or pressures that you want to be on your Board which you haven't let join, write them down and place a star next to them (your peer group, etc.)
- g. Draw a box around the person, thing, feeling or pressure that is most likely the co-chairs of your Board. If you feel there is more than one you can choose more than one.

6. *Break into pairs. Ask each participant to share one thing from their reflection with the group. Provide examples to encourage participation.*

- a. What does this activity tell you about those who are closest to you?
- b. How have these individuals influenced your values?
- c. How does this activity relate to your life at work?
- d. What is your personal mission?
- e. Who were you surprised to write down?
- f. Was this activity difficult – why?

7. *Relate the activity back to mutual assistance in a full group discussion.*

- a. What does this activity have to do with mutual assistance?
- b. Does our chapter/colony have a board of directors? If so, who's on it?
- c. **Prompt new members/pledges to discuss good and bad influences on the chapter 'board'. Other fraternities, campus culture, the General Fraternity, advisors, exec, etc.*

Session Outline - Song Practice and Housekeeping (35 mins)

20 min	Song Practice
	<i>Teach the following songs (others can be added):</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Gemma Nostra• Parting Song• Wooglin to the Pledge

10 min	Post Work (will vary based on chapter)
	Your Post Work for tonight's meeting will be emailed to you later this evening. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Son of the Stars<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Chapter 4 – Idea Becomes a Concept for the Ages, 1850-1900○ Chapter 5 – The Glory Years 1900-1950<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ How are the stories of John Hanna Gray and Joel Allan Battle similar? What precedent have these supreme acts of brotherhood set for all future Betas?▪ What examples of true "Beta Spirit" have you seen manifested in the members of your chapter?▪ In what ways was Beta Theta Pi a good steward for community service in 1900-1950○ Chapter 8 – Evolution of a Structure for the Ages○ Chapter 12 – Men of Principle Initiative○ Chapter 13 – Scholastic Achievement