

community members, the Panchayat, SHG etc. As a leader, you need to motivate your community to join hands with you. Motivation comes through

- Being in regular contact with them
- Sharing necessary information regularly
- Giving them responsibility
- Thanking them for their support
- Giving them credit for their efforts
- Appreciating them honestly in public

Leaders achieve unity

As a leader you need to promote unity among your community members and between the community members and health care providers. Unity can be achieved by listening to everyone's points of view while taking decisions. Do not make anyone feel neglected since later they may become difficult persons to manage.

Unity comes when community members feel the ownership of the goal that you have set as an ASHA for your village.

Leaders serve as role models

Leaders have followers. Therefore, it is very important that all your actions are responsible.

For example, as an ASHA you are assigned the role of accompanying a pregnant woman for a referral. If you performed this role and saved the life of woman in your village, you have set an example. Next time, when the need arises, other community members will come forward to accompany a pregnant woman during an emergency. They may also arrange for money and transport, if required.

Leader listen and explain

Listening helps to make the process of decision-making easier and more meaningful. Also, the as a leader you need to articulate and explain your point of view.

For example, at the village level families are not proactive in preparing for the birth of a child. You need to listen to them about the reasons for their lack of motivation. Based on their views, explain to them the need for birth preparedness and the likely consequences of poor birth preparedness. Share positive examples where birth preparedness has helped to save a woman's life.