**Systems Thinking Workshop**

**Problem Solving Activity Template**

**Problem Statement:** *List the problem being solved.*

**Goal:** *What is the desired result of solving the problem?*

**Elements:** *List elements of the system.*

**Distinctions:** *List the sub-elements with its related element in the designated space. Each sub-element can only be paired with an element* ***once.*** *Each element should have 3-5 sub-elements.*

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**Relationships:**

1. *Fill in the table with all of the elements for the system.*
2. *Rank each element based on its perceived impact on the system (1 being the highest impact).*
3. *Ask if you can control each element. If yes, put a Y and continue with steps 4 and 5. If no, put a N and put a dash mark in “Level of Control” and “Score” columns.*
4. *Rank the remaining elements based on how much you can control them (1 being the highest level of control). Make sure to take into account the timeline when completing this step.*
5. *Score the remaining elements by multiplying its impact score by its level of control score.*

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| **Elements** | **Impact**  | **Can this be controlled? Y/N** | **Level of Control** | **Score** |
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1. *Choose the element with the* ***lowest*** *total score.*
2. *Go back to the “Distinctions” section and fill in the second table with the element’s sub-elements.*
3. *Follow steps 2-5 with the sub-elements.*

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Sub-Elements** | **Impact**  | **Can this be controlled? Y/N** | **Level of Control** | **Score** |
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1. *Choose the sub-elements with the* ***lowest*** *total score.*

**Solution:** *Based on the sub-element that was chosen in the above step, provide a possible solution.*