My Personal Mission Statement

Mission statements are often used by institutions and businesses as an expression of who they intend to be and what guides them. Individuals can have their own mission statements also. We might also call it a **philosophy of life**, or a **personal creed**.

The statement should focus on what you want to be (your character), what you want to do (contributions and achievements) and on the values or principles upon which you base your being and doing.

It may take several paragraphs, several sentences, or occasionally it can be stated in a few words.

Try writing your own Personal Mission Statement. It doesn't have to be perfect! You have the rest of your life to fine-tune it. But start seeing what you come up with. Write it someplace where you can hang onto it, come back to it, and reconsider it.

Adapted from Stephen R. Covey (1989). *The Seven Habits of Highly Effective People: Powerful Lessons in Personal Change.* New York: Simon & Schuster.