For many organizations, remote work has become the new normal. Keeping employees engaged while they operate outside of the office requires not just the right tools but also an intentional human touch. However, recent studies show that only a small portion of workers have the option of working remotely.

The following tips can help you maintain a productive, motivated workforce during uncertain times.

Rediscover collaboration technology.

There's no single approach to improving productivity. By showing employees that you care about their well-being and by equipping them with technology to communicate from nearly anywhere, you can boost morale and efficiencies to remain resilient and keep business on track.

To learn more about how Verizon can help you improve collaboration, visit https://enterprise.verizon.com/products/business-communications/.

Most people are familiar with business communication basics, but the recent COVID-19 crisis has forced a dramatic increase in collaboration tech usage.

Learn to get the most out of your existing tools. Explore their full potential. Learn what every icon means. Turn on your camera. Get comfortable with using it.

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Schedule daily team syncs. Make sure everyone knows who is in charge of what and has the right equipment to stay connected? Do they need certain monitors or other devices to stay connected? Do they know how to do so securely?

Adopt new tools and practices that make the most sense for your business.

Think beyond 9 to 5.

Embrace flexible schedules to accommodate unique home-office situations (sharing workspace with kids and/or roommates).

Exercise empathy.

Recognize when employees need to take a day off. Recognize and acknowledge their contributions.

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Empower employees to tackle new challenges.

Allowing employees to take on new responsibilities can keep them engaged and motivated.

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