



Do Better Business™ Stages of Development

Our Strategic Process for Sustainable Growth

"You did then what you knew how to do, and when you knew better, you did better."

-Maya Angelou

At Realign Consulting, we believe the best type of growth strategy focuses on sustainability first.

Hypergrowth and quarter-over-quarter profits might be the norm, but **experience has taught us that sustainability should come before scale for most—especially for small businesses.**

However, sustainable growth doesn't happen by accident. It requires the right people working in aligned systems, with the courage and creativity to innovate when the path forward isn't clear.

Transformation is possible, and the stages of business development are your roadmap. **With a clear strategy, an experienced guide, and a team fully aligned around their strengths, the journey becomes as rewarding as the destination.**

Sustainable business growth requires an alignment of three key areas: people, systems, and intentional innovation.

When we talk about sustainability in business, we are specifically referring to a type of growth that evolves, changes, and blooms over time without burning people out.

Putting people first while growing your business means getting intentional about every corner of your company. That's why the Do Better Business™ framework is built



around five core pillars: Marketing/Sales, Distribution, Operations, Finances, and Leadership.

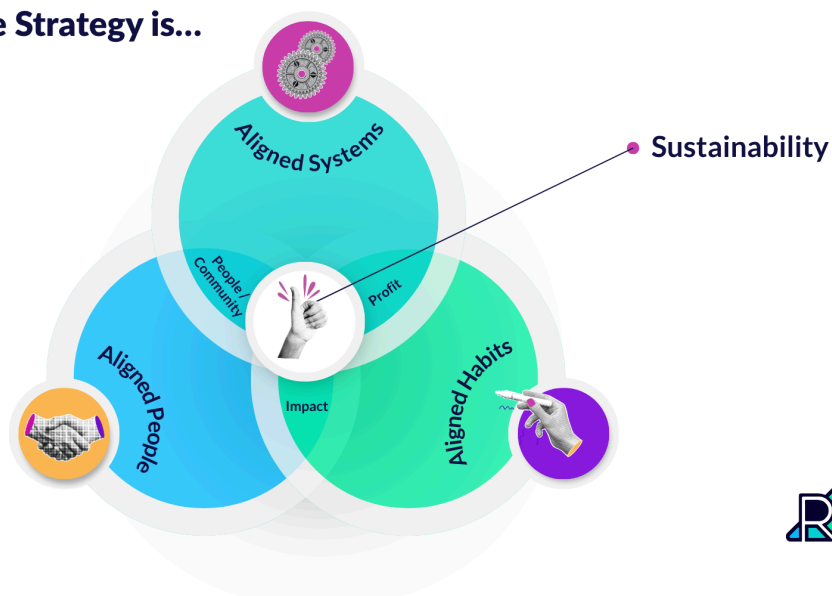
And as the Do Better Business™ system is taught, practiced, and habituated by everyone involved, we work together to implement The Alignment Trinity™ to fit the unique needs of your business. The Alignment Trinity™ are the three areas of every business that must be aligned to achieve resilient, sustainable success: its people, systems, and habits.

What makes these three areas so crucial to a company's success?

1. Business strategy doesn't work without a firm grasp of how to align with **people**.
2. Even aligned people will not succeed sustainably without a solid business **system**.
3. Any long-term project boils down to what we do every day, so aligned **habits** are critical to the success of any individual or company.

Only when these three areas are aligned can we create community, impact, and, of course, profits all at the same time.

A Sustainable Strategy is...





A powerful coaching experience, paired with a flexible strategic plan, can inspire, motivate, and foster an accountability paradigm for company leaders and their teams.

The Do Better Business™ Coaching Process, Post-Planning

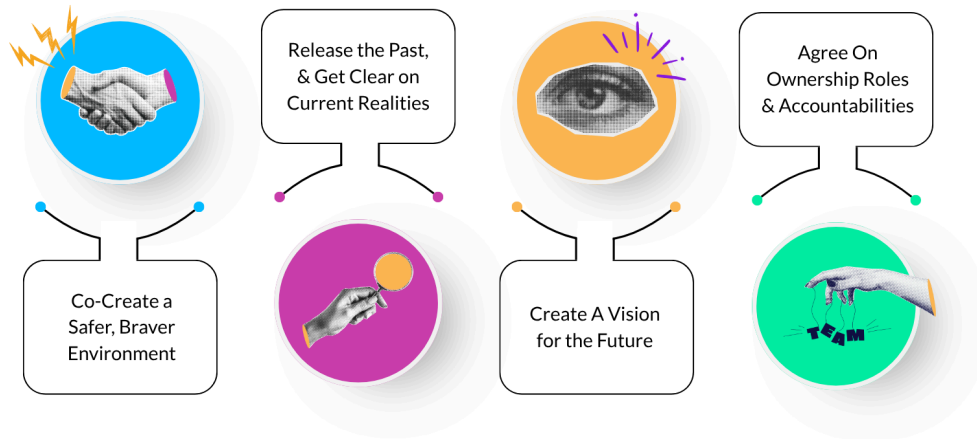
The post-planning coaching experience is different for each of our clients. Every individual and the business they represent come to our work at different points in their journey. Each person's journey will evolve according to many factors, including the level of openness, commitment, and willingness to change that they and their team bring to the space.

Therefore, we cannot guarantee any single set of results or experiences. Instead, **our process aims to create an environment where long-term, sustainable courage and growth are not just possible but probable.**

This allows you and your team to reflect on your own journeys, learn to communicate effectively, and peer-coach each other. Together, you will co-create the experience and, therefore, the results.

The Do Better Business™ framework and coaching process incorporate four stages of business development to create that initial alignment. Then, you will consistently work through realignment cycles to sustain your growth.

Stages of Starting: The First Alignment



As we begin a new journey, there is always critical planning and packing (or unpacking, as often happens in coaching) work to be done. At Realign Consulting, we think of this as a four-part process that is typically worked through in a two-day strategy retreat. Those stages are:

Step 1: Co-Create a Safer, Braver Environment to Grow Within

Here, we establish the foundation for working bravely together. This step is important for both building trust with your coach and building team trust when working with groups—especially groups with different power structures, such as leadership and production teams.

Group Development in Stage One	Individual Development in Stage One
Learn how group dynamics are set and how they evolve	Deepen self-awareness of behaviors within a group
Co-create boundaries, norms of behavior, and confidentiality agreements	Learn how to understand and ask for what you need to feel safe and be brave



Learn about each other's different styles and how they co-mingle with each other.	Assess your beliefs about other team members and how they are a reflection of yourself
Agree on in and out-of-session boundaries	Practice adhering to the boundaries of others to create kinder working environments.

Step 2: Release the Past & Get Clear On Current Realities

Coaching is not therapy, so we don't spend significant time asking "why" about past traumas and behaviors.

However, we do look at what's happened in the past through the lens of how it is affecting your ability to succeed in working within a group on sustainable growth strategies.

We make commitments here to *leave the past in the past so that we may begin with a new starting point.*

Once the past is processed and released, we work together using a combination of tools from social psychology and traditional business strategy to get clear about our current situation.

Group Development in Stage Two	Individual Development in Stage Two
Learn the basics of peer-to-peer coaching	Learn how to lead with questions instead of being the "answer person."
Learn how to request change effectively from each other.	Gain awareness of personal agency to manage both yourself and behaviors directed towards you
Work through potential conflicts stemming from past misunderstandings.	Begin to define and grow your capacity for healthy conflict and effective repair in relationships with others
Learn how to assess and agree on the	Practice finding your place within a



current state within a group with many different perspectives.

group setting and navigating the paradox of conflicting realities.

Step 3: Create A Vision for the Future

Now that the foundational elements of space setting, release, and starting point are firmly established, we can build a healthy and sustainable growth strategy for the future.

In this step, your coach will help you and your team find the beautiful alignment point of a mission-focused, values-driven growth plan.

Group Development in Stage Three	Individual Development in Stage Three
Practice consistent support and show investment in each individual's success	Practice resolving tension points between expectations and actual experiences
Practice providing useful feedback and kind accountability.	Practice using coaching questions and follow-ups to give effective feedback and create trust with others
Further evaluate group processes and ways of working together as needed.	Practice openness with appropriate states of vulnerability with your teammates and your coach
Step out of group comfort zones and learn to break unhealthy group patterns as they arise.	Practice observing yourself as a leader and evaluating your performance and behaviors.



Step 4: Agree on Ownership Roles & Accountabilities

The last step in the initial alignment process is agreeing on ownership roles for each area of the strategy and how we will hold accountability for the intentions and results we're working towards.

Group Development in Stage Four	Individual Development in Stage Four
Experience the give-and-trust of taking ownership and stepping back so others can lead.	Practice discerning where it is appropriate to step up and where you're less effective and can give someone else the space to do so.
Practice setting realistic goals and creating an accountability path for achieving them.	Practice speaking up for your boundaries and what you need to feel confident in stretching yourself to achieve a goal.
Learn how to create agreements for benchmarking and realigning progress within a team.	Learn how to create agreements for benchmarking and realigning progress for yourself.

At Realign Consulting, we work through these stages of business development at the beginning of a new executive leader, whenever beginning with a new facilitator, and annually during Strategic Planning Retreats.

Depending on the team's experience, coachability, and cohesiveness, this process can take as long as three to six months or as little as a few hours.

Sustainable Cycles, Consistent Realignment

Once a client and/or a team moves through the Stages of Starting to align their new business development path, the growth process looks much more like a wheel. The ongoing cycle of growth can be reflected in four parts:

SUSTAINABLE CYCLES, CONSTANT REALIGNMENT

- **Gain Perspective** – By working on your plan with your team, everyone gains new insights and perspectives that inform adaptations, new cycles, and future opportunities.
- **Reflect & Assess** – During regular coaching sessions and team meetings, you'll reflect on what's been happening as you work through your plan and assess your current state in quick pulse checks daily, weekly, monthly, and quarterly.
- **Celebrate & Repair** – Regularly stop for intentional space-holding sessions to celebrate wins with your team and coach. You'll also continually learn how to make repairs that build trust and strengthen relationships over time.
- **Recommit to Action** – Recommit yourself or renegotiate your intentions at strategic points throughout the week and the year.





The Do Better Business™ framework, whether used individually or within a group, is a powerful tool for helping us know better so we can do better over time.

The four stages of business development, paired with an ongoing cycle of realignment, create one of the most powerful systems for sustainable business growth your team can participate in.

NEXT STEPS

The Do Better Business™ framework is just the beginning.

Bring the framework to life in Realign Consulting's signature two-day Strategic Planning Retreat. This focused, facilitated intensive is designed to align your team and fuel sustainable growth. Ready to build your roadmap?

[\[LEARN ABOUT OUR STRATEGY RETREATS\]](#)
