

FIRST SET OF SMALL GROUPS- EQUITY FRAMEWORK AND COLLABORATION **Group with similar interests/initiatives**

1. How is equity a part of our work?

a. Environmental/ Air Quality and Water Initiatives

- We would like to standardize the best health and well being across the board
- Environmental qualities are affected in living in a geographic location.
- In improving our pollution, air, and water will ultimately decrease the years of potential life lost based on the geographic location.

b. Healthy Living/ Human Development

- Samantha Thomson- Merced County Office of Education**
 - Within our services, there is a component that offers health, preventative care, intervention services to meet child development holistic needs
- Patricia Paulsen- Fresno State Central California Training Academy**
 - Identify issues with priority, ie. poverty. Interested in doing research directed in the counties looking at improvements
- Natalie Chavez-Ruiz - Valley Public Television**
 - Educational programming
 - Partner with organizations that have identified an issue and then distribute it through our programming.
- Mathilda Soria- Reading and Beyond**
 - Educational programs for children and families.
 - Help parents understand their children's rights as ESL students.
- Christina Alejo- Rios Company**
 - Capacity building and social justice

c. Community/ Economic Development

- Health issues kept community together to grow,
- Grass roots movement, community rose up – wanted shopping center
- housing – has to be available to more than just those that can afford it, need mixed income policies, as we plan for , we have to make sure there's a way for those who will live there and in the local economy can afford it.
- When development is created, must be done with the community, keep them involved in the decisions and be aware of after effects.
- Health care is not publically accessible, very limited, to low income families, access to health care is still a barrier and needs to be addressed.

d. Neighborhood Leadership for Change

- Lucy Sherman- AARP**
 - Health fairs, pamphlets, and screenings
 - Neighborhoods need to be more involved. The power of a united neighborhood or group is strong and united can get the job done.

- ii. Kendra Bridges – Coalition on regional equity in Sacramento
 - Fixing older neighborhoods. Having organizations help fix their problems.
- iii. Marta Frausto- CalTrans Environmental Issues
 - Environmental Justice Grants- get money into the neighborhoods.
- iv. Jane Alvarado- Project Impact
 - Collective reaction is happening, but informally, so how do those groups get established so the leadership is built in when issues arise or before they arise
 - In our region, the funding is often compartmentalized. The neighborhood leadership should be reactive to this funding
- v. Grace Simons- Modesto La Loma Neighborhood
 - Getting money through sources to help prevent criminal activity through poor neighborhoods.
- vi. John Fletcher
 - Group consensus is establishing neighborhood associations so that the information that people in organizations receive can be given to residents.
- vii. Linda Garcia, Veronica Garibly, Martin Diaz, Mike Wells, Caesar Garcia
 - Address the infrastructure issues; water, roads, sidewalks, etc
 - Groups of like people need to get together and start collaborating. Parents, organizations, ect. There is always a stir of discussion yet nothing comes from it.

2. How does our work link/contribute to the goals of other broad regional efforts?

a. Environmental/ Air Quality and Water Initiatives

- Neighborhood initiatives effect the environment
- Support comes from educating public and policy makers.
- Giving the people a voice. Not letting others that do not live in specific communities telling them what is best for them.

b. Healthy Living/ Human Development

- i. Christina Alejo- Rios Company
 - Connecting communities with efforts.
 - Bring community to the table to hear their voice.
 - Bring them from different sectors on same issue. Give them a voice and consensus building.
- ii. Samantha Thomson- Merced County Office of Education
 - Eligibility list, legislation through department of education.
 - Data can be used for capacity development. Identify community needs. Families are being linked to programs they not always know about.
 - Regional convening of people that do similar work
- iii. Patricia Paulsen- Fresno State Central California Training Academy
 - Directors are usually forming collaborations.
 - Look at evidence based practice.
- iv. Natalie Chavez-Ruiz - Valley Public Television
 - Target regional initiatives.
 - Identify those regional movements already organized and work from them.

- Take on neighborhood based initiatives as well
 - Look at movements that can replicated and/or expanded
- v. Mathilda Soria- Reading and Beyond

- Informally working with families

c. Community/ Economic Development

- Need healthy community and social support
- Create positive cycle to help movement up
- Neighborhood organizations are doing the real connecting, voicing their concerns and problems that need to be tackled for the community.
- Stanislaus – Flood of 97, was horrid, brought city and county together for benefit of the neighborhood, city and government is now only one building.

d. Neighborhood Leadership for Change

- i. Marta Frausto- CalTrans Environmental Issues
 - Through grants, our intent is for the residents to identify their own needs
 - Community are then in a better situation to secure funding for improvements for neighborhood.
- ii. Lucy Sherman- AARP
 - All pot of money received
- iii. Grace Simons- Modesto La Loma Neighborhood
 - More of a neighborhood than equity initiative.
 - Produce safe walking areas and places to place like CCROPP has done for some neighborhoods.
- iv. Kendra Bridges – Coalition on regional equity in Sacramento
 - Partnering with different organizations that are the same type of work-facing same issues.
- v. Linda Garcia, Veronica Garibly, Martin Diaz, Mike Wells
 - Working collaboratively with other organizations and creating collaboratives like CHIP and BHC would be beneficial.
 - Knowing Some organizations might be able to better address certain issues over others. Work to collaborate to get the better message across.

3. What gets in the way of achieving our goals?

a. Environmental/ Air Quality and Water Initiatives

- Cognitive inequities- who's making the decisions and who has access to information.
- Segregating environment inequality is another issue.
- Water that we drink from the Valley affects our overall health impacts to even the air we breathe

b. Healthy Living/ Human Development

- Funding and bureaucracy, policies, different agendas by different entities.
- Divisiveness. Many organizations working on same issues. Most people are not willing to partner. Funding involved in the conversation, high turnout. But when no funding, partnerships fall off.

- Politics at the university level is the same. Our Valley, many times try to get money from foundations. They want to fund successful programs that have existed for long time.
- Limited leadership capacity and no evidence of meaningful collaboration.
- Community fears the government, organization, policy. These people (community) are afraid to be involved and trust. Trust needs to earned.
- Separation between the way people live. Our systems are segregated. Our goals seem different.
- Our services are so silo. For people that do direct services this is a job to them. They do not understand the impact of the work they are doing. How we are connected to you?

c. Community/ Economic Development

- Turf wars, territorial, not just geographical, competition for money is stronger than collaborating with others, there are always alternative motives.
- Nonprofits are not skilled or staffed to be able to work well with others and get sucked into writing a proposal -much easier then branching out and being in other pieces to help out and doing it properly.
- No incentives to collaborate, everyone competes for the same resources, what incentives can we make to push collaboration.
- For collaboration to happen, things need to be given up and groups don't want to but its necessary to move forward.
- Perception – those that live in the area and those that look at it from a distance address issues differently.
- Advocacy, not to knock someone else over the head to get something, need to collaborate without harming others, political battles

d. Neighborhood Leadership for Change

- We may not want to partner with everyone, but if something makes sense, than we would like to partner up.
- Lack of education and outreach.
- Developing capacity, finding people in the community who have a buy in and creating sustainable leaders on a local level. Developing movement of staff and residents.
- Lack of information and knowledge.
- Formed collaborated to help the community.

4. How can these other efforts support our work?

a. Environmental/ Air Quality and Water Initiatives

- Find ways to get to the policy makers
- Cumulative impacts.

- Find out who is making the decisions and impact them. We can do everything at a micro level individually but policy makers are ultimately the ones that change at a macro level.

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b. Healthy Living/ Human Development

- Lack of continuing meaningful partnership. We have not a model of healthy partnership.
- Framing the issue, how we use the language. Find a common interest and agree on it.
- Community inclusion, involved in discussion, decision making.

c. Community/ Economic Development

- Being a part of the people network (fbo, cbo), has helped a lot, provides support in belonging to a larger unit.
- Allows work to be more sustainable, to be able to serve the community,
- Be open to community voices not just planners, bring community to the table, can be more effective than planners.
- CBO to come together and talk in a forum

d. Neighborhood Leadership for Change

- Collaboration
- Community Resident Engagement
- Same knowledge across all groups