

# Pac Region Solutions Lab

## Capacity Building

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### 1. Money

- leveraging the existing resources
- what can help build capacity besides money
- what do organizations need in terms of support to be more eligible for funding?

### 2. How can organizations hear from the community?

- Big challenges in increasing produce
1. Transportation
  2. Storage / cold storage

We overwhelm the network w/surveys, how can we hear from the community while being respectful of their time?

- An idea that came up was to have organizations come to meetings that are already happening to listen and build relationships and identify needs.

- Could there be partnerships across state lines

- person from Nevada (Northern Reno Area) have few farms and high need, and Cali have a lot of produce

but have a lack in storage, processing + transportation → could there be a mutually beneficial relationship there (non profit processing center, non profit grocery) <sup>(2)</sup>  
- could volunteers (YA, Seniors) be utilized for food preservation

~~How~~ What could you do as a region to work towards solutions

1. stay in contact with people you networked w/ at this conference.

2. capitalize on existing meetings to gather info +

3. use university interns to do outreach

4. Find the places where the work is already being done so we don't duplicate efforts and waste time/energy/resources

## Biggest challenge about capacity Building

- Infrastructure - cool space & freezer space
- Volunteers - need more hands
- Space - small building area want to ramp up services
- Certain kinds of specific foods - portable etc.
- Organizational capacity - space, ethnic, resources, need to create foundation
- \$ - Funding
- Organizing Data - taking it into a useable form, being responsive

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## THES BRAINSTORMS -

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### Ideas that have worked?

- external storage - space to organize
- internal experts - how are you utilizing them?  
many great internal resources?  
Third party partners?
- University Help - process?, org efficiencies
- Volunteers "in Partnership" orgs & help fulfill mission etc.

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## Region work?

- Connections; Partnerships = steered ~~rights~~ down to neighborhood levels

→ Starbucks update program

- Microlending fund?

- Infrastructure needs assistance @ the Parkey level

- Open forum to make connections

- Communication - check in - connect locally;

↳ Could you stretch out levels of service delivery?

- What could working together solve?

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How could closing the Hunger Gap help regionally?

NWHL - statewide

Foodlifeline - Western

- Start Regional w/ problem solving like w/ like -
- ~~to~~ How does mine become regional support for systems? Outreach Opportunities

→ annual conferences NWHL / Foodlifeline  
- come w/ specific questions?

# CAPACITY Building

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1. What is the biggest challenge?

- How do we get folks who are paid a decent wage and get the work done?
- How do we secure partners? Retail, community members, etc.
- How do we incentivize our programs w/ limited funding?
- Funding is overarching theme.
- How do we address competency deficiency in volunteers (racism, ability, etc.) w/out alienating?
- How do we make part-timers full-timers?
- How can a woman's issues be understood by male dominated organizations.
- High turn-over rate at smaller non-profits and farmer's markets
- Market managers are often hobbyists, not needing employment. Causes blind-spots in equity issues.

# What is capacity building?

Community capacity building is defined as the process of developing and strengthening the skills, instincts, abilities, processes and resources that organizations need to survive, adapt, and thrive

# Capacity Building

## 2. What has worked?

- Studies on employee wages. Livable, fair and competitive.
- Should we offer benefit packages to part-timers?
- Cash and gift cards as incentives. Tokens @ Farmers markets. SNAP Match!
- Working w/ partners/contractors (AmeriCorps) allows agencies to spread ~~services~~ and diversify services.
- Empowering volunteers to be leaders.
- Input from ground level.

↓ These two work together, but there can be gaps.

3. What can you do as a region? Name 1-3 things you can do when you get back?

- We need to find a way to make it so small non-profits can offer insurance to employees.

- Maybe pooling together? =====

- Are there even organizations that can represent the whole region?

- OFB close, but not really whole region

# ① What is biggest challenge of Capacity Building

Portland, funding, need to expand

WSAP, so rural no resources must collaborate w/ other organization client capacity more often for fresh

Solu Army DT - healthy food options, physical plant issues (garage door entrance)  
compiling list of low income housing to let clients know about services  
also work w/ other agencies (DSHS, WIC, etc)

Immanuel Services - downsized physical space, Meals at hygiene center

Oregon FB - chokepoints, doing surveys,

Things that have worked are underlined above.

What can we be doing regionally?

communication up and down chain, what is best way to <sup>regularly</sup> communicate especially the "rush" items.  
(answer emails)

no dead head/back haul

Blue Zones = help make communities healthy

↳ international = ? started in New Zealand,

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