

Collaboration -

New Mexico
Montana
Nevada
~~North Dakota~~

Gleaning wild foods. New Mexico

1) Biggest ^{Challenge} ~~change~~ of collaboration.

- Identify a need services
- duplicating services
- reaching out to individuals/agencies.
- Barriers with coming into a new committee
- lack of collaboration due to size of town
- territorial with agencies/groups
- Frontier areas (mission statement might be different)
- turf wars
- working with Food Banks in your area.

2) Ideas that have worked:

- Faith Based (parishes)
- Donor / Board members
- Inviting other agencies to site where you have a pantry to collaborate with you.

3. What can we do as a region to work towards these solutions.

- Communicate more
- Dare to Share
- Collaboration
- Regional meetings/groups

How can closing the hunger gap help

- more urban focused
- opportunities
- off years have a Regional (teleconference) meetings

1 call to action

1 contacts with other agencies

Developing Partnerships to Address Root Causes

Intro -

● What is the biggest challenge of this topic?

[Please define ^{root causes} included.] - Complexed; many aspects; need to start somewhere; support other things ~~that~~ beyond food; limited resources for work creation challenges; conflict between community orgs and larger orgs; need to work together to address issue; seen a shift in performance measurements; need to show impact; Need to look at larger issues, cost of living; counsel of population; poverty is a root cause; fear of the issue; Keeping distance between board/elected officials and community; Disconnect between people and orgs

● How do you create equity? Employment make up needs to change;

↓ What are ideas that have worked to increase equity?

Building relationships between traditional and new ideas within orgs; ideas to partners and consider ideas that may be uncomfortable; Example: Food Bank closed; there was a tension; be comfortable with long term, slow work; Need to consider partnerships at every step of the food chain;

Develop long term ~~stable~~ relationships within and outside your sectors; Understand your org's ^{role} against the client;

Groups of people receiving receiving services; There is a disconnect; Learn from clients; get someone / group closer to work; →

Idea; shared: Health in Power and Donations; Make interactions with community;

● What do you need to learn more of?

- Learn more about fundraising; all the ends and outs;
- ~~learn~~ be honest; need new partnerships; who is willing to lose their job and power;

1. Introductions

2. What do you want to learn from this topic?

- How to focus on certain areas and work towards common goals
- How do we continue to work together to collaborate.
- Steering goals based on needs NOT funding.
- Finding common goals and benefits for both/multiple partners.
- Finding common goals to best fit the needs of organizations and still accomplish mission
- Accomplishing various goals across different sectors and move towards the same direction.
- * finding commonalities

3. Strategies

- ~~was~~ finding commonalities (Alternative solutions)
 - why do I care about... (something specific)
 - what's in it for each?
 - create docs that meet what's in for the other side
 - * create ~~flex~~ plans that can be understood
 - implementing training
- Being invested in multiple partnerships can be problematic
- Being clear on priorities in order to make decisions (like dating)
- "use your goals as leverage"
- Diversifying funding is helpful and allows flexibility
- "Be clear about your goals and how to measure success"
- Adopting other's goals in order to achieve a common goal.
- when discussing one goal; find how you're working towards it
- "what do you need at/or this?"
 - ↳ are there commonalities within how you're working towards the main goal.

Measuring data

- How we gather data differently can impact how we work together.

- often food banks measure immediate needs met vs funders want deeper results in data.

Think about Charity vs. Solidarity

↳ If you had a magic wand, what would you want to see?
- dedicated funding for programs to engage & communicate with our leaders (state, law makers)

↳ Education; learning/teaching Clients how to do more and create a sense of value.

- Awareness of community issues (not issues of people sitting at the table).

- Educating other organizations on your issue or goal to better understand how to work together

- What are common values & cause? Will lead to collaboration.

SOLUTIONS LAB: COLLABORATION → DIVERSE VOICES

PEPS FROM - OR, AZ, CA, WA, MA

WHY INTERESTED?

- LARGE DIVERSITY OF CLIENTS, NEED TO BETTER REPRESENT & UNDERSTAND.

CHALLENGES:

- LANGUAGE BARRIERS - OVERUSING FOLKS AS LEADERS / TRANSLATORS / INTERPRETERS
- CULTURAL BARRIERS - LIMITS THEM FROM ACTING, TAKING LEADERSHIP POSITION, CREATING ATTENTION
- LACK OF UNDERSTANDING THE EXPERIENCE OF CLIENTS →
 - 💡 → VOLUNTEERS GO SHOPPING @ OTHER SITES
- COMMUNICATION CONFUSION W/ MIS-UNDERSTANDING

IDEAS FOR ADDRESSING

- TRAUMA-INFORMED CARE TRAINING W/ VOLUNTEERS @ PANTRIES
- DESIGNATED GREETER / SOMEONE W/ TIME TO HAVE THAT CONVERSATION W/ FOLKS
- ANTI-RACISM TRAINING FOR STAFF & VOLUNTEERS
- OPEN OPEN TRAININGS TO VOLUNTEERS & CLIENTS → BRINGING TRAINING TO PLACE

SPECIFIC TOOLS

- ANTI-RACISM TRAINING
- NETWORK MEETINGS (SS IN YOUR AREA GETTING TOGETHER)
- ENGAGING BOARD & DECISION MAKERS IN THE CHANGE PROCESS
- LEADERSHIP TEAM OF CLIENTS / VOLUNTEERS
 - TOOLKIT FOR ENGAGING GRASSROOTS - S. ARIZONA
 - LEVERAGING RESOURCES TO MAKE SPACE, REDUCE BARRIERS BUT NOT LEAD THE CONVO
- OFFERING IN-LANGUAGE, GROUP SPACES; NOT EXPECTING EVERYONE TO GET ALONG ALL THE TIME
- INVESTING \$, STAFF TIME, STIPENDS & DON'T EXPECT PEOPLE HAVE THE BANDWIDTH TO PARTICIPATE FOR FREE

Collaboration: Participant Engagement

What drew you?

To learn what participants ~~engagements can~~ ^{want to impact + decide}
future programming decisions

Challenge:

What is participant engagement?

Defined what it means:

- Getting representation of those served to become engaged
- Inviting and welcoming voices of clients & those served
- Depends on setting:
getting community involved to make change within organization and across the sector

Have found it hard to engage participants in ways that invite them to board room meetings, informing policies and programs

Is the program trying to do everything for everyone?

* Language barrier -

* Retention of participants

* Stigma of utilizing programs

→ How do we remove or overcome barriers that exist in engaging participants?

What are the biggest challenges of this topic?

- Different goals - what is the goal?
- Different kinds of organizations
- Resources available for social capital
- Make sure all the players are showing up
- Knowing who all the players are
- Silos / lack of awareness
- When other organizations don't understand the limitations of what can be done
- Vision of partnerships that are needed

What tools or resources has been helpful / could be helpful?

- having something of value helps put your foot in the door
- Go to person
- Proven models
- Go on websites
- Coalitions

Collaboration Notes

Links Between Food Justice + Anti-Hunger

- Food justice encompasses care of the land, control over food production, climate change, workers' rights

Biggest challenges we face

- Highlighting within Jobs with Justice the issue of hunger as related to workers' rights
- The tension between incrementalist approaches of feeding people vs long term changes needed in the food system
- Recognition of what to do in the short term but no long term goals for ending hunger.
- Hunger is not an isolated issue & won't end by just feeding people because many other issues affect poverty.
- Should we shift our work programmatically to include more on food justice?
- How do we build a national movement to oppose cuts to SNAP?

Have there been any tools or resources that are helpful?

- Mana Center Seattle
- building raised beds for Garden Project
- GRUB program in Seattle - develop leaders in community
- Veterans' gardens
- buy from local farmers
- buy only food from U.S or local food (MA food bank)
- advocate that one's state has funding to buy local food for food banks (NY + MA have this)
- Dismantling racism workshops

