

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Biggest Challenge:

low participation

recruitment to programs

transportation

volunteer recruitment

location / time / language

changing population

funding

immigration barriers to full time hires

Solutions:

Hire people from community

Hire people from community for board

Client Advisory Board / Partner Org. Board

Regional:

Capacity building to be on boards

Stipend for volunteers

Social Capital Credit System → time banking

4 volunteers

Alternate currencies

work based learning (High school students)

JOB training / skills

#1 Community Engagement

Challenges: ① Identifying & connecting ^{w/ others esp if there} ~~of the demography~~ is a dominant demographic, try to learn about others culturally, experiences, etc.. ② Commitment to community engagement by clients / participants / members ③ Try to bring people together around a given topic & solicit all voices @ the table ④ People won't do what you want them to do if no relationship exists - building relationships takes time & effort

#2 Ideas: ① Needs Assessment w/ member / participant input create trust ~~of~~ & step b/c to give ownership & creation to the community members. ② Advisory Council, listening sessions, create venue for feedback (survey, etc.) ③ Volunteers ④ Community Advocates ⑤ Share w/ wife among stakeholders & partners ⑥ CBPR

#3 ① Coalitions for greater impact & shared capacity ② Asset Mapping

#4 ① Education / conferences ② Invite people we are trying to serve to be present @ the conference or educational offering (scholarships, lower cost, team discount) ③ A regional directory of organizations ^{for registration} doing similar work (serving similar demographics)

Community Engagements

Alex Dupont - WSU

Karen Wilmann - WSDA

~~Kat~~ Westerdahl - Emergency Food Network

Rachel Sacco - United Hospital

Nicki Thompson - Spokane Edible Tree

Talea Price WSU Skagit ^{Project}

Biggest Challenge - Language barriers

- regional cultural diversity
- volunteer recruitment
- community support
- finding clients
- getting your message out

Ideas from Tuesday - more social justice outreach

- community dinners to connect to communities

Working to Solutions - Engage donors into communities

- generational collaboration
- using statistics to make a point

CHGN Help in your communities - continuing the conferences!

- Regional conferences
- regional mapping

① What is the biggest challenge of community engagement?

→ What is community engagement: providing services to what the need is in the community. The voices in the community are heard by policy makers & stakeholders. Connecting up all peoples in the community to make sure all voices are heard.

- ✓ Getting people to understand the issues and not be removed from the issues. Communication
- ✓ Important to get to a deeper level of understanding what the community wants + needs.
- ✓ too much leading, not enough listening to community
- ✓ Community involvement w/ politics locally - ~~not~~ not enough voices are heard in legislature & issues are not being brought to the local politicians.
- ✓ Getting people to come to programming in communities.
- ✓ Not knowing the culture of the community were in - doing westernized lessons / using foods their not familiar with
- ✓ Making it relevant to your community

② What are some ideas that have worked w/ community engagement?

- ✓ Having community give input on what they want
- ✓ Being sensitive to culture
- ✓ Train the trainer model to empower community members to lead ~~to~~ in their own community
- ✓ Meeting community where they are at - making a connection where something else is already going on in the community
- ✓ Listening to what's happening in the community, what their needs are
- ✓ Collaborating w/ other partners working in the community - strengthening forces of services

② What can we do as a region?

✓ Incorporating more hands-on ways to empower clients & teach them skills that are meaningful

✓ knowing who's a community partner & reaching out for support & gaining ideas & share resources

✓ Facebook group to share ideas

✓ Networking to pull together resources to offer communities a multi-faceted approach to meet their needs.

✓