

PRINCIPLES OF COLLECTIVE IMPACT + ENGAGEMENT

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Dakota County Director of Social Services shared his thoughts on collective impact from work on a collaborative grant project.

- Everyone has gifts to give & people want to share their gifts.
- Relationships are what build community.
- Community members have to be at the center of everything we do.
- The way we draw those strengths and capacities out of people is through listening.
- All institutions have limits.



BUILDING A FOUNDATION TO GROW FROM



TABLE TOP EXERCISE ON THE ART OF POSSIBLE IMPACT (VISUALLY DISPLAYED IN A WORD CLOUD TREE)

WHAT IS THE POSSIBLE IMPACT OF COLLABORATION FOR DAKOTA COUNTY?

*Design an "Inclusive Environment" * Support clients in achieving their goals * How do we best engage those we serve * Can we utilize data to impact overall success (use technology to expedite service delivery) * Affordable housing * Improved wages * Access to resources * Client-centered: meet the customer in their space * Reduce redundancy of sharing their story... * Help community understand the root causes so we can get upstream * Mind-shift: Support People over Supporting Systems * Honor and respect our Veterans, engage them on their path forward * Increasing cultural-competence within our communities * Mental Health – eliminate stigma, need resources * Be proactive and less reactive in nature *



TABLE TOP EXERCISE

Based on your "why" what do you bring to the collective "Marketplace" and what initiatives should be focused on...

Information and data-sharing improvements:

We can overcome our data-sharing challenges by exploring legal changes, in the interim focusing on informed consent. Identify thoughtful and valuable ways to data share to have a collective.

Inclusion, Diversity & Equity lens:

Diversifying the workforce will lead to more inclusion and understanding (authentic engagement). Be sure to be sensitive to language, framing and supportive conversations.

Workforce Solutions:

Creation of ongoing internship experiences/programs/cross-training, work with high schools to create feeder programs and more opportunities.

How to authentically include & engage under-represented people in designing and driving solutions:

Be intentional about leveraging and building relationships on trust. Engagement is not an "add-on" item but part of the process from the beginning. Look to data to help inform and guide decisions.

Community conversations to understand root cause:

Working together toward meaningful and collective engagement, work with community affairs divisions. When the next steps are outlined... seek communication platforms that result in increased engagement.

Contracting to outcomes and impact:

Understand the regulatory requirements that create barriers to contracting with vendors that could have a significant impact in achieving the desired outcomes. Keep key SMEs at the table to help with plain language and intentional engagement.

One-stop Shop AND How to streamline and integrate the intake function within the county and among county/community partners:

Co-locate services in spaces where people already attend and have established bond (trust). Have one shared intake process. There needs to be a comprehensive "mapping" of current services available.

Map all county services against the SDOH domains:

When all of our organizations and efforts are moving in the same direction, it helps us to understand our priorities and allows for a collective voice.

How to address Veteran Homelessness:

Veterans have unique concerns that require different approach to meeting their needs. Supportive environment and better access to services to provide support and strategic outreach (trauma supportive space).



