

Engaging and Elevating Voices Workbook



Learning Objectives

Participants will learn how to:

1. Describe the mutual benefits of community engagement and consider the challenges of the engagement process.
2. Describe what it means to define community, including distinctions between self-defined community, priority population, and community voices. Describe the continuum of community engagement.
3. Assess dynamics of the relationship between community voices, organizational stakeholders, and mental health professionals.
4. Identify ways of balancing power, influence and building trust.
5. Define roles, level setting and a decision-making process.
6. Collectively assess community readiness and capacity.
7. Co-design strategies for community engagement and ownership to advance health equity.
8. Use processes to sustain community engagement and community capacity for engagement, including maintaining continuous engagement while creating an environment to address project based or acute engagement needs.
9. Identify examples of effective community engagement to advance mental health equity.
10. Identify pivotal organizations for long-term collaboration and identify community assets.

Why Engage and Elevate Community?

1.

Foster trust and mutual respect

2.

Expose unforeseen or unintended barriers

3.

Address systemic inequities and structural discrimination

4.

Improve program efficiency by responding to the experiences of the people impacted

5.

Promote health equity



How can you foster meaningful community engagement?

Can you think of an example of a project or initiative that you have worked on which would serve as a good example of how community engagement led to better results?

What intentional steps did you take to make this possible?

What community organizations were instrumental to the project's success?

How did your work improve or hinder community engagement?

Do you think the community would share your assessment of the level of community engagement? What supports your thesis?

In hindsight what more could have been done?

Describe the priority population and the community/communities on which you want to focus and its shared purpose.

Capacity and Readiness

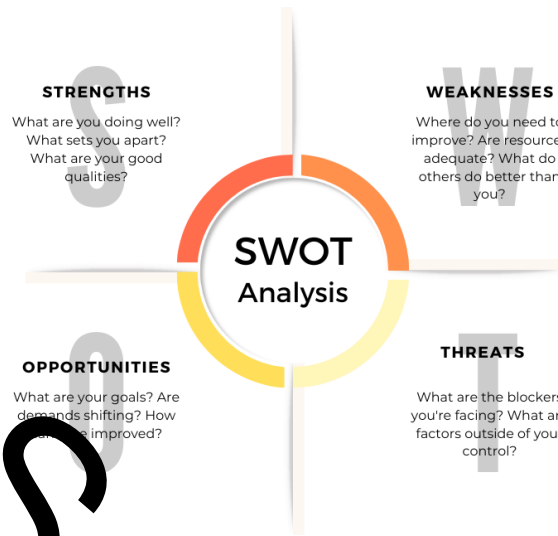


Brainstorming Questions

Community Readiness



Assessing Your Organization's Capacity



Strengths
Weaknesses
Opportunities
Threats

Building Relationships

Community Engagement Continuum - Methods



Sustainability

Brainstorming questions

- What is it that you are wanting to sustain? What does success look like? What does failure look like?
- Who is going to be involved in sustaining these efforts?
- Are other key partners needed?
- Who is communicating with key partners?
- What are some local funding sources you can think of? Non-local?
- As a group, come together and consolidate funding sources. Keep in mind the type of funding sources (fundraising, donor, grant etc.).

Key Partners (stakeholders) Mapping

Example of a Community Action Plan

Project Period Objective	Description of the Objective	Priority Area
Annual Objective	Description of the Objective	Sector
		Number of People Reached
Activities	Activity Title	Description

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. "Action Step 8: Monitor and evaluate the intervention." National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, Division of Nutrition, Physical Activity, and Obesity, State and Local Programs. Accessed [insert date], <https://www.cdc.gov/nccdphp/dnpao/state-local-programs/change-tool/ActionStep8.html>.

Notes

SAMPLE

SAMPLE

HEALTH EQUITY RESOURCES

General Resource	Link
SAMHSA Behavioral Health Equity	https://www.samhsa.gov/about-us/who-we-are/offices-centers/obhe/equity-challenge
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Cardiovascular Health Equity Indicators	https://www.cdc.gov/dhdsp/health_equity/index.htm
US Department of Health and Human Services Office of Minority Health, Think Cultural Health	https://minorityhealth.hhs.gov/think-cultural-health
Improving digital connectivity for telehealth	https://telehealth.hhs.gov/providers/health-equity-in-telehealth/improving-access-to-telehealth
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Division of Nutrition, Physical Activity and Obesity, Health Equity Resources	https://www.cdc.gov/nccdphp/dnpao/health-equity/index.html
National Association of Chronic Disease Directors Health Equity Council	https://naacdc.org/page/hecouncil/tools-and-resources
Robert Wood Johnson Foundation	https://www.rwjf.org/en/insights/our-research/2017/05/what-is-health-equity-.html

Community Engagement Resources

General Resource	Link
Community Toolbox	https://ctb.ku.edu/en/toolkits
Engage the Community: The Center for Disease Control and Prevention	https://www.cdc.gov/chinav/tools/engage.html

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