



Inclusive Communities

Several of the original workshops hosted by AHC are reflected in Dialogue 5. The original aim of the workshops was to support participants to explore how some individuals and organizations work to build inclusive communities. To read more about the original workshops see the Workshop Memories linked to this chapter.

Workshop 9 - Planning and Implementing Inclusivity Strategies (Vicki Fannon), Workshop 10 – Community Engagement (Wendy Hollo), Workshop 7 – Personal and Community Strategies (Lawrence Loyek and Geraldo Sibrian)

Key themes that will be explored in this workshop:

Identifying activities seen in inclusive communities

Mapping community assets

Identifying opportunities for creating community inclusion

Developing strategies for community engagement

Time:

3 hours

Supplies:

Flipchart with paper

Markers

Overhead projector and gels (optional for displaying handouts)

Handouts

ACTION FOR HEALTHY COMMUNITIES
SOCIAL INCLUSION CURRICULUM

9:00 am – 9:15 am

Introductions and Housekeeping

Allow participants to introduce themselves

Identify smoking areas, bathrooms and break times for the group

9:15 am – 9:30 am

Icebreaker

Examples of icebreakers are included in the Main Appendix.

9:30 am – 10:00 am

Brainstorming the activities of inclusive communities

Ask the participants to discuss and list activities or initiatives that they consider to be inclusive.

Ask the group to discuss why they feel the listed activities are inclusive.

Ask the group to discuss what considerations might have (or were) given to ensure that people of diverse backgrounds could participate.

10:00 am – 10:15 am

Coffee Break

10:15 am – 11: 15 am

Mapping a Communities Assets

Community asset mapping allows communities to identify who, what, and how to create inclusion in communities. Using the handouts labeled Community Assets Map (Dialog 5, Handout I) ask the participants to identify local institutions, citizen associations and community organizations of individuals who could assist/support them to use the Community Assets Map to guide them in creating an asset map for their community.

Allow the participants to work in small groups if they are from a common community or have them work individually if they are from diverse communities.

Provide assistance to the groups or participants by providing local examples if they are struggling. After 15 minutes ask the small groups to share their map. If the participants prepared their maps alone, ask them to provide one example from each of their maps. Ask the participants what makes the listed individuals, citizens associations or local

institutions an asset to their community. (e.g. donations to kids soccer programs, volunteer work, running a community garden,)

The participants can use a small paper template (Dialog 5 Handout I) or small groups can work on a hand drawn template on Flipchart paper. The Flipchart asset maps can be posted and discussed with the large group.

Facilitator Note:

When describing the task to the participants this is a good time to ask them to think back to Dialog 4 where they mapped people within their own circles (relational assets), and describe this as a process of doing the same thing for their community.

11:15 am – 12:15 pm

Identification of community inclusion opportunities

Ask the participants to identify a community initiative or project (festival, community garden, revitalization of a park) that would build a more inclusive community. A community initiative is any activity that brings community members together and develops skills.

Break the participants into small groups and provide them the handout labeled Potential Partners (Dialog 5, Handout III) and using a Flipchart paper have the participants use the handout as a template to brainstorm the list of potential partners who could assist in the developing the inclusive community initiative. Alternately, participants may work independently on the blank template (Dialog 5, Handout IV)

All reference materials for the Dialog are from Building Communities from the Inside Out: A path toward finding and mobilizing a community's assets. John P. Kretzmann and John L. McKnight

12:15 am – 12:30 pm

Debriefing and Evaluation

Discuss the next dialog on inclusive communities. Discuss that the exercises in this dialog will assist the participants in developing strategies for building inclusive communities.

Have the participants complete a workshop.

Facilitator Note:

Of all the dialogs Dialog Five and Six are most closely connected in terms of the activities the participants undertake. If possible it is helpful to run Dialog Five and Six as a whole day workshop, or to run them close together. The Curriculum has been written as though the workshop happens over one day, however it can easily be kept separate.

Have the participants complete the evaluation form
