

PEACE PROMOTION
CA ENDOWMENT MOMENTUM TEAM
MINUTES from April 7, 2010

In the Price Charities conference room, Suite #640, Co-Chair Dana Brown initiated our momentum team meeting at 5:13 pm

Introductions

Recognizing that our team is meeting five out of eight weeks, we value and appreciate the steadfast commitment and hard work of our attendees. Introducing themselves, our participants shared whether they were/are a community resident and/or professional.

Recognition of our Co-Facilitators, Paul Watson and Daphyne Watson, and their exemplary leadership through our Visioning Process and Logic Model design was acknowledged. Graciously deferring back to our exceptional team, they extended their gratitude to our momentum team.

Appreciation was extended to the youth attending from our BHC Youth Council, Youth Latino Council, Youth Voice, and Reality Changers. Their representation of their peers on our team is exceptional. Inspiring our vision, the youth are insightful, engaged, and committed.

Our team building and rewarding connection, Eugene Johnson sang his brilliant song, "*Building Healthy Communities*". Collectively, we encouraged our entire BHC to have a chorus at the upcoming Community Congress on May 1st.

Review of our Ground Rules

Marc Meyer read our Ground Rules established in an earlier meeting at the inception of our momentum team.

Focus Question

"What key actions will move us through the obstacles to overcome the root causes blocking our Vision?"

Co-Facilitator, Paul Watson

Reiterating the article in previous meetings, "Why Place Matters?", Paul directed our intention of focusing on a community, versus just an individual strategy. With change being a broad concept, guiding us to a common language of understanding, Mr. Watson shared how we do not focus on the root causes when we dialog relative to "systems change". Our opportunity to deepen our understanding and truly address the root causes is historical.

Co-Facilitator, Daphyne Watson

Reviewing the hand-out, The Question of Change, Daphyne educated our team on the aspects of the Continuum of Change.

- Individual: Changes within an individual's behavior
- Organizational: Changes within an organization and how it carries out its' mission
- Policy: Change reflecting the "rules of the game"
- Systems: Change of the "game" itself (i.e., power, money, habits, skills)
- Paradigm: Change in ideas/values including a new definition of cause, how the problem should be dealt with and the criteria for success

Co-Facilitator, Paul Watson

Various systems were noted; Health, Transportation, Political, Education as Paul shared an overview of systems. Mr. Watson reiterated how imperative our role is with addressing the root cause, and not the symptoms. Specifically noting what "system" relates to our headers from our last meeting, please find as follows our consensus.

Spending time delineating what system related to each header, our team chose the following;

- **Disconnected Relations.....Communications**
- **Negativity, Despair & Fear.....Economic**
- **Limited Coordinated Systems for Youth.....Law Enforcement & Probation**
- **Ineffective Management of Violence.....Cultural & Value**
- **Clash of the Ages.....(could not reach consensus)**
- **Dysfunctional Power Systems.....(could not reach consensus)**
- **Biased Media.....Interpersonal**
- **Economic Inequities.....Reflection of Every System**

Paul offered insight to our thought process by providing analogies. Pictures were placed on the board representing concepts to be cognizant of as we moved forward collectively.

Chess;	Have foresight and think ahead several steps
Frog:	Gradual steps to success
147/805;	Perseverance, "Don't give up" The Wright brothers attempted 147 times before their plane took off of the ground. Thomas Edison tried unsuccessfully 804 times before the light bulb was successfully lit.
Yin/Yang;	Aware of balance – some tried and true ideas, and some "out of the box" and bold
Bowling;	Chain reaction of one action which will impact other actions

Kevin offered insight on the big picture of "systems".

- Big, complex
- Have a mission and or set of goals
- Set of internal relationships and external relationships
- Hierarchy
- Guided by rules and norms
- Have policies and guidelines
- Many interlocking pieces
- Serve some... they are the way they are because someone's interests, i.e., the health care system serves the interests of the health care industry
- Does not operate in a vacuum - they are not alone, other systems are at play
- Systems tend not to change on their own, i.e., change requires tension and/or power needs to be applied

Engaging, deliberate, thoughtful dialog ensued. Several team members shared the following insight;

- Jeannel expressed concern we are not including the resident data at this juncture.
- Joey shared how service providers work for the systems and are not mutually exclusive from the residents' voice.
- Paul noted how we as a momentum team have to be leaders in our community partnership.
- Linda reflected on how the Data Report depicts "What the Residents Say" which should be inclusive in our dialog reflecting the systems change of the root causes.
- Sheila clarified the 1,550 residents whom compiled the Data Report are the core sampling of the community voice and a true representation of City Heights. Their voice reflect "low hanging fruit" and should navigate our direction.
- Jeannel noted how we need to continually recruit community residents in our process.
- Desi shared our present process of the Logic Model design is nearly complete with the programs aspect and the residents' voice is the next step.

Engaging, deliberate, thoughtful dialog ensued. Several team members shared the following insight; (cont'd)

- Paul stated how residents' voice is inclusive, which doesn't necessarily reflect "systems", although they are imbedded within systems. Service providers are funded within the systems, thus, we should be encouraged as we are truly thinking outside of the box.
- Kahalifa cautioned our team to be very cognizant of "residents" and "systems".
- Gerald proposed we note "Key Actions" from the Data Report and work forward from that aspect. We should get out of our comfort zone and embrace the challenge.
- Suzanne shared that we need to be very aware that residents have the most basic of needs as many of them have been impacted by violence.
- Alfred suggested we start promptly at our next team meeting and get right to work on our goal/intention.
- Linda inquired if we need to complete by a deadline of April 30th to submit the Logic Model Plan.
- Marc suggested we consider adding another team meeting if need be to complete our process.

Our meeting was powerful. The youth, residents, and service providers were respectfully engaged. An amazing, cohesive team has evolved in our community organizing endeavor.

Thanking everyone for attending, Co-Chair Dana Brown, confirmed the next Peace Promotion Momentum Team on **Wednesday, April 21st, from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm.**

Our meeting was adjourned at 7:00 pm