

2021 Directors Retreat Session 2 Roundtable

Notes

Name of Roundtable: Equity in Community Engagement Activities

Facilitator: Tawara Goode

Staff Support: Jeanette Córdova

Major Themes Discussed:

- Conversations on Equity with siblings' leadership network – equity agenda developed to be more successful in reaching a more diverse sibling group. It's also worked with elder engagement, rural engagement, and issues of internet connectivity.
- Can use virtual space to engage groups; can bring groups together who are same language to help facilitate relationship building.
- All agencies receiving Federal funding must have a language access plan
- Enter communities respectfully – “we have” to do this, but what does the community need and want?
 - Learn about and from the community
- Key concepts and strategies to engage:
 - Mutual interest and benefits
 - Reciprocity – financial
 - Hiring and utilizing multicultural staff
 - Helicopter – can't be in and out
 - To engage a community successful, the organization must understand their own agency cultural lens
 - There must be a connection and engagement in a meaningful way
 - Must understand the social, economic, etc., factors in a cultural context.
 - Understand the inherent abilities of communities to identify their own problems and be able intervene appropriately on their own behalf.

Support Needed:

- Budget – supporting multiple languages can be expensive, with the interpretation, captioning, and other language needs. How to cover these costs?

Other Action Items: