

Ohio Department of Health Youth Homelessness Program Community of Practice

July 21, 2022



- Welcome
- Overview of Community of Practice
- Break-Out Activity #1 Intro's & Group Norms
- Discussion
- Break-Out Activity #2 Practice discussion
- Next Steps & Closing



Chat - sign in

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Overview of Community of Practice

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Image source

What is the community of practice model?

- Community of Practice (CoP) combines elements of <u>learning</u>, <u>practice</u>, and <u>community</u>.
- Together, these interact so that shared learning in community informs practice.
- CoPs balance an emphasis on each of these, <u>giving as much</u> <u>attention to building relationships</u> <u>as to thinking and doing</u>.
- In this way, CoPs are designed to <u>function differently</u> than most dominant cultural modes of work, where action may be prioritized over relationships or reflection



What's special about community of practice?

- A community of practice is what its participants want it to be; there is no prescribed way of doing things and a wide variety of options exist
- Communities of practice differ from other groups in the level of participation expected from participants
- All members of a CoP are to be equal participants, regardless of their educational background, role, or institutional type
- Participants bring their own goals and help to shape the meetings

What's special about community of practice?

- Facilitators also participate in discussion, both contributing to and learning from the group
- This structure differs from a learning environment which relies on a teacher or an expert and may therefore feel unfamiliar or uncomfortable to some facilitators or participants
- By meeting multiple times over months or even years, participants get to know one another on a deep level, can apply what they learn and report back to the group for additional learning and can develop new partnerships or resources on complex issues

When is community of practice a good fit?

- A Community of Practice is most appropriate for a group that wants to develop new knowledge together
- It is not a training, work group, or task force, but a group of people seeking to explore aspects of their work that do not have simple answers
- CoPs do tend to be particularly generative when they can bring together those with a range of perspectives

What's the Culture of a CoP?

- A CoP is based on an open, democratic way of working and learning. Everyone in the CoP has knowledge to share; at the same time, everyone has learning to do
- People bring many identities and ways of knowing to the conversation, and each person's knowledge is valuable
- Because systems are so complex and interrelated, combining knowledge gives us a more complete understanding of the world in which we live and helps grow the ability to accomplish change

What's the Culture of a CoP?

- Different perspectives and types of knowledge enhance group learning
- While we may only be able to understand an issue in one particular way with our individual lens, a group widens that perspective to create a deeper and richer conversation
- CoP is intended to be a space where all perspectives will be welcome and all people respected, while at the same time, participants are able to challenge each other's ideas, ask critical questions, and seek to understand but not necessarily agree



Experimentation & Failure

- There is no such thing as failure for a community of practice
- A key aspect of the CoP is that it remains a space to experiment and learn
- Growing process ebbs and flows

• Break-Out Activity #1 – Intro's & Group Norms

- Discussion
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Breakout Activity #1

- Introductions
- Roles
- Review & Discuss Group Norms
- Take notes in the google dox
 - Group one
 - Group two
 - Group three (as needed)
 - Group four (as needed)
 - Group five (as needed)

Discussion

- Break-Out Activity #2 Practice discussion
- Next Steps & Closing

Discussion

- Quick take away's
- Review google docs as community





- Break-Out Activity #2 Practice discussion
- Next Steps & Closing

Image source

Breakout Activity #2

- CoP and me and check-in
- Planning our next session
- Take notes in the google dox
 - Group one
 - Group two
 - Group three (as needed)
 - Group four (as needed)
 - Group five (as needed)

Discussion

Google doc

Summary



7/21/2022 ODH Community of Practice

Activity #1

Group members' names and organizations (list)

What is your role in ODH programs (list)

Review this group norm list as a team & note/highlight the norms that really speak to your needs in this space



Next Steps & Closing

Image source

Check-Out

- One(ish) word that describes how you're feeling after this session
 - Share in chat



We invite you to provide anonymous feedback about about community of practice



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2022-2023 Community of Practice Calendar

July 21, 2022 Next session	January 19, 2023
August 18, 2022	February 16, 2023
September 15, 2022	March 16, 2023
October 20, 2022	April 20, 2023
November 17, 2022	May 18, 2023
December 15, 2022	June 15, 2023

Resources

- <u>Community of Practice Shared Folder</u>
- <u>Community of Practice Calendar</u>
- <u>Community of Practice Anonymous Feedback Form</u>
- ODH Youth Homelessness Program Website

