PATH - Coordinating with Alcohol, Drug, and Mental Health Boards to End Homelessness

Tuesday, April 11th 2023
PATH: Asset Mapping for Collaborative Solutions

April 6, 2023
By the end of this session, participants will have:

- Tools and ideas for creating a local asset map
- Gained understanding of why they should build cross-sector community collaboration
- Formed ideas for identifying community partners
What is “community”?

A geographical, social, religious, occupational or other group sharing common characteristics or interests.

What are some of the communities you belong to?
Community Boundaries

Sociologists define community as “any area in which a common culture shares common interests.”

**Geography:** people live and or work together in a given place

**Shared Character or Identity:** characteristics (e.g., ethnicity, age, economics, religion) cause people to identify with one another

**Common Concerns or Problems:** groups of people share common concerns or problems
Types of Community

- Shared place
- Shared work situation/workplace
- Shared experiences or concerns
- Shared mission or goal
- What else?
Who’s a Member?

In contrast to a spatial community, a community of interest is not defined by space, but by a shared bond or entity.

- A community of interest is a gathering of people around a topic of common interest.
- Each of us belong to multiple communities:
  - Community of action
  - Community of circumstance
  - Community of inquiry
  - Community of practice
  - Community of purpose
No single agency can meet all the needs of any community.
Community Resource Mapping

What are we talking about?
• Asset mapping
• Environmental scanning
• System building

• Can be used to align resources and policies in relation to specific goals, strategies or outcomes

• Outcomes include identification of resources:
  • To assist people experiencing homelessness;
  • To supplement existing assets and to sustain activities/initiatives
  • To create/build capacity to support system
## Asset/Resource Maps

### Actual Map with Resource Pins

Show geographic locations of partners

![Actual Map](image1.png)

### Notebook

Descriptions of partners, contact information, capacities

![Notebook Image](image2.png)

### Spreadsheet

Include multiple tabs, columns and rows that can be sorted

![Spreadsheet Image](image3.png)
Getting Started

Local inventory
- Start with the familiar first
- Local resource directories
- Service directors
- Personal/business relationships
- Continuum of Care
- Associations
- Your communities
- *Who else?*

Program
Agency
Existing partners
Potential partners
Nontraditional partners

Start with the familiar first
Local resource directories
Service directors
Personal/business relationships
Continuum of Care
Associations
Your communities
*Who else?*
Likely Sources: Existing Maps

- United Way
- 2-1-1 or other information and referral
- Community Action Agencies
- Continuum of Care
- Social Service Agencies
- Others?
Questions to Ask About Existing Resource Maps

- **Who** is listed? (agencies, programs)
- **What** do they do? Do the resources intersect with those you need?
- **Where** are they?
- **How** can you access the services? (Learn about eligibility criteria)
- **When** are they available?
- **Who** do you know?

- Can you get it electronically?
- What geographic area does it cover?
- What is the format (online or print)?
- Is it public?
- Who keeps it up-to-date?
- Do the listed partners coordinate and hold meetings?
Resources or Assets?

Resources are agencies, services, locations, programs – they are public and concrete. You can look them up and ask for a tour.

Assets are less tangible and rarely transparent.

Both are important aspects for your resource map.
Resource? Or Asset?

- Community garden
- Housing Choice Vouchers
- Community Action Agency
- Nancy Smith, who works at the bank
- The Lion’s Club
- Sam, the builder, with a big heart
- The Public Housing Authority
- A private landlord
Your Resource Map

- How will you use it?
- Who will maintain it?
- Who can access it?
- What format?
## Resource Domains

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Housing</th>
<th>Employment or Income</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Temporary, permanent, affordable, accessible, supportive housing</td>
<td>Private employers with partnering history, entitlement benefits (e.g., SSI), agencies, training/placement programs</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Medical</th>
<th>Nontraditional Partners</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Medical homes, comprehensive, integrated, recovery-oriented, accept public insurance</td>
<td>Churches, local businesses, United Way, Continuum of Care, peer support organizations, volunteer organizations</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Starting Your Resource Map: Your Existing Network

- Let existing partners know what you are doing and why.
- Tell them what your clients need.
- Ask for help identifying others who can help or who hold keys to resources.
- Ask for introductions.
- Be collegial – give back.

Relationship building is a process that builds on itself.
Keep Digging

- Ask your colleagues about meetings where you might meet people from agencies to establish needed links.
- Attend meetings.
- Get to know the people there.
- Talk about your needs and share your resources.
- Volunteer to help.
Begin to Build and Include Detail

- Program name, address
- Contact information (personal if possible)
- Eligibility criteria
- Services provided
- Length of time (or number of times) service can be accessed
- Service limits … wait lists … obstacles that can be addressed preemptively
- Costs
- What else?

[Diagram showing flow of Resource → Eligible? → Priority populations, Application process → Available → Wait list, Wait time → Good fit for client → Contact, and ADD or NOT]
## Just Do It

### Housing
- For each domain, make a list of people you know
- Agencies you know
- People and agencies you know **of**
- Who your contacts know

### Employment

### Medical

### Non-traditional

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*Think outside the box – how can you bring resources to bear on behalf of your clients?*
Next Steps

Remember: this is an iterative process that you build and change as you learn more about your communities.

- Write it all down. It’s not useful to make contacts with others, then forget what they said, where they work, how they can help…and any personal information they share with you.
- Identify 3 contacts you will reach out to after the conference,
- Follow up … e-mail or call soon after contact
- Do what you say you will
- Keep showing up
- Let your passion show
QUESTIONS
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