Interest Group Notes – Day 3

Summary: Interest Group Feedback

Mental Health

- Therapy and calm rooms
- Smaller class sizes
- TCI
- Insurance support + reimbursement

Neighborhood safety

- Fostering an environment of community Connection and allowing for evaluation
- How to develop toolkit + infrastructure

Food Security

- Leveraging current infrastructure to supply what is needed
- Greater buy in from stakeholders
- Increasing community education

Housing

- Focusing on capacity building; what works for community and what doesn't
- New ways to engage and garner support

Detailed Notes by Interest Group

Mental Health

What is working:

- Therapy/calm rooms
- Schools of smaller groups
- Urgent care for mental health
- Mobile crisis teams/vehicles
- Communication, connection, and consistency
- Youth participation
- Transforming Community Initiatives (TCI)

Support Needed:

- School district leadership programming
- Space, staff, support
- More of these facilities
- Insurance support and reimbursement
- Be present

- Inpt facilities, physicians, therapists, social workers
- Volunteers
- Funding, local and state legislation, banks, grants
- Continued support, resources, advocacy, community partners
- Education on how to find resources and where to go

Neighborhood Safety

What is working:

- Pontiac:
    - Support for unhoused and decreased crime
    - Conversations rarely mentioned police
    - Knowing neighbors has been successful
    - Cleaning up community and starting community garden
- Fresno
    - Hosting community events and fostering community – mitigate fear and build connections
    - POWER orgs have strong coalition and buy in through turmoil
    - Redefining goals over time to ensure partner buy in

What are we doing:

- Pontiac:
    - Block Club Parties
- Fresno:
    - CJC is trained through NAFCM (National Association for Community Mediation)
    - Debug – participating defense

Support Needed:

- Pontiac:
    - Develop toolkit of "Dos and Donts" – street team helped to adjust branding
    - Efforts to build buy in and grow turn out
- Fresno:
    - Clarity and streamlining for large collaborations; organizational heads need to come together
    - Better branding and outreach
    - Can all TCI sectors create toolkits?
    - How to build infrastructure
    - Media toolkits – storytelling advice

Housing

Ideas:

- Community leadership-neighborhood work

Support Needed:

- Springfield
  - Better communication – make the work visible in multiple ways and language
- Wilmington
  - Develop city support; federal support takes time to deliver even when we are awarded
- Pontiac
  - Older organizing strategies
  - Build new strategies and methods
  - Some residents do not support housing change

What are we doing:

- Philly:
  - Mobile units set up in the writing; schedules are predictable (syringe exchange)
  - Engage systems, change practice, change environment
  - Reach people with the resources they need so that they can be put in housing
  - Running lists up to date about who is unhoused and where
- Springfield
  - TCI creative narrative and articulate the reason for funded partners to come together
- Pontiac
  - Invest in knowledge building and trainings for people with deep experience and those with work experience; city counselor come together

What is working:

- Springfield
  - Support existing work by local organizations; they know what works
  - Diversity of reach – wayfinders = CDC; SNOL, NZN grassroots
  - Build narrative capacity – people speak their truth
- Wilmington
  - Identified funders that are like minded
  - Relationship0 development
  - Banks
  - Credit Union
  - FED
  - Community are trained advocates

Food Security

What is working:

- Community action task force

- Healthy bodega project
- All encompassing, thorough implementation strategies and planning
    - Think about the chili!
- Reclaiming our culture and shifting the narrative
- Educating
- Increasing incentives foe all involved parties (new infrastructure, increased network)
- Keeping the money in the community

Support Needed:

- Asset mapping
- Greater access to healthy options across more of the city
- Workshops – balance of learning how to cook nutritionally dense foods and having access to implement; exposure and demand
- Greater buy in (stakeholder agreement and understanding)