



NetWorked for CHANGE CONFERENCE

April 1, 2022 • Hyatt Regency Wichita

Morning Huddle: Community Development

Facilitator: Paula Downs, WSU- Public Policy and Management Center

Huddle Leaders:

- Imogene Harris, Vice President, Impact Investment Services, Network Kansas
- Aubrey Abbott Patterson, President & Chief Executive Officer, Hutchison Community Foundation

Huddle Attendance: 42

What is the most difficult part of making progress around Community Development?

- Limited funds to distribute to entire state
- Once we convene our stakeholders and partners, we are really good at talking about it. The challenge is knowing what the first step is- ACTION!
- Accessing funds
- Board buy-in
- Territorial mindsets- individuals wanting credit
- “It’s always been this way” “This is the way we’ve always done it”
- Capacity and commitment
- People are scared
- Ability to access funds for black and brown entrepreneurs without traditional barriers
- Too much gatekeeping
- Ownership beyond volunteerism- burn-out
- Fear of change
- Buy-in
- Engagement
- Making others see community development is everyone’s responsibility- quit talking about the problems- make it more about solutions/action
- Moving from strategy to implementation
- Finding new people to bring to the table in rural communities
- Having many meetings but the movement stops
- Collaboration and competing values
- Capacity and commitment
- Access to resources
- Bridging Economic Development, Chamber and Community Foundation
- Collaboration and communication
- Poor public policy- lack of strategic direction
- Politics is greater than policy



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- Hearing No!
- Community event lending for youth

How to activate resources and adapt ideas in communities:

- Have intentional awareness, particularly of minority communities:
 - o Go beyond traditional media
 - o Engage with organizations serving people
 - o Target specific communities
- Engage stakeholders- bring them to the table and make them part of the efforts
- Connect to other communities and learn how they are doing things
- Address the root of the issues
- Invite subject matter experts to inform elected officials
- Help leaders lead with policy over politics
- Map out funding streams and resources
- Understand what the goal for the resource/funds are
- Utilize connections to resources
- Utilize strategies already used in other communities
- “Look under the table- who’s there? Who’s missing” invite uncommon voices

How can we use resources- what are the starting points?

- Use investments more wisely- can do big things with reliable funding
- Ensure grantees are diverse- find the groups that haven’t come to you
- Find people working in unconventional ways- help them create their own table
- Ask community foundations how they can invest beyond grantmaking- all foundations can become investors
 - Branch out- find unusual funders
 - Outcomes are important- no results, no program
 - Manage expectations
 - Map out the resources, funders, who to talk to, etc.
 - Develop a sustainability report to show how funds will serve the community
 - Build relationships
 - Develop a strategic vision/plan

Ideas/Information:

- Need housing
 - o Department of Commerce has a housing assessment tool to assist communities
 - o Need housing to support all other efforts
 - o Use resources available- engage with Dept. of Commerce
 - o People will reject jobs if there are no housing options
- KCIF (Education payment for childcare) www.networkedforchange.com
 - o Can funds be levered to assist home-based providers? Hasn’t happened yet but is worth exploring. Funding is currently going to centers but could review

The logo features a network of six colored circles (yellow, orange, teal, green, dark blue, and light blue) connected by thin lines, positioned to the left of the text.

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- o Bring resources to empower home-based providers
- o Republic County has a model related to assisting home-based childcare providers
- o There are home-based providers that have created a hub so help them with administrative assistance as a group.
- o For center-based care, utilize space available from stakeholders- employers, hospital, city/county space, etc.
- o Bring people together to collaborate around solutions and include resources
 - NW KS Innovation Center- building centers for NW KS counties- a roadmap will be available in 3 -4 months

