Two Activities for Community Collaboration

Activity 1: Five Questions in Five Minutes!

This exercise is a first level, whole community engagement strategy to use in situations where you are “taking the temperature” on a topic from a broad spectrum of individuals from your community. It is useful for gathering community voices and perspectives and can be easily used in towns, street fairs, parking lots, health fairs, big city street corners, and college campuses.

The above activity was developed by one of our Charter partners, Threshold Collaborative: www.thresholdcollaborative.org.

Five Simple Questions

1. Information on the person: first name, where they live, what they do.
2. What is the best thing about this community?
3. What is this community’s biggest challenge?
4. If you could have one specific change made in this community, what would it be?
5. Would you like to be part of a longer conversation about improving your community?

Activity 2: Values Leading to Positive Change

Most of us are capable of having violent attitudes and behaviors. Creative Interventions believes that constructing values that can lead to deep and lasting change requires us to take into account both our strongest capacities towards positive change as well as our resistance. These questions are adapted from Section 3 of Creative Interventions Toolkit: A Practical Guide to Stop Interpersonal Violence available at www.creative-interventions.org.

These are five questions to help you identify your individual or group values:
1. What is important to you?
2. At times that you have tried to change your own behavior, what has been helpful? What has made it hard?
3. What are some guiding principles that have helped you in your own life?
4. What are some values that you would like to hold even if they have been difficult or challenging to keep up?
5. What values do you think will lead to lasting positive change?