TAPPING THE POTENTIAL OF COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Nexus Community Partners

October 18, 2018

SAFETY+JUSTICE CHALLENGE

Who We Are

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Today's Objectives

- Develop a common understanding of community engagement

- Explore how community engagement differs from other approaches such as outreach and service

Disclaimers

- We'll be **skimming the surface** with tools, examples and reflection questions

- Consider this an opportunity to **begin the discussion** of integrating CE practices

Definition of Community Engagement

A process that includes multiple techniques to promote the participation of residents in community life, especially those who are excluded and isolated.

Why CE is Important

- Only by **engaging diverse voices** will we solve our most difficult problems.

- The people most **affected by the problems have to have a say** in solving the problem or the solutions will not fit the problem.

- Because of the disenfranchisement/oppression of certain groups, community engagement gives these groups a **process for healing and strengthening** the connections they need to thrive.

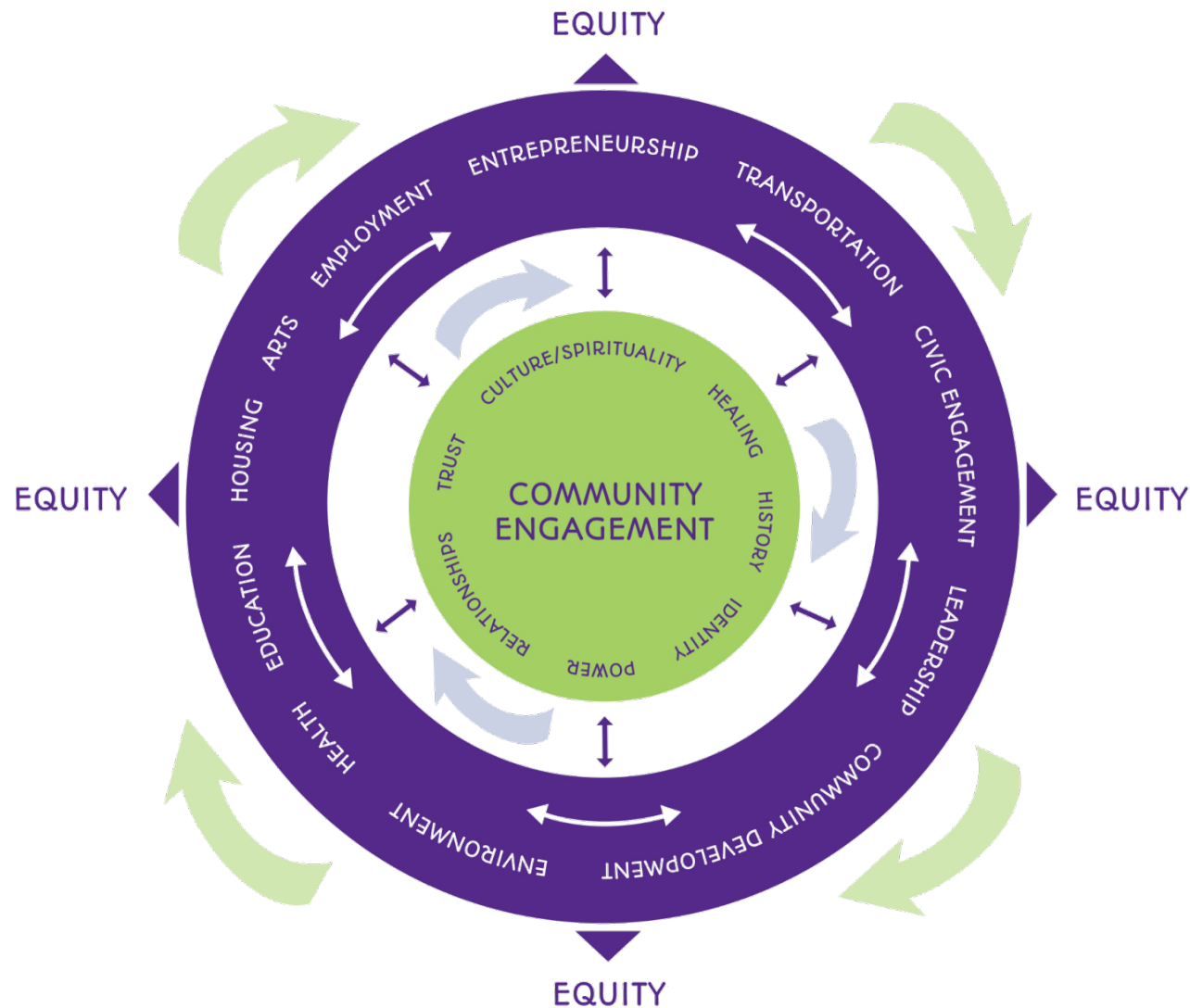# Principles of Community Engagement

- **Gallery Walk**
  - Find the quote or image that resonates with you most

- **With those around you:**
  - What resonated and why?

NCEI Circles of Impact

Pair Share Discussion

CREATE MEANING

❖ What do the words in the green circle mean to you?

❖ How do these concepts relate to your work?

Differences in Participation

- **Service**: The performance of any duties or work *for* another; helpful or professional activity

- **Outreach**: Informing, recruiting, or collecting feedback for ideas and/or projects that are already conceived of by an organization

- **Engagement**: Community members are leaders and producers, not for one specific issue, but in a sustained process for many issues and opportunities as they come up

Community Engagement Assessment Tool

☐ What kind of relationships do you have with community members?

☐ Why are you engaging people?

☐ How are you getting people involved? When?

☐ How do ideas get generated?

☐ How do your organizational policies and structures support engagement?

Fill out the Assessment Tool

- Apply the tool to your work or your organization

- Fill out the assessment tool based on the information you have:

  - As to your personal work

  - As to the work of your department/team

- **In pairs**: *What did you notice?*

Exploring Equity in Community Engagement through Case Studies

- Hosted by Everyday Democracy

- Friday, October 19, 2018 at 10:15am

Thank you!

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