Learning of & for the People: The Razalogia Approach to Family Engagement
Amistades is a Latino-led, Latino-serving, 501 (c) 3 non-profit community development organization serving Pima County and Southern Arizona.

Amistades has four focus areas: substance abuse prevention services for high-risk youth and families, family support services for low-income populations, cultural enrichment initiatives and training for service delivery providers.
Tucson / Pima County / Borderlands
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Artwork by Marcelino Flores, Pascua Yaqui Tribe
People of the Borderlands
Razalogia Family Engagement Project

Amistades, Inc.

Advisory Council

- Early Childhood Education
- Workforce Development
- Parenting Education
- Family Leadership
- Promotora
- El Comite

Transformation

Language & Culture

Systems Change
Objectives

- Attendees will learn how to foster mutual understanding within their community.

- Attendees will learn the importance of positive outlooks such as “EL SI” vs. “EL NO”.

- Attendees will learn how to co-power and co-produce effective plans of action and projects that are relevant to their respective communities.
Family Activism by Roberto Vargas
Family Activism by Roberto Vargas
Family Activism Concepts and Philosophy

- Conocimiento
- Unidad
- Poder
- Confianza
#1 Share the story of your name

Obj. 1 - Attendees will learn how to foster mutual understanding within their community
“...real connection occurs when you take time to meaningfully get to know each other.”

Dr. Roberto Vargas
**Conocimiento - What does it mean?**

Comes from the word conocer, which means getting acquainted

When people get acquainted, they create connection

Part of 4 core steps in family activism

**Conocimiento – Why is it important?**

Conocimiento is knowing someone in a way in which you can better support them

Continuous knowing creates stronger connection

There is more power in relationships where we are connected

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Obj. 1 - Attendees will learn how to foster mutual understanding within their community
Conocimiento - How is it culturally grounded?
There is an emotional and social connection to culture
Based on sharing conversation and storytelling
Strong focus on family

Conocimiento – How does it relate to family engagement?
Enhances your ability to increase family interconnection, unity & power
Creates a better community where supporting each other is desired and comes easily

Obj. 1 - Attendees will learn how to foster mutual understanding within their community
Using **conocimiento** in the community

The Unity Principal calls upon activists & organizations to involve groups in developing relationships of connection and trust that can lead to power.

**Obj. 1** - Attendees will learn how to foster mutual understanding within their community.
Using *conocimiento* in the community

The quality of the experience varies based on the group

Obj. 1 - Attendees will learn how to foster mutual understanding within their community
Using conocimiento with donors

Obj. 1 - Attendees will learn how to foster mutual understanding within their community
Using conocimiento with other non-profit agencies

Obj. 1 - Attendees will learn how to foster mutual understanding within their community
Using *conocimiento* with government leaders

Obj. 1 - Attendees will learn how to foster mutual understanding within their community
Using conocimiento with schools

Obj. 1 - Attendees will learn how to foster mutual understanding within their community
**Conocimiento - Community driven programming**

**Challenge**
Lack of opportunities for school/program staff to build the capacity for partnership

**Conditions for Success**
- **System Conditions**
  - Systemic
  - Integrated
  - Sustained
- **Process Conditions**
  - Linked to Learning
  - Relational
  - Developmental
  - Collaborative
  - Interactive

**Policies & Initiatives**
**Focus/ Purposes**
To enhance the “4 C’s of capacity among staff and Families:
- Capabilities
- Connections
- Cognition
- Confidence

**Outcomes**
- **Effective Home/School Partnerships**
  - Supporting Student Achievement & School Improvement
- **School & Program Staff Who Can:**
  - Honor and Recognize Families’ Funds of Knowledge
  - Connect Family Engagement to Student Learning
  - Create Welcoming, Inviting Cultures

- **Families Who Can Negotiate Multiple Roles:**
  - Supporters
  - Advocates
  - Encouragers
  - Decision Makers
  - Monitors
  - Collaborators

Obj. 1 - Attendees will learn how to foster mutual understanding within their community
Conocimiento in Family Engagement Activities

Conocimiento is used in various settings such as: anticipatory sets, group activities, and closing circles

Obj. 1 - Attendees will learn how to foster mutual understanding within their community
How will you use conocimiento in your service delivery?
Round #1
State your name
Share your answer to the following question: “How has negativity served as a barrier to you and how did you overcome it?”

Obj. 2 - Attendees will learn the importance of positive outlooks such as “EL NO” vs. “EL SI”
Round #2
To each member of your group extend thanks for the gifts (leadership qualities or commitment) they bring to our community

Obj. 2 - Attendees will learn the importance of positive outlooks such as “EL NO” vs. “EL SI”
Obj. 2 - Attendees will learn the importance of positive outlooks such as “EL NO” vs. “EL SI”
EL NO & EL SI

How have you experienced EL NO – what people or experiences have said you’re not good enough?

What have been your experiences of EL SI – people or experiencing validating your worth?

Obj. 2 - Attendees will learn the importance of positive outlooks such as “EL NO” vs. “EL SI”
Power & Co-Power through Unity

Process used co-powering communication resulting in program model used in our first year (pre-pilot)

Razalogia – Of the people, for the people

Obj. 3 - Attendees will learn how to co-power and co-produce effective plans of action and projects that are relevant to their respective communities
Pilot Test Latino Curriculum
Pilot Test Urban American Indian Curriculum
Formative Evaluation Ongoing

Develop Pilot Curriculum

Pilot Test Latino Curriculum
Pilot Test Urban American Indian Curriculum
Identify Latino Razologia Theme Units
Identify Indigenous Theme Units
Develop Curriculum Development Plan

Parents as Leaders: School-Based Curriculum Development Conceptual Framework for Engaging Urban American Indian and Latino Families

Formulate Curriculum Development Team

Co-Produce Final Draft, Train Trainers on Final Draft, and Implement

Obj. 3 - Attendees will learn how to co-power and co-produce effective plans of action and projects that are relevant to their respective communities
Participatory Action Research Method
Approach

Obj. 3 - Attendees will learn how to co-power and co-produce effective plans of action and projects that are relevant to their respective communities.
How will you use co-power and co-production in your service delivery?
Obj. 1 - Attendees will learn how to foster mutual understanding within their community.
How are Unity Circles utilized in programming?

Obj. 1 - Attendees will learn how to foster mutual understanding within their community.
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Unity Circle Exercise

Obj. 1 - Attendees will learn how to foster mutual understanding within their community
Objectives Review

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Attendees will learn the importance of positive outlooks such as “EL SI” vs. “EL NO”.

Attendees will learn how to co-power and co-produce effective plans of action and projects that are relevant to their respective communities.
Q & A
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Tlazocamati – Gracias – Thank You