Community Engagement Project (CEP)

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COMMUNITY CONVERSATION
What is a Community Conversation?

- Usually a 3 - 4 hour event where diverse members of the community discuss ways of ensuring student success in their community.

- The structure of the event is well defined and field tested with much success around the country.
Who should Participate in Your Community Conversation?

• A diverse cross-section of stakeholders and community members

• A range of 60-150 community participants in the large group and not more than 14 people in each small group breakout
## Sample Goals and Objectives

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Goals</th>
<th>Objectives</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Create an open, two-way conversation</td>
<td>• Build community capacity</td>
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<td>• Build/enhance community collaboration</td>
<td>• Find common ground</td>
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<td>• Establish innovative partnerships</td>
<td>• Identify priority needs</td>
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<tr>
<td>Time</td>
<td>Event</td>
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<tr>
<td>6:00pm</td>
<td>Registration &amp; Dinner (30 min.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>6:30pm</td>
<td>Large Group Powerpoint (30 min.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:00pm</td>
<td>Small Group Discussions led by Moderators/Recorders (1 hr. 50 min.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:00pm</td>
<td>Large Group-Report Out (30 min.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:30pm</td>
<td>Next Steps and Adjourn (10-15 min.)</td>
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**Moderators/Recorders stay after event for short evaluation.**
COMMUNITY CONVERSATION PROJECT
OVERVIEW
How does the Community Engagement Project work?

- State/local identifies a local community
- Submit a proposal to MCOP for funding a community conversation
- Engage in a 4-Step Community Engagement Process:
  - Community-wide Conversation
  - Analysis of Conversation and Needs Identified
  - Planning for Mobilization
  - Community Training
- Utilize template structure and materials
- Schedule training of local moderators and recorders
What is the 4-Step Process?

**STEP 1**
- Readiness/Relationship-building
- Establishment of Organizing Coalition
- Moderator/Recorder Training
- 1st Community Conversation Event

**STEP 2**
- Organizing Coalition Analyzes the Data

**STEP 3**
- 2\textsuperscript{ND} Community Conversation Event - Create Community Action Plan

**STEP 4**
- Training and Community Mobilization
Examples of Success
Putnam City West High School, OK

- Increased School Participation by Hispanic Families
- Informal Support Groups developed between Hispanic Parents to Enhance Student Success
- Increase in Attendance, Test Scores, and Graduation Rates
- District-Wide Training to Improve Teacher Practice for ELL Students
- Project Enhancement through Urban Grant
Columbus, OH

- Gained community support for new STEM Academy
- Created Support for Levy to Increase Teachers’ Salaries
- Improved relationships with parents, teachers, and community members
- Initiated High-quality Service-Learning Partnerships among students and community based organizations
NEA Builds on Success, Expands Community Engagement
“These are all our children. We will either profit by or pay for what they become.”

- James Baldwin