

**Community Café: The Harvest  
SPO-CAN Council  
September Meeting**

**Date:** Sept. 9, 2011

**Location:** Salvation Army  
Spokane, WA

**Host(s):**

Barb Giachetti

**What questions were asked at the Café?**

1. What is the deep reason that brings you here to the SPO-CAN community?
2. What relationship do you want with the SPO-CAN community?
3. What do I need to do to build/contribute to this Council?

**Question #1**

- ✓ Is what you are doing now working?; play-not by rules/too many rules-develop imagination; make better for kids; stopping at every lemonade stand—know who is who watching out for all kids not just own kids
- ✓ Kids used to be looked at as small adults; allow them to be children again
- ✓ Place for all to come together; a link for groups & know what each other doing; name to face making personal connections-relationships
- ✓ Building community; interdependence vs. independence
- ✓ Who is welcome—new people? Connection; networking; referrals;
- ✓ Personal passion-us and colleagues to work on community mind shift towards prevention; shift perspectives
- ✓ Past job where involved in political activities & parents; chance to do more work with families & give them a voice
- ✓ Redefine SPO-CAN-Synergy of coming together-get out of our silos and grow membership/Educate & become stronger w/numbers; like to see parents come; collaboration is more powerful than working alone
- ✓ Giving respect to families; Hard when you are building parents up-using respect then they are treated poorly by other agencies
- ✓ Not always able to attend; connected with community/invested in children/get out of immediate firefighting
- ✓ Children's Administration has become less involved & need a way to re-connect; passion for prevention of child abuse with kids being the connection
- ✓ Website? What is concrete message about the mission? We can get tunnel vision with our agencies
- ✓ Take your personal buy-in back to wherever you travel.
- ✓ OKOB really helped in creating partnerships
- ✓ Not just a meeting with Executive Directors but meet with a diverse group of people

**Question #2**

- ✓ This was powerful, authentic—comfortable atmosphere with table toys—very inviting
- ✓ Focus-kids & families
- ✓ Love to see growth-know SPO-CAN & OKOB name and people involved

- ✓ Trust; shared passion & interest; networking; others have your back; relationship building-getting to know what others are looking for in terms of resources
- ✓ Link & connect with other community agencies
- ✓ Coming together of wisdom throughout community; supportive participant; ask for support & wisdom from the group; attend;
- ✓ Like open conversation; knowing what others doing;
- ✓ Fear we are going to miss what going on in agencies such as taking action & doing a lot with a little
- ✓ Provides voice; grow so all know & businesses make it their business to be involved
- ✓ Bring all—more voices
- ✓ Candid honest message; comfortable like home—where I belong
- ✓ Powerful, authenticity, relaxing, collaboration, ideas; learn from others
- ✓ Collaboration & personal relationships could lead to more of same; share wisdom, ideas, foundation knowledge
- ✓ Helps others get to know my agency

### **Question #3**

- ✓ Connect with faith-based community
- ✓ Bring others including stay at home parents
- ✓ Connect with business community
- ✓ Go where the people are
- ✓ How do we have a speakers group getting out our message? Speakers Bureau Committee?
- ✓ Attend; contribute, participate; pay dues; get wisdom from room; bring gifts; personal investment
- ✓ Speak out about who we are-breadth & depth-in everyday conversation
- ✓ Retrain—new roles
- ✓ Identify gaps—collaboration with all meetings that go on & complement each other
- ✓ Action item needed to walk away with after meeting

### **Harvest: Take-a-ways from today and what are our next steps.**

- ✓ Enthusiasm
- ✓ Sense of community
- ✓ Grow message
- ✓ Rather than updates, invite parents to com to SPO-CAN & OKOB
- ✓ Process-creativity of ideas and shared interests

### **How many participants?**

***About 15 adults***

***Duplicated: 5***

### **What community partners were there?**

***Children Home Society-1 staff***

***Helen Jones, Consultant***