

Community Café: The Harvest

Date: August 11, 2011

Location: Starting Strong Conference
Spokane, WA

Hosts:

Mary Schauer, Fatima Gonzalez Galindo, Barb Giachetti

Special Guest: Chris Sogn

Graphic Recorder: Kristi Sogn

What questions were asked at the Café?

1. What is important about knowing that all five of the protective factors are needed in order for a child to thrive?
2. What relationships do I want with my community (school, families, children, community partners)?
3. What do I need to do in order to build partnerships? (ex. Change in time, location, change in my attitude about who has valuable input)

Question #1

- ✓ Focus on adults-self reflective/Adults can see themselves in the “mirror” & self-assess
- ✓ Interconnected/Opportunity to learn from others
- ✓ Feel love, attachment, safe
- ✓ Know what resources the community partners have to offer regarding the protective factors
- ✓ Others can help out but what if one (picture of puzzle piece) is missing?
- ✓ All five lead to access, basic food/shelter, trust, holistic, meeting needs, resourceful, do for themselves, look at their strengths
- ✓ Lack leads to trauma then cycle plus generational
- ✓ “Social brains turn on computational brains.” Patricia Kuhl
- ✓ Community belief-support in/of parents & families
- ✓ Community support-financial, social, volunteer, help-children with activities & opportunity/Helps know what supports parents need
- ✓ Food/Sleep/Feel respected/Opportunities to choose, explore, nutrition/Love-attachment/”Feel” Safety/Meaningful relationship with others
- ✓ Feel nurtured/Have a voice

Question #2

- ✓ Acceptance/Sense of pace/safety/Support
- ✓ Pride/Modeling positive behavior collectively/Shared stewardship
- ✓ To know neighbors
- ✓ Sense of shared ownership
- ✓ It “takes a village” to raise a child/Know what partners offer
- ✓ Interconnectivity-putting a face to the resource
- ✓ Trust with partners/Open partnerships & supportive relationships/Don’t have to do it all/Mutual respect/ Communication & collaboration with parents
- ✓ Transparency/On the same page/Mutual respect
- ✓ Credibility-inclusion-be seen as a resource
- ✓ Actively engaged
- ✓ Diversity is acceptable & should be nurtured

- ✓ Allow children to fail without feeling like a failure
- ✓ Genuine/Communication
- ✓ Acceptance
- ✓ Diversity-equals/Learn from each other/Build mutual respect
- ✓ Validated/Feel important
- ✓ Empowering/Inclusive/Input/2-way/Communicative-vocal/Partners/
Resources/Supportive/Common goals/Understanding/Long-lasting/Research based/
- ✓ Integrated & Inter-connections: Example: Sending someone to a live and familiar resource rather than a hotline

Question #3

- ✓ Join/Reach out/Participate regularly/Be willing to take the lead occasionally but defer too/Get out & talk to people/Keep trying/Demonstrate benefits to partners/Step out of our comfort zone
- ✓ Be creative/Shared vision
- ✓ Make opportunities for everyone to be heard
- ✓ Get past your fears
- ✓ Value the children
- ✓ More than one way—learn from each other
- ✓ Understanding community needs, players, cultures/Culture maybe different/Relationships change
- ✓ Need to be relevant/mutually beneficial
- ✓ Offer meetings at different times, days, locations
- ✓ Encourage “bringing a friend” to meetings
- ✓ Be open-minded
- ✓ Listening/Responsive/Present
- ✓ Sharing skills & expertise
- ✓ Build from existing foundation/Common goals
- ✓ Identify stakeholders: Who are they? Then What do they want?—We are only one of the stakeholders
- ✓ Friendly—step out/Flexible protocol/Centrally located/Grow & expand
- ✓ Creativity-break from “norm” if needed

Harvest--Take-a-ways from today:

- ✓ Start a Café
- ✓ Bring parents and staff together—no experts but share understanding, learning, information—staff not doing the leading—let parents lead too
- ✓ Exchange/Collaboration

How many participants? 35

What community partners were there?

How many children? None