

# Sustaining Healthy Communities

## Healthy Neighborhoods Learning Collaborative Convening

**December 1, 2017**

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Technical Assistance Director

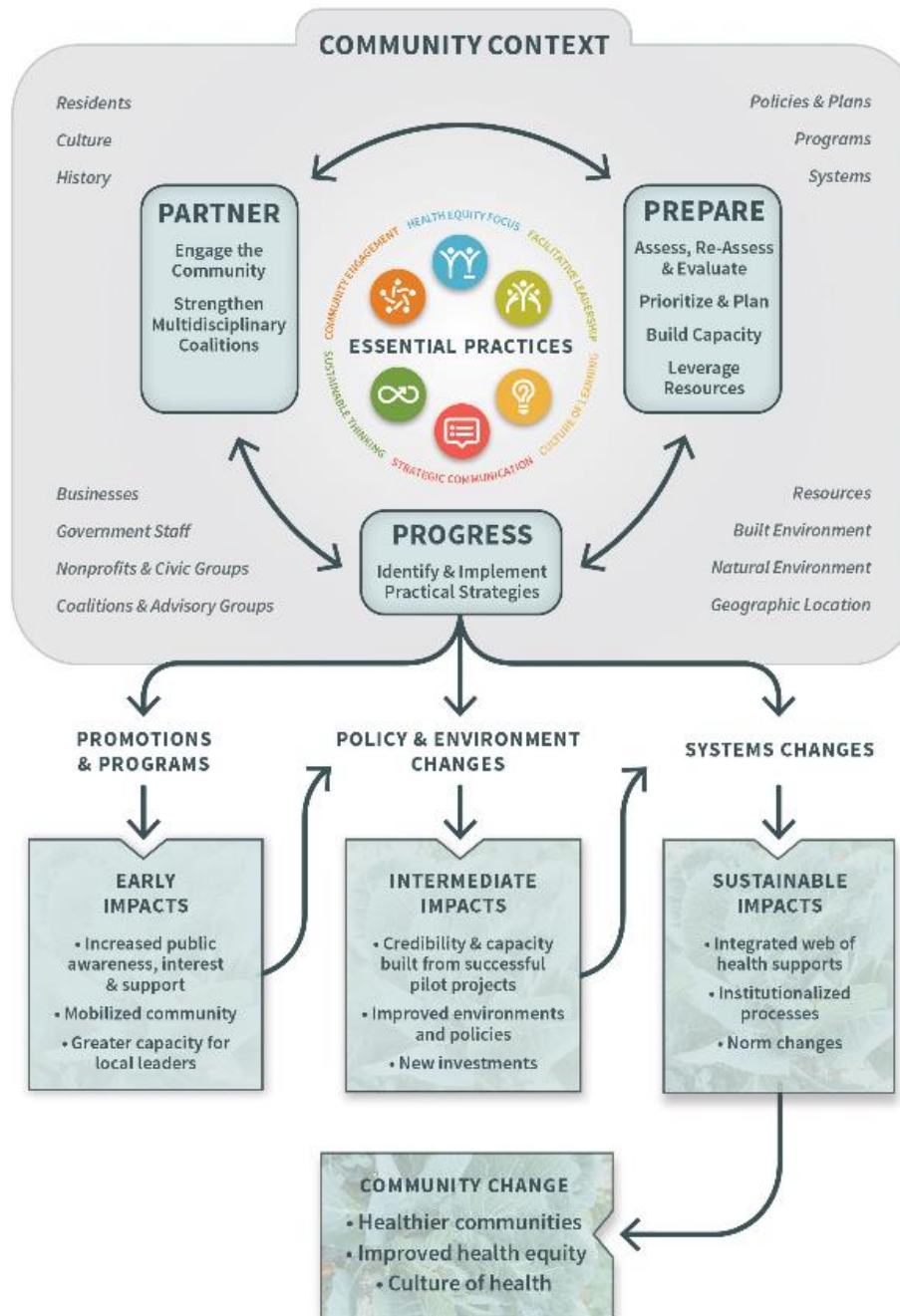
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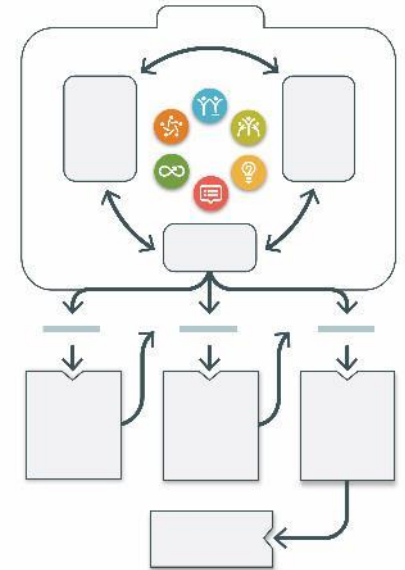
# Agenda

- ALBD's Framework for Sustaining Healthy Communities
- How are You Planning for Sustainability?
- Taking Steps to Sustain Healthy Communities



# Six Essential Practices

-  **Health Equity Focus**
-  **Community Engagement**
-  **Facilitative Leadership**
-  **Sustainable Thinking**
-  **Culture of Learning**
-  **Strategic Communication**



# Sustainable Thinking



**A consideration of the social, environmental, and economic assets and opportunities that are necessary for successful and lasting community change.**

- Think about sustaining work long before end of a project or grant period.
- More likely to see investments renewed, replicated, and continued.
- Requires strategies that focus on policies, systems, and built environments.
- Leverage human, in-kind, and financial resources.



# Sustaining Healthy Communities

STREAMS		INFORMAL ←					→ STRATEGIC & INTENTIONAL
PARTNER	<b>PARTNER-SHIPS</b>	Let interested partners initiate collaboration.	Develop collaborative/ partnership informally or reactively.	Identify and implement strategic communication channels.	Build resilience within partnerships by distributing leadership among members.	Share resources between partners and maximize and deploy existing strengths and assets.	Integrate partners' visions and expertise into existing systems, operations, and budgets.
	<b>LEADER-SHIP</b>	Let leadership develop by osmosis.	Send staff, partners, community leaders, and elected officials to learning and networking opportunities.	Plan and implement grassroots and grass-tops capacity building efforts.	Create opportunities for partners and residents, especially youth, to become champions for community health and contribute lasting energy and ideas.	Develop and implement a plan to provide ongoing support and training to elected officials and decision makers.	
PROGRESS	<b>ENVIRON-MENTS</b>	Wait for environmental/ physical changes to happen.	Seek opportunities to influence new capital and physical projects.	Seek systematic changes in policies, standards, and practices related to long-term upgrades and maintenance.	Ensure that relevant policy/systems changes are implemented.	Ensure that healthy environments become the norm across the community.	
	<b>POLICIES / SYSTEMS</b>	Wait for policies and systems to evolve.	Assess needs and conduct audits of policies and systems.	Advocate for priority policy practices, standards, resources, and supports.	Ensure implementation of relevant systems changes that advance/ reinforce central policy objectives.	Select strategies that are mutually reinforcing, including a mix of "quick wins," mid-term milestones, and those with potential for long-term support.	Maintain and expand the grassroots and grasstops capacity that support policy/systems.
PREPARE	<b>RESOURCES</b>	No clearly defined process for seeking additional funds.	Ask partners for ongoing commitments of in-kind support.	Write grant proposals for state, federal, and foundation funding and support.	Approach and develop relationships with a variety of funders for larger, longer-term support.	Develop and implement a strategic fundraising plan that tracks performance measures and capacity to secure resources.	Sustain ongoing funding stream.

# Activity

## Activity Instructions (25 minutes):

1. Work with your partners to assess your current sustainability strategies.
1. Spend a few minutes reading through examples on the framework.
2. Choose a project component to focus on today to strengthen sustainability.
3. Circle where your partnership is along each of the continuums. If you don't see an example that is an exact fit, write in your tailored example.
4. Discuss:
  - How easy/difficult was it to assess where you are along each sustainability stream/continuum?
  - What conditions or experiences have/are influencing where you are currently?



*How easy/difficult was it to assess where you are along each sustainability continuum?*

*What conditions or experiences have/are influencing where you are currently?*



# Activity

## Activity Instructions (40 minutes):

1. Select one of the sustainability areas you'd like to focus on:
  - Partnerships, Leadership
  - Environments, Policies/Systems
  - Resources
2. Organize in groups of 5-6 and use the worksheet to discuss:
  - What opportunities are there to move toward more sustainable activities/actions?
  - What examples and lessons learned can you share to help each other develop action steps towards improved sustainability?
3. Note at least one immediate action you will take toward improved sustainability along the continuum.
4. Be prepared to share what you've gained when you reconvene.

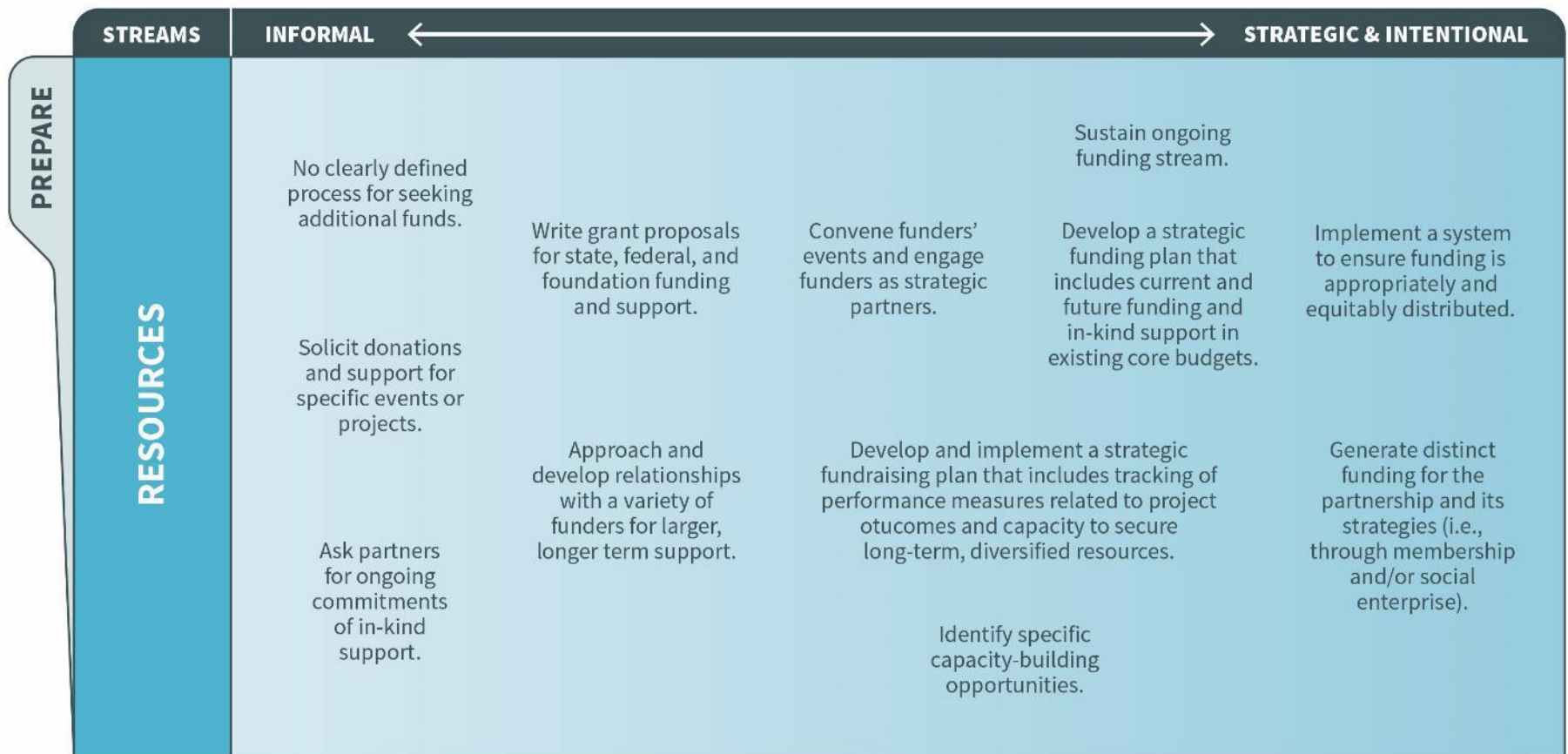
# Partnerships, Leadership

STREAMS		←—————→			
		INFORMAL		STRATEGIC & INTENTIONAL	
PARTNER	PARTNERSHIPS	Let interested partners initiate collaboration.	Formalize partnership with charter agreements, MOUs, and governing structure.	Establish the partnership as an official advisory council or commission to local government.	Integrate partners' visions and expertise into existing systems, operations, and budgets.
		Develop collaborative/partnership informally or reactively.	Build resilience within partnerships by distributing leadership among members.	Partnership becomes an independent organization/entity.	Develop and implement a plan for partners to adopt and integrate the work and vision.
		Develop and implement strategic communication channels like listservs, websites, and social networking sites.		Share resources between partners and maximize and deploy existing strengths and assets.	
LEADERSHIP		Let leadership develop by osmosis.	Send elected officials, staff, and partners to conferences and trainings.	Plan and implement grassroots and grassroots capacity building efforts like resident advocacy training, briefs for lawmakers, and presentations to boards, journalists, or funders.	Implement a system to train and equip leaders to become healthy community champions and influential members of decision-making groups.
		Send staff to conferences and trainings.	Send community leaders, residents, elected officials, staff and partners to learning and networking opportunities, including peer-to-peer site visits.	Create opportunities for partners and residents, especially youth, to become champions for community health and contribute lasting energy and ideas.	Develop or enhance requirements for equitable citizen participation in public decisions.

# Environments, Policies/Systems

STREAMS		INFORMAL ←			→ STRATEGIC & INTENTIONAL	
PROGRESS	ENVIRONMENTS	Wait for environmental/physical changes to happen.	Seek opportunities to influence new capital and physical projects (i.e., parks, markets, street or trail improvements, public transit, gardens).	Seek systematic changes in policies, standards and practices related to long-term upgrades and maintenance.	Ensure that healthy environments become the norm across the community.	
		Support environmental changes in response to requests for specific changes.	Assess needs and conduct built environment audits.  Develop a policy or standard for building new facilities across the community.	Ensure implementation of relevant policy/system changes.	Develop and track performance measures to assess project implementation, train professional staff, and secure permanent resources.  Include a complete array of healthy community design principles in comprehensive plans and integrate with all related plans.	
	POLICIES / SYSTEMS	Wait for policy and systems to evolve.	Assess needs and conduct audits of policies and systems.  Understand and identify policy/system priorities.	Advocate for priority policy practices, standards or resources, and supports.  Deepen knowledge about the system supports required for success.	Ensure implementation of relevant systems changes that advance/reinforce central policy objectives.	Develop and track performance measures to assess implementation of policy/systems change.
		Educate partners and residents about the importance of policy change.  Seek opportunities to learn from others who are leading policy advocacy efforts.	Build relationships and mobilize leaders and partners at all levels.  Identify and support healthy community champions.	Seek systematic changes in practices, standards, resources, and training which advance policy implementation.	Maintain and expand the grassroots and grassstops capacity that supports policy and systems change across the community.	

# Resources





# Activity

## Activity Instructions (30 minutes):

1. Reconvene with your partners.
2. Share what you've worked on and gained during the previous activity with your partners.
3. Discuss action steps to take next as a partnership to strengthen sustainability.





*What action step are  
you excited to  
implement?*

# Thank You!

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