

Building Collaborative Capacity

Brown Bag Lunch Series



How can we navigate complex challenges and respond to changes in ways that strengthen our community?

New Directions
COLLABORATIVE



Wednesday, June
14 from 12-1:30

*Listening for
understanding and
innovation*

How can you listen one-on-one and design larger meetings and public engagement in ways that increase shared understanding and lead to innovative approaches that integrate many perspectives?



Wednesday, June
21 from 12-1:30

*Working together for
collective impact*

How can we move beyond fragmented approaches to work in aligned, connected ways that address the interdependent nature of issues we face, such as housing shortages affecting business growth?



Tuesday, June 27
from 12-1:30

*Staying connected for
peer-to-peer learning
and collaboration*

What does it mean to be a collective resource for each other going forward? How might we keep these conversations going?



Connect before content: Introductions

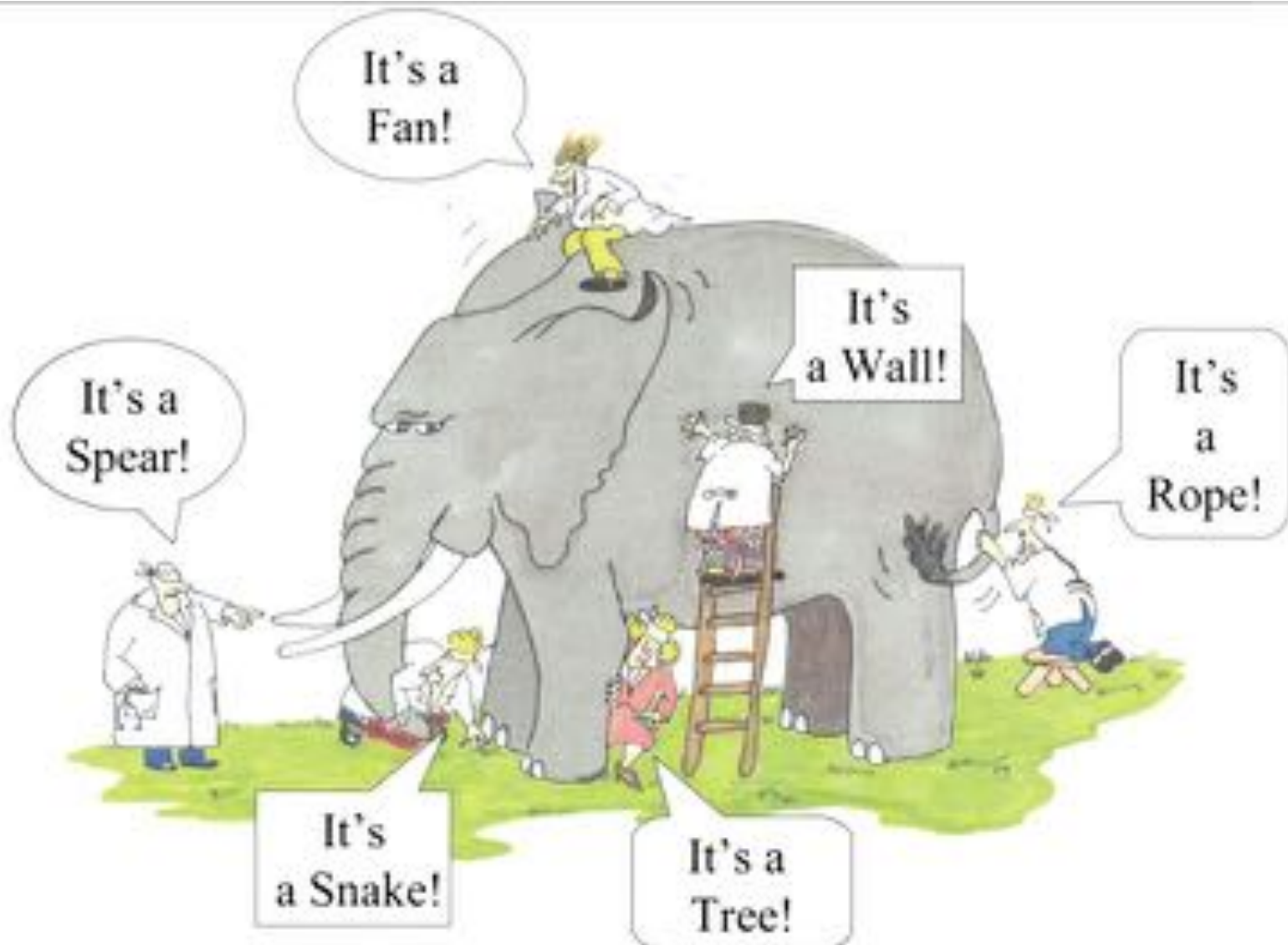
Name

Organization

A place you love in NH



What you see depends on where you stand



Participatory process builds system awareness



Conversations break down siloes.



Dimensions/stages of collaborative work



***What are the most important conversations
we are not having?***

1



2



4



All

Individually

write down your
ideas

In pairs,

share and discuss
each of your ideas

Join another pair,

discuss ideas
as a group and note
common themes

Whole group
discusses
highlights

3 min.

5 min.

8 min.

5 min.

Harvest





**A well-framed question
creates a container for
people to discover
answers together.**

**Questions can serve
as a catalyst to
inspire movement,
reflection, and
creative thinking.**

**Strategic questions are framed in an open way,
for example:**

- What would it take to...
- How could we...
- Who might you...
- When has...
- What have we learned about...
- What might be...

Questions are like the banks of the river to bound the conversation.



Search for Insight

Share a challenge.

Write down strategic
questions.

Share back. Reflect.

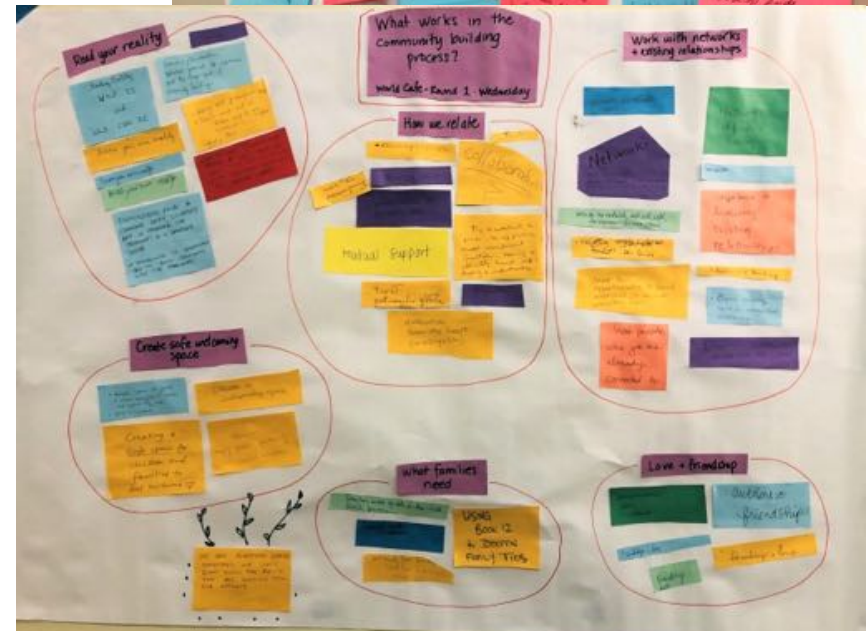
Take them home...



Stories of applying strategic questions in practice



Sample agenda



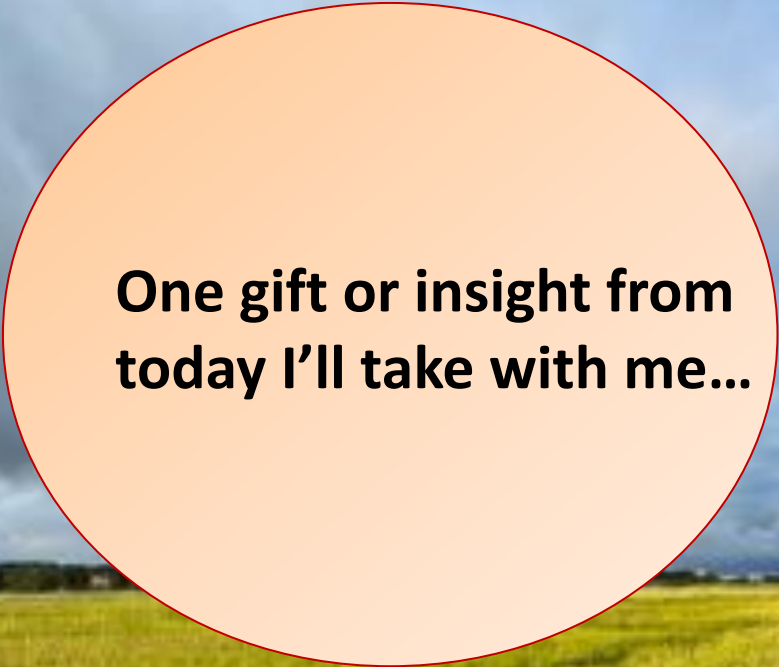
Sample Agenda – One-Day Meeting

Context: About 12 organizations who work in similar area (i.e., helping students to get into college,) were asked to collaborate by their funder.

Desired Outcomes:

- Identification of key areas this group wants to work on together
- Identification of the key strengths, gaps and overlaps in the group
- Specific ideas for how our work together can be aligned to best provide support to students
- Questions for future discussion about the “how” of working together
- Strengthened relationships and more trust

<u>Time</u>	<u>Topic</u>
9:00	Context, objectives for this gathering, and introductions
	Defining the next evolution of our work - <i>What do we want to do together?</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Assume you have ample funding and that being involved with this group was not a request/requirement of the funder, what would make this so valuable that you would make time for it?• How might this collaboration enable you/your organization to support students in ways that you can't do alone?
	“Fire starter stories” (from New Directions Collaborative) <p>Stories to spark ideas for what this group could be – examples of collective impact structures, frameworks to organize collective work</p>
	Mid-Morning Break
	Prioritizing the focus and purpose of this group and implications for our work <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What is the desired purpose of this group?• What are priority areas we would like to explore further to define specific projects?• Who else should be at the table or could we partner/connect to?



**One gift or insight from
today I'll take with me...**

