

Evaluating the PLACE MATTERS Initiative

A National Assessment of Community Efforts to Address the Social Determinants of Health



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Our Discussion

Introduce the PLACE MATTERS evaluation

- Overview of the theory of change guiding the evaluation
- National evaluation purpose and focus
- Distinguish proposed evaluation from previous discussions on success/benchmarking
- Components of national evaluation

Pilot one evaluation component

- Team Assessment Worksheet
- Feedback & reflections

PLACE MATTERS

Mission



Contribute to HPI's fair health movement by increasing communities' ability to address the social determinants of health (SDOH)

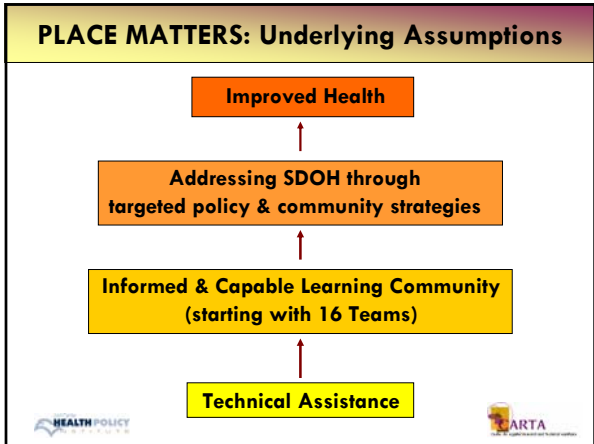
Goal

Establish a national learning community (16 teams) to design and implement strategies to address SDOH

Objectives

- Provide technical assistance to teams
- Connect teams to professional resources & networks



Change: What Will it Take?

Professional & Personal Transformation

- Increased understanding and awareness of SDOH
- Willingness to speak out about SDOH
- Including others in the discussion
- Strategic networking

(Timeframe: 1-2 years)

Short-term Progress



- Clarification of priorities, health outcomes, & SDOH
- Understanding and use of “up-streaming” in thinking and planning
- Clarification of data needed
- Use of tools to guide planning and track progress (logic models)
- Begin strategic planning
- Shifting priorities
- Engaging others within and outside health sector

(Timeframe: 1-3 years)

Intermediate Progress

- Implement strategic plan
- Establish data tracking
- Shifting of resources
- Collaborate across sectors to address SDOH
- Establish upstream practices & social policies



(Timeframe: 3-6 years)



Impact/Long-term Progress



- Increased equity across health outcomes
- Increased equity in SDOH
- Increased visibility for PLACE MATTERS
- Sustained practices and social policies

(Timeframe: 7+ years)



Available Support/Resources

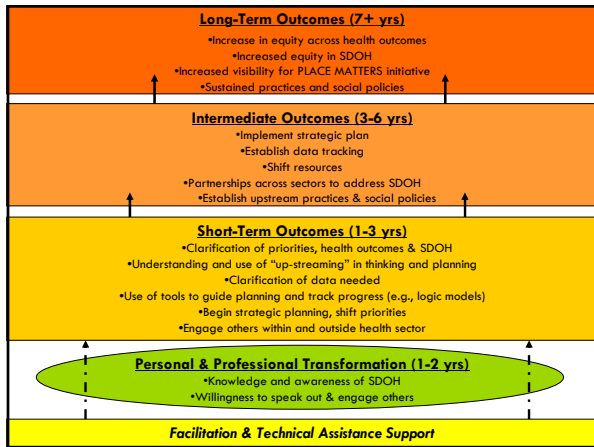
- Design labs
- Facilitator support (e.g., phone calls, TA)
- TA grants
- Local meetings
- National experts & resource materials
- Peer-to-peer learning



THE BIG PICTURE

Putting it all together...






Purpose of National Evaluation

Three Primary Questions:

1. Can a national learning community create momentum sufficient to increase attention given to the social determinants of health and to improve health?
2. Can the package of supports provided by PLACE MATTERS facilitate the national learning community's efforts?
3. Under what conditions is PLACE MATTERS most effective?



National Evaluation Focus

- Document collective progress of teams
 - Transition from short through long-term outcomes
- Assess political and organizational conditions
 - What conditions help or hinder team efforts?
 - Under what conditions can PLACE MATTERS enable teams to be successful?
- Document supports delivered and use of supports
- Understand relative contribution of supports to team success



National Evaluation vs. Previous Discussions

- Previous Discussions
 - Health Equity Index – SDOH & Health Equity Benchmarking
 - Consensus workshop – Success indicators for Health Equity
- Previous discussions focused on *long-term outcomes*
- Requires strong data foundation, need to begin early in the process
- May take several years to see consistent change in health outcomes and SDOH



National Evaluation vs. Previous Discussions


Also need...

- A way to document progress on more immediate goals of PLACE MATTERS
- Determine what is working well, what/where improvements are needed
- Illustrate to funders ability of PLACE MATTERS to promote team capacity



National Evaluation Components

- ✓ Individual & collective team assessments
- Telephone interviews
- Review of interim project reports
- Documentation of capacity building supports delivered, frequency of team involvement in support activities, perceived usefulness/gaps in supports
- Documentation of SDOH and health equity targets
- Tracking of SDOH and health equity outcomes


HEALTH POLICY PARTNERSHIP 


Breakout Session: Working as a Team

Team Assessment

Reflect on Efforts


Report to Group



HEALTH POLICY PARTNERSHIP 

Team Assessment Worksheet: Components

- Team Characteristics and Background Information
- Team Knowledge and Comfort with SDOH
- Team Efforts in Addressing SDOH
- Capacity Building Supports
- Feedback/Additional Thoughts

HEALTH POLICY PARTNERSHIP 

Team Assessment Worksheet: *Instructions*

- Work as a team
- Assign a spokesperson to complete assessment and report back to the group
- If stuck, move on to the next module and come back
- Complete as much as possible
- Turn in assessment
- Follow up call for more details, as needed



Thank You!



Please direct additional comments about the assessment or this session to:

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