



Constructive Dialogue: Dialogue to Decision Making with Coalition Members

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Level of Complexity of the Issue

Simple

Issue is clear and there are determined approaches

Complex
Emerging practices

Community of Practice

Video

Webinar

Online Module

In-Person Training

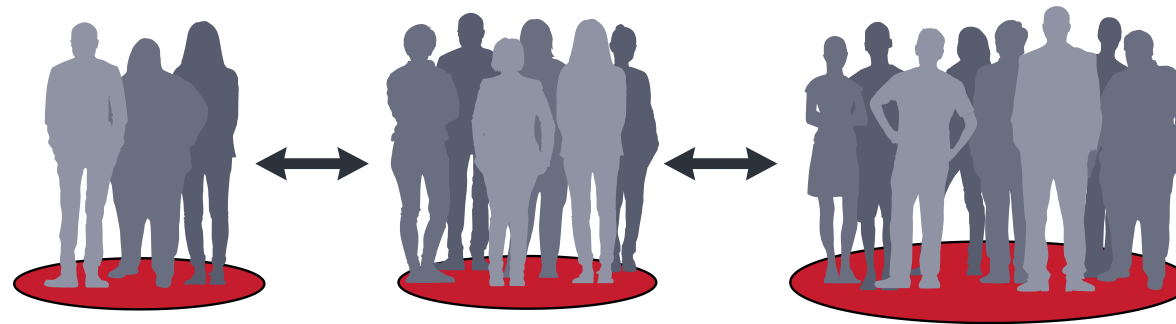
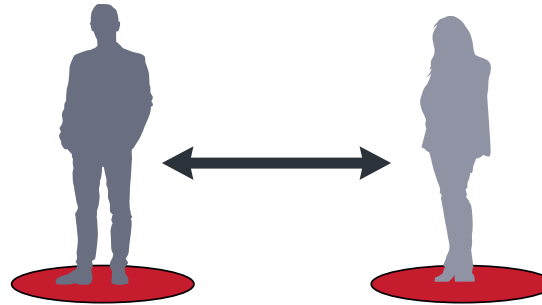
Online Toolkit

In-Person Workshop

Online Course

ECHO Series

**KNOWLEDGE HELD BY ONE HAS
THE POWER TO CHANGE LIVES.**



**TEAM OF
EXPERTS**

**COMMUNITY
PROVIDERS**

**HIGH
IMPACT**

TO ECHO IS TO LEARN, TO SHARE, TO ENGAGE AND TO CONNECT.



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Agenda

- Small Group Introductions
- Presentation
- Small Group Discussion
- Large Group Discussion

Small Group Introduction

1. What is your name?
2. What coalition do you represent?
3. How long have you been engaged with coalition work as a leader?
4. What does your leadership role in the coalition look like?
5. What is one challenge you're experiencing with your coalition?

PRESENTATION

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Agenda

- Why use coalition-driven approaches
- Different types of coalitions
- Hallmarks of strong coalitions
- Defining constructive dialogue among coalition members
- Differentiate between productive and non-productive dialogue
- Discussion

Describe a successful coalition



Presentation Assumptions

- There are a myriad of different types of coalitions
- Coalitions can conserve resources
- Coalitions can achieve more widespread reach within a community than any single organization could attain
- Coalitions can accomplish objectives beyond the scope of any single organization
- Coalitions have greater credibility than individual organizations
- Coalitions provide a forum for sharing information

Cohen, Larry. (2018) *Developing Effective Coalitions: An Eight Step Guide*. Oakland, CA: Prevention Institute.

Presentation Assumptions

- Coalitions foster personal satisfaction and help members to understand their role in a broader perspective
- Coalitions can foster cooperation between grassroots organizations, community members, and/or diverse sectors of a large organization
- What else?

Cohen, Larry. (2018) *Developing Effective Coalitions: An Eight Step Guide*. Oakland, CA: Prevention Institute.

Types of Coalitions

Networks	Often these are informal and are created primarily to share resources and information
Grassroots	Often are created by community members to raise money, build organizations, raise awareness, build name recognition, win campaigns, or deepen political participation
Advisory	They often provide guidance, suggestions, technical assistance or expertise, etc. to an organization, government, or some other entity
Consortium or Alliances	They are often membership-driven. They typically have broad policy-oriented goals and may span large geographic areas. They usually consist of organizations and coalitions as opposed to individuals.
Commissions	Often these are citizens that are appointed by elected officials usually consist of citizens appointed by official bodies.
Task Forces	These usually come together to accomplish a specific series of activities; they are often at the request of an overseeing body

Cohen, Larry. (2018) *Developing Effective Coalitions: An Eight Step Guide*. Oakland, CA: Prevention Institute.

Elements of Strong Coalitions

- Defined membership
- Defined leadership or facilitation
- Clear definition of what success looks like
- Shared values
- Governance and organizing documents
- Agreements on how to make decisions
- Defined structure that could include subcommittees and/or work groups
- Coalitions or time-bound

Cohen, Larry. (2018) *Developing Effective Coalitions: An Eight Step Guide*. Oakland, CA: Prevention Institute.

Additional Hallmarks of Effective Coalitions



- Address coalition difficulties
- Share power and leadership
- Recruit and involve new members
- Bring challenges and new issues to the group
- Identify, share and celebrate success
- Foster connections among members

Cohen, Larry. (2018) *Developing Effective Coalitions: An Eight Step Guide*. Oakland, CA: Prevention Institute.

Additional Hallmarks of Successful Coalitions



- Strong linkages to the community
- Strong focus on member satisfaction
- Focus on reducing conflict
- Focus on strong communication among coalition members

SAMHSA

Constructive Dialogue



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When conflict arises, constructive dialogue...

....identifies
different
perceptions in the
group

... creates
space for
differing
opinions to co-
exist

...focuses on
the collective
rather than
the individual

...daylights or
notices that
there may be
misperception
s that need to
be addresses

...clarifies
common
goals

Hallmarks of Strong Coalition Facilitators

- Experience with shared leadership models
- Has a strong understanding of how a community, and the network of partners, have worked together well in the past
- Constantly frames the mission and vision of the coalition to stakeholders in order to engage other leaders throughout different community sector
- Has a proven history of respect for, engagement with, and capturing the influence of, people of different ethnic, racial and economic backgrounds in the community
- Committed to transparency, flexibility, neutrality and supporting concerns of coalitions

Coalition Leadership. Ohio State University Extension, ohioline.osu.edu/factsheet/CDFS-5. Accessed 27 November 2018.



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Small Group Discussion

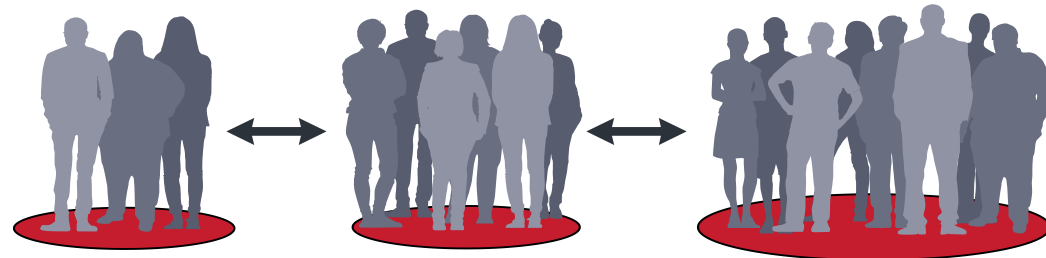
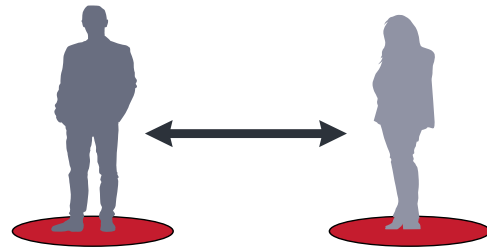
1. How does your coalition approach constructive dialogue?
2. What have you found helpful to encourage constructive dialogue?
3. What would be helpful for you to learn about constructive dialogue?

QUESTIONS/REPORT OUT

Large Group Discussion

- Why is it important to have productive dialogue?
- What impact does that have on decision making?
- What strategies do you use to encourage constructive environments and dialogue?

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