WORKSHOP SESSION

Local Issue Advocacy

Elizabeth Erickson / OFA Training Director



"Life's most persistent and urgent question is, "What are you doing for others?"

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.



Opening

Who is your example of someone who works for others selflessly?

How has that impacted you?

Goal for this session

- Participants will narrow from a problem to an issue
- 2 Participants will identify the best practices of an issue statement
- 3 Participants feel a sense of community with the group, particularly with the members that are working on a similar issue



Guided worksheet

BIT.LY HERE

Tonight's agenda

Opening

Organizer continuum

Review of indicators of good issues

Group norms for workshops

Group protocol

Closing



#OFAction

Our learning journey

- **Week 1:** Introductions; advocacy overview
- Week 2: Workshop
- **Week 3:** Foundations of coalition building
- Week 4: Workshop
- **Week 5:** Identifying legislation

Our learning journey

Week 6: Workshop

Week 7: Writing your campaign plan

Week 8: Workshop

Week 9: Running into barriers

Week 10: Closing synthesis and next steps

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Organizer continuum

Organizer continuum



Where do you identify yourself on the organizer continuum with your issue?



- Equip individuals with the skills to identify root problems in their community, and propose a campaign plan addressing these root problems.
- 2 To identify all the components of successful coalitions, and apply these elements of building a coalition in their community
- **3** To explain current legislation surrounding their issue, and take appropriate action
- To analyze the barriers and challenges that we face as we implement our campaign plans, and persevere strategically
- 5 The develop a community of learners that support, push, challenge, and celebrate each other

SUCCESS

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Indicators of good issues....

- Result in the improvement of people's lives
- Make people aware of their own power
- Be winnable
- Be widely felt
- Be deeply felt
- Be easy to understand
- Have a clear decision maker
- Have a clear time frame
- Be consistent with your values and vision

Problems = Broad areas of concern

Examples: unaffordable health care, pollution, unemployment

Issues = Solution or partial solution to a problem

Examples: enacting a local clean energy plan

WE MUST KNOW THESE ANSWERS DEEPLY.

Question	Rating
Who is affected by the issue?	
What are the consequences of the issue?	
What is the economic impact of the issue?	
What are the barriers?	
What are the resources?	
What is the history of the issue in your community?	

Rate yourself

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Group norms



Develop an ethic of sharing.



It's okay to question. Asking for why; asking for evidence; receive feedback in kind.



No one is above critique, no one is below dignity.

Additions?

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Group Protocol

- Groups of three
- Decide who is person A, B, C
- Person A: You share the context of the problem you are working on, the issue, your timeline, and why you care about it
- People B & C: Be ready to share 3 affirmations, 2 questions, 1 underlying assumption

Reflection

Person A:

- Context of the problem you are working on
- Your issue statement
- Timeline of how long you have been working on it
- Why you care about this issue

Reflection

Person B & C:

- 3 affirmations
- 2 questions
- 1 underlying assumption

Reflection

Person B:

- Context of the problem you are working on
- Your issue statement
- Timeline of how long you have been working on it
- Why you care about this issue

Reflection

Person A & C:

- 3 affirmations
- 2 questions
- 1 underlying assumption

Reflection

Person C:

- Context of the problem you are working on
- Your issue statement
- Timeline of how long you have been working on it
- Why you care about this issue

Reflection

Person A & B:

- 3 affirmations
- 2 questions
- 1 underlying assumption



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Debrief

What did I learn today?

What am I leaving committing to now go, do, understand?

Homework



Next session

Thank you for joining today's webinar.

Please fill out the survey below and give us your feedback on today's training.

bit.ly/AdvocacyBeliefs