Welcome!

Collaboration: It’s Not Just That You Collaborate, It’s the Way You Collaborate

2017 Forum Annual Conference

#ForumCon17
COLLABORATION: IT’S NOT JUST THAT YOU COLLABORATE, IT’S HOW

Find a seat and connect with your neighbor
Getting Started: Collaboration is Action

Turn to the person on your left
What was your first job, and what’s one thing you learned?

Turn to the person on your right
What is one skill, experience or personal value you bring to your work? How?

Find someone across the table
Why do you do what you do?
Several consulting groups supporting nonprofit and philanthropic collaborations gather to share on our work and lessons learned.

October 2015: GEO’s Collaboration Conference

May 2016: GEO’s Annual Conference

The group reconvened to co-create a set of guiding principles for collaborations occurring in the philanthropic environment.

October 2016-May 2017

We continued to virtually convene to iterate on these principles and share what we were learning from our partners with one another.

Today

We’re sharing these with you today to gauge your reactions and discuss bringing these home.

Next

Launch principles publicly with partners.

Next
Seven Ethical Principles to Collaboration in the Social Sector

1. Each collaboration should aim to achieve a clear social good. Collaboration is not self-justifying.

2. How we collaborate is as important as the goals we seek to accomplish. While it is important to have a goal, considerate and values-driven process matters in collaboration. The ends do not justify the means.

3. The social currency, trust and relationships that evolve as part of a collaboration are just as important as — and play a critical role in contributing to — the programmatic outcomes a collaboration seeks to achieve.

4. Collaborations should seek to elevate voices from the affected individuals/communities and provide space for their leadership.

5. Participants in collaborations should acknowledge power differentials and prioritize an active approach to dealing with them.

6. Collaboration carries explicit and implicit costs. The principle of equity should guide resource allocations, including, where appropriate, compensating for participation.

7. Reflection and learning are deliberate acts to ensure that a collaborative is living its values and best serving the membership, the community, and the stated goal.
## What Do You REALLY Think: Getting Into the Principles

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Round</th>
<th>Group 1</th>
<th>Group 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Round 1</td>
<td>Identify one principle that really excites you</td>
<td>Identify one principle that makes you nervous or you don't understand</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Discuss in your group:</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- What excites you or makes you nervous?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Is there an example/story that exemplifies this principle?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Capture thoughts on Flip charts</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Round 2</td>
<td>Identify one principle that makes you nervous or you don’t understand</td>
<td>Identify one principle that really excites you</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Discuss in your group:</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- What excites you or makes you nervous?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Is there an example/story that exemplifies this principle?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Capture thoughts on Flip charts</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Round 3</td>
<td>General Report Out on Key Insights/Thoughts</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
How You Can Get Involved

• **Discuss** these principles with neighbors at your table

• **Be part of the official launch** following the conference

• **Consider** how the principles might be used in your membership groups

• **Share** these principles with your members via your blog and newsletters and **encourage** your members to apply them

• **Engage** your members in problem-solving and lessons learned on values-informed collaboration and what you might add as core values for your group
Thank you!
Please enjoy the Heart, Mind and Body Break. Collaborative Hubs begin at 3:30