



The following document was contributed to the Toolkit by ABCD Faculty Member Dan Duncan.

Creating Space for Resident Action and Engagement – Tool

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If we do not create space for resident action and engagement, they will always expect the institutions to do everything. To increase citizen engagement we need to make it clear that we need their involvement and engagement and in fact, we cannot be successful without their engagement and action.

To create space for resident action and engagement we must approach our work differently. We must think beyond the services we offer and create space for resident action. To help broaden our thinking here are two simple but powerful questions

- 1. What can we stop doing? - To create space for Resident Engagement**
- 2. What can we offer to the community beyond the services we deliver? - To support increased resident engagement**

Two tool to help institutions identify what they can stop doing to create space for citizen action.

1. Ask the local planning team come together and ask them to identify an issue that they currently addressing with funding and services. Now ask them to assume they are starting their planning all over again and they want to address the same issue, but this time without any funding or money. Have them discuss what would they do and how would you do it?
2. Ask the staff from an agency or a local planning group to come together to identify an issue that they are currently addressing with funding and services. Now ask them to identify all the activities that they currently doing that they could stop doing and let the community residents assume the responsibility. Next ask them to identify those things that they could do to support resident engagement. Finally, ask them to identify those activities that only they can do with trained professionals and why. (See attached Worksheet.)

What can we stop doing to increase resident engagement?

Issue/Outcome:		
What Can we stop doing, that resident can do?	How can we support resident engagement and action?	What are those activities that only we can do?
1.	1.	1.
2.	2.	2.
3.	3.	3.
4.	4.	4.
5.	5.	5.
6.	6.	6.
7.	7.	7.
8.	8.	8.