Building the Evidence: Innovative Partnerships to Move Community-Defined Evidence to Best Practice

Wednesday, March 6, 2019 | 2:00 pm - 3:30 pm EST

Communities are the experts on what is needed and what is important. Honor their knowledge and partner with curiosity and inquiry.

“There is no one better to define what is meaningful evidence for a community than the community members themselves.”
- Jami Bartgis
0:29:52

“Letting the community help us to recognize that there was something else that needed to be focused on, not just those things that we would commonly look at made a tremendous difference in our outcomes.”
- Dr. Gayle Porter
0:32:56

“If we’re going to have them acting as revolutionaries, we’ve got to listen to what they want to be revolutionaries about.”
- Dr. Gayle Porter
0:25:43

“It was very helpful that stakeholders on the outside knew the legislative process or would be willing to go to hearings and speak and articulate the need of the community.”
- Marina Castillo-Augusto
0:44:00

Communicate, communicate, communicate. Ongoing communication between communities, funders, and evaluators and time to build trust with each other are essential.

Building trust in a relationship that enables communities, evaluators, and funders to work together takes time.

“Before any of the work can happen, we have to spend a lot of time building trust, and that takes time and it costs money. And the lesson that we’ve learned is that we need to pay for that. That we can’t expect communities to do it on their own time and they just come with the money that we give them to do the project. We have to be able to pay for trust building, relationship building and the time that it takes to do that, which is so critical to the success of any of the work.”
- Nancy Caudl
1:00:18

“When we go into a community... we train the women who are in that community to become facilitators. So that when we leave a community, we’re not just leaving a community, we are leaving the community with an infrastructure that can then continue to do prime-time Sister Circles.”
- Dr. Gayle Porter
1:05:55

“In the partnership, be willing to both teach and learn from each other.

“As far as the program itself or being boots on the ground, doing the work, [the communities] were experts teaching us. Some of that technical assistance wasn’t only from us to them, it was from them to us in a bidirectional way.”
- Marina Castillo-Augusto
1:15:24

Share data of a community-defined solution with other communities who can then implement the community-defined practice adapt where needed to fit their own population.

“As evaluators, it’s really important that we do not place our own value system on others in terms of what is valuable and meaningful outcomes for their lives.”
- Jami Bartgis
0:18:00

“It has definitely influenced not only what we do, all of the variables... they came out of the work that we do with our focus groups. And I just want to underscore what it means when you share with them outcomes that they have determined to be important to them, and the impact that that has on seeing that work spread through the community.”
- Dr. Gayle Porter
0:25:42

More information about this NNED Virtual Roundtable can be found on NNEDShare at
https://share.nned.net/2019/02/nned-vr-building-the-evidence/