

Innovation Spaces | Learning Together



"Knowledge speaks. Wisdom listens."

This quote, attributed to the late Jimi Hendrix, set the tone for a very special meeting in June of five [Aspirations to Actions](#) teams and summed up the truth that emerged from hosting Community Conversations over the past year.

Having completed their Community Conversations, these teams were now ready to move forward in [The Harwood Institute's](#) Cycle of Public Innovation and in their practice.

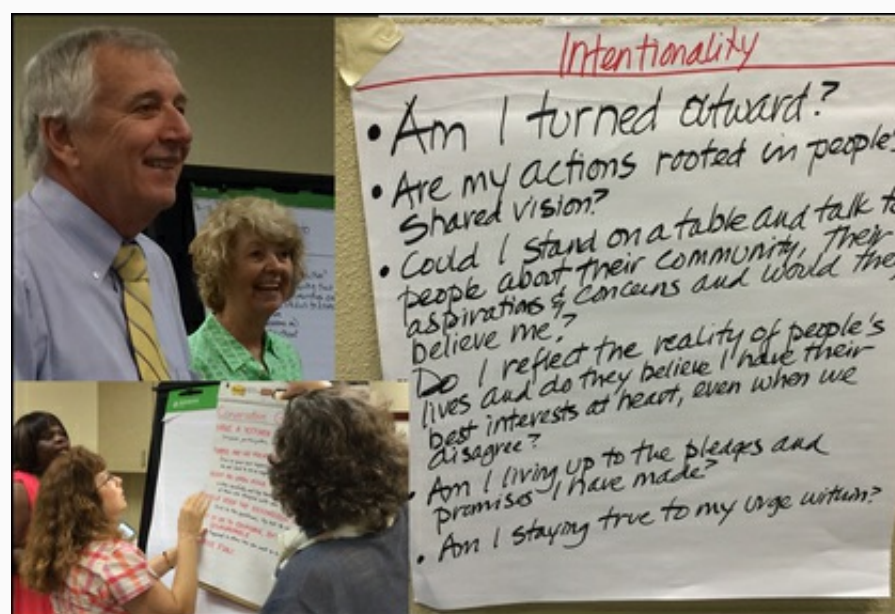
As a result, [public innovators](#) from the Sarasota County Library System, SCOPE, United Sarasota, United Way of Manatee County and Campaign for Grade-Level Reading teams, as well as colleagues from the Largo Library came together to share and learn.



Innovation Spaces was the main topic of the morning. Innovation Spaces give us the opportunity to learn with and from fellow innovators, to share what is being learned and the implications of the work going forward. It supports building networks and measuring progress on issues and community conditions. Innovation Spaces can accelerate and deepen the impact we have.

The gathering was the brainchild of Ann Hardy of the Sarasota Library Team and "Guide on the Side" Pam Truitt. Guides Bill Little and Mike Mansfield also facilitated. The American Library Association, along with The Harwood Institute, created a [tool](#) to help better understand Innovation Spaces.

The lab format enabled participants to experience when and how to include Innovation Spaces into their practice, as well as share ideas for future workshops.



By learning together, these Aspirations to Actions teams identified what their next steps will be:

- Find ways to share, learn and cross-pollinate with A2A teams.
- Write a narrative and include 5 top themes. "Shop it around" - internally and externally.
- Reconnect with folks who participated in community conversations. Do themes and narratives resonate?
- Put action-oriented items in a "parking lot" but don't let them get dusty!

WORD!

Keeping up with Harwood ...

"Mad Lib"

[The Harwood Institute](#) tells us that one of the best ways to make sense of what you're learning and to stay focused on the essence of the community conversations is to tell a story in language that people use everyday.

They constructed the following Community Conversation "Mad Lib" to help you do just that.

Can you fill in the blanks?

"People want (*aspirations*), but they're concerned that (*main concerns*). As people talk more about those concerns, they talk specifically about (*specific issues*). They believe we need to focus on (*actions*) and if (*groups*) played a part in those actions that folks would be more likely to trust the effort and step forward."

What is your Mad Lib?

Connect with Us

Join us and learn more ...

[TPF Website](#)

[Twitter: #TPFaspire](#)

[Join us on Facebook](#)

[The Harwood Institute](#)

[Join The Harwood Institute on Twitter: @HarwoodInst and #TumOutward](#)

Off the Wall @ TPF

A special quote as seen on the wall at The Patterson Foundation...

"We can start changing the world right now."

Blogosphere

In case you missed it ...

Bill Little's Blog - [Words are important in turning aspirations to actions](#)

Aspirations

Sharing some aspirations from Rich Harwood's visit 1 year ago ...

"That our community becomes more of a we than an I."

-KATHRYN SHEA

"Helping children of poverty achieve and maintain grade level in school and address the 2 generation problems through a comprehensive service system."

-JOE JENSON

"Collective engagement in addressing community issues for all."

-PASCALE EDOUARD

"Downtown Bradenton as a livable place for diverse people to work and gather."

-GEORGIA BROWN



If you have news to share, please contact Beth Doyle
beth@trainerbeth.com | thepatternsfoundation.org

Share this email:



[Manage](#) your preferences | [Opt out](#) using TrueRemove™

Got this as a forward? [Sign up](#) to receive our future emails.

View this email [online](#).

2 North Tamiami Tr. Suite 206
Sarasota, FL | 34236 US

This email was sent to .
To continue receiving our emails, add us to your address book.