Two Ears and One Mouth

To paraphrase the wise, old saying, “we have two ears and one mouth” — a gentle reminder for us to listen more and talk less — the topic of the day at Aspirations to Actions was about Boundary Spanning Organizations and Teams. Hettie Isham led the discussion on the importance of listening and being deeply connected.

While there was plenty of talking going on, there was even more listening. Teams connected, discussed how to share public knowledge, and began the next step of moving toward action.

**WORD!**

"Happily we carry on. Together, each of us with "two tears and one mouth," and we're ready.

It's simple and complex—a dichotomy. Yet, we all know we're in it.

The Aspirations to Actions Teams recognize that this journey is both positive change encourages community ownership and mobilization. It offers hope. It empowers, and it is sustainable.

Positive change encourages community ownership and mobilization. It offers hope. It empowers, and it is sustainable.

Community change.

We are now different.

Our Harwood training embeds in each of us intentionality and the practice of turning inward, and then outward, a method we find helpful in our work. We are about community change — positive community change.

Through our work with others, we help identify what "change" is, we listen deeply. Our job is to name it and mediate it. We are trained to see ways to engage and collaborate with partners we choose together with trust and shared aspirations.

Two ears and one mouth — the key to understanding how change can happen.

We are about community change.

There were plenty of talking going on, but there were even more listening. Teams connected, discussed how to share public knowledge, and began the next step of moving toward action.

**The “A” Teams** — Asia Shyne (Drug-free Desoto Team), Ashley Coone (Desoto), Shm0-Boise (Pay Team), and Jane Rodriguez of United States (MHRP) Team

Our Harwood training embeds in each of us intentionality and the practice of turning inward, and then outward, a method we find helpful in our work. We are about community change — positive community change.

Our job is to name it and mediate it. We are trained to see ways to engage and collaborate with partners we choose together with trust and shared aspirations. But, we are also reminded that all this takes time. If you move too fast, you'll leave people behind.

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**Public Innovators**

Public Innovators are idealistic - pragmatic dreamers and calculated risk-takers — those who work to achieve meaningful change, especially in underserved communities.

Like Boundary Spanning Organizations, these people are focused on helping their communities advance its aspirations and conditions for working more effectively together.

While Public Innovators are likely to be working on projects on a smaller scale than Boundary Spanning Organizations, they use the same approach to redefining their strategies and actions.

**Connected With Us**

Join us and learn more...

**Please LIKE** our new Facebook page and stay connected.

**Visit** the Harwood Institute staff.

with the Sarasota Libraries

and the Sarasota Library Team's Ellen India and Ann Hardy.

Sarasota's Mary Mack, and United Way's Trish McConnell (Suncoast) and SCOPE Team's John McCarthy, Vickie French, Juliana Musheyev and Mary Butler.

**Off the Wall @ TPF**

A special post as seen on the platform.

"We cherish the architect of change or the tenant of the result."

**Save the Dates**

- **Upcoming Innovation Space**
  - Session #2 - March 8 - 8:45AM - 12:30PM
  - Session #4 - April 15 - 8:45AM - 12:30PM

**Blogs & YouTube**

In case you have missed them...

**The Aspirations to Actions Initiative blog**

has a couple more postings this week. We invite you to take a look.

**Guest Blogger John McCarthy**, Executive Director of SCOPE Shares his reflections on Catalyzing Change and the Harwood Institute.

**Speaking of John McCarthy, next time I talk to him at SCOPE, I think I'll have to do a presentation on Catalyzing Change and the Harwood Institute.**

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