

Expanding Leadership for Community Health Promotion and Health Equity in MN

June 2, 2015



What We Will Do Today

- Review background of collaborative
- Highlight key themes identified over the last 8 months
- Surface additional insights on themes
- Share & gain feedback on proposed options for moving forward

Background: Sustain Connections

- Elimination of Community Transformation Grant (CTG) funding
- MPHA sought grant from American Public Health Association (APHA) to support visioning process to further promote statewide connections to sustain community health and equity efforts
- Build off efforts of CTG, SHIP, Healthy MN 2020, MDH Advancing Health Equity Initiative, and other community health initiatives in the state

APHA Health Equity Grant: MPHA

- **Grant goal:** Engage a range of partners, to build on momentum for community health improvement and health equity
- **Strategy:** Convene a statewide vision planning process
- **Outcomes:** Strive for statewide collective impact, identify actionable steps built off of SHIP and CTG successes, and foster Health in All Policies work

Vision Planning Process Overview

- **Convened vision planning meeting (8/19/14) and conducted interviews with key informants (Dec 2014-January 2015):** Input collected on how to build on momentum for community health improvement and health equity across the state
- **Results:** Recommendations from our colleagues and community partners to inform next steps

What We Learned: Current Reality (8/19/14)

Positives to Build Upon

Policy/Systems/Environmental Lens:

- *“We’ve made a shift from (mostly) programs to policy, system and environmental change”*
- *“Getting better at PSE & using a broader frame..”*

Investment in Prevention: SHIP & CTG provided resources—funding & technical assistance—to move toward upstream prevention

Seeing Broader & Deeper Partnership: More collaboration with non-traditional partners & more genuine community engagement

What We Learned: Current Reality (8/19/14)

Where We Have Work To Do

Need More Focus on Social Determinants (SD):

Essential to link to and act on SDs; critical to get at root causes of health inequities; mental health is not on our radar and is tied to SDs

Long Ways to Go on Equity: Will require real power sharing and more intention...more racially and culturally diverse people leading

What We Learned: Current Reality (8/19/14)

Where We Have Work To Do...cont.

Need Long View: Takes time and we operate with short time horizons...undermines buy-in from key decision makers

Challenging Political Climate: Still sense this is seen as paternalistic and denying choice

Limited Use and Access To Data: Lack of local (meaningful) data to frame challenges/opportunities and/or to prioritize...and show results

Stakeholder Interview Themes (1/15)

Collaborative Spirit Exists but Limited by Barriers:

- Government on short timeframe; funding erratic = fragmented planning
- Starting to trip over each other at local level
- Don't take time to think it through, move on when gets complex

Have Momentum but A Long Way To Go:

- Investments in place-based change (PSE) present a strong base to build upon; we're using common language
- MN Food Charter example of the interest and need to collaborate
- Growing awareness and concern around equity...needs practical action

Stakeholder Interview Themes (1/15)

Continued

The Benefits Are Clear:

- Increase impact/reduce duplication--mechanisms for coordinated activity and investments
- Help stakeholders understand all that's happening – learn together, discover contributions and create synergy
- We have an opportunity to inspire and to operate more like a real movement (the best of big and small) working together

Reflections & Questions?

- How does this resonate with your view?
- What else would you add or emphasize?

New Ways To Work Together

- a) Help **bigger statewide groups better plan and coordinate** their health improvement efforts
 - Convene both formal joint planning and informal touch-points (e.g. MDH, larger TA providers, funders and advocacy groups)
 - Consider some sort of “MN Convergence Model” to Increase understanding, coordination and planning for Minnesota’s community health investments

- b) Support **effective networking, relationship building and peer learning...**
 - Semi-regular in-person gatherings to help strengthen relationships
 - Build on “learning collaborative” or “community of practice” models leading to results and replication

New Ways To Work Together...

- c) **Provide access to resources** that support action: TA, models/examples, relevant data/data tools
 - Access to data/visualization and assessment tools
 - Help coordinate webinars and opportunities
 - Map who's doing what, where: e.g. local coalitions, HEAL and Tobacco policies and investments

- d) Catalyst for **collective action on a couple of big goals** that require local-state collaboration

- e) Build **awareness, educate and advocate** (make the case) for healthier communities investments
 - Common messaging and advocacy on shared priorities

Structure

Light & Nimble

- Don't need new org or something bureaucratic
- A network that operates like a movement

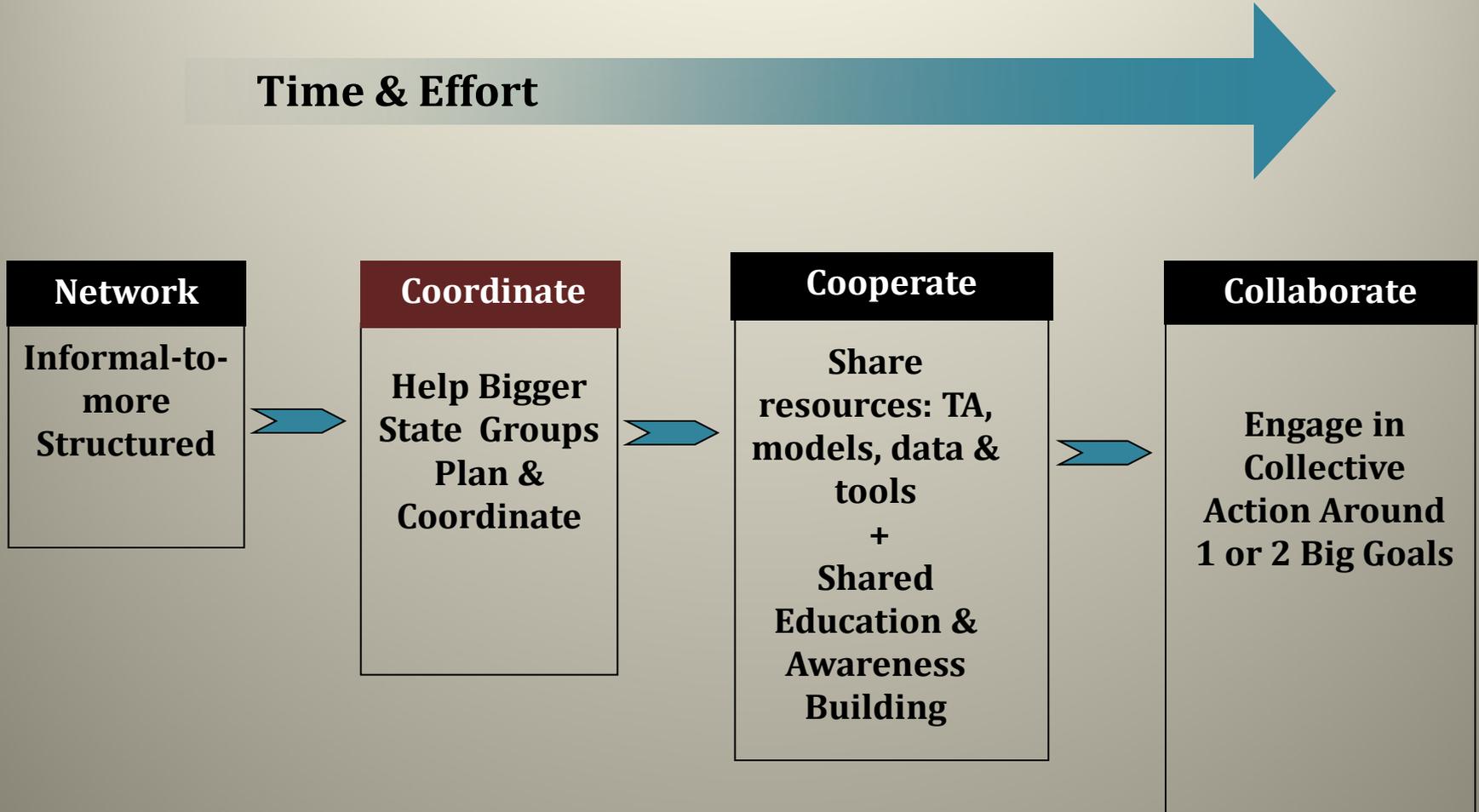
Backbone: Critical to have dedicated backbone support

- MDH + Others
- Communication, data/evaluation, convening, advocacy support, project management

A Leadership Team: Smaller, diverse team w/ influence and credibility across sectors and among social justice advocates (not primary place for action)

Continuum of Working Together

Time & Effort



Based on concepts from A. T. Himmelman "Collaboration for a Change: Definitions, Models, Roles and a Collaboration Process Guide."

Keys To Success

- Clear Scope—define what's in and what's out
- Ensure voice of community is fully integrated
- Don't have too much structure—particularly at start
- Pick a couple of things to start working on (learning our way into it)!
- Committed leadership to get over the initial hump of inertia
- Balance relationship building/networking and activities aimed at shared results

Reflections & Questions?

Regarding New Ways of Working Together...

- What do you hear that excites you?
- Other ideas to consider?
- Thoughts on keys to success?

Proposed Next Steps

Finding A Place To Start...

- Your input informed next steps
- Recommend a more incremental approach to working together (no one organization to take on statewide convening role)
- Initial focus:
 - Funding and investment alignment;
 - Convene funders group;
 - Have a planning group to prepare for the funding group

Interested?

- If you have additional reflections or questions after today's webinar
- Want to indicate interest in participating in next steps
- Email Martha Roberts, MDH
martha.roberts@state.mn.us
- To Learn more, please visit the MPHA website:
<http://www.mpha.net/page-1848017>