RG Peer-to-Peer Network Meeting: PSE Panel Highlights

This month's Peer-to-Peer Network meeting focused on implementing **policy, systems, and environmental (PSE) changes** to enhance community health and well-being. Discussions emphasized shifting the responsibility from individuals to systems, embedding trauma-informed practices in policies, and fostering cross-sector collaborations for **sustainable, long-term impact**. The panelists shared strategies for overcoming challenges such as measuring outcomes and addressing territorialism among organizations while highlighting the importance of **relationship-building** to drive meaningful change.

Zoom Recording: https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/_o5Z1b3FYfg1hXmzr-NlRFfurNP2-ZJ0E97-bSDp7LHlEmLsd7hzv5zBoDOg-GTB.dH_OpIOCAV97rb5X?startTime=1743530713000

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Key Takeaways from Panelists:

Tara Jones, Resilient Coastal Georgia

- Stressed the importance of **educating stakeholders** on trauma-informed practices and tailoring messaging for different audiences (e.g., volunteers, staff, city officials).
- Shared insights on **embedding training within existing programs** to ensure long-term impact.
- Highlighted the **trauma-informed organizational assessment** and the **Savannah Solutions** program, which coordinates care for children in need.
- Discussed the challenge of measuring indirect impacts, particularly within **public school systems**, due to data-sharing restrictions.

Aviva Berman, ARCHI

- Discussed the importance of **inverting the burden**—placing responsibility on systems rather than individuals, and efforts to **advocate for increased rental assistance funding** from philanthropies and local/state governments.
- Shared success stories from **health system partnerships**, including their response during COVID-19, demonstrating the power of strong collaborations.

- Emphasized the **value of macro-level data** from sources like the Atlanta Regional Commission and United Way in tracking the broader impact of trauma-informed initiatives.
- Addressed overcoming territorialism by **adapting strategies to complement existing programs** rather than competing with them.

Kaitlyn Ball, Cobb Collaborative

- Provided an overview of her work with **Cobb County Juvenile Court**, where they established a resource station and offered CRM workshops to youth and caregivers.
- Highlighted efforts in **training all municipal staff in Powder Springs** on the Community Resiliency Model, ensuring that trauma-informed practices are embedded within city operations.
- Emphasized the need to **tailor messaging** about PSE changes to different audiences, taking into account their **goals, needs, and capacity**.
- Discussed the difficulty in **measuring indirect impacts**, emphasizing the importance of identifying **positive trends** even if direct outcomes are harder to quantify.

Critical Discussion Points:

- **Shifting from Individual to Systemic Change**
  Embedding trauma-informed policies and integrating behavioral health supports **into existing structures** rather than expecting individuals to navigate these challenges alone.
- **Cross-Sector Collaboration & Relationship Building**
  Several panelists highlighted that **successful PSE changes require strong partnerships** across sectors.
- **Adapting Messaging for Different Audiences**
  Panelists discussed the **importance of tailoring language** when advocating for systemic change. Tara noted that **framing trauma-informed approaches differently depending on the audience** (e.g., community members vs. policymakers) increases buy-in and reduces resistance.
- **Measuring Indirect Impacts & Demonstrating Value**
  A major challenge discussed was **quantifying the impact of PSE changes**, particularly for **long-term or indirect outcomes**. Aviva suggested working with organizations like **the Atlanta Regional Commission and United Way** to analyze

macro-level trends, while Kaitlyn emphasized **tracking qualitative shifts** when quantitative data is hard to obtain.

- **Overcoming Territorialism Among Organizations**
  The discussion also touched on how **territorialism can create barriers to collaboration**. The panelists encouraged **focusing on shared goals** rather than competition and proactively aligning efforts **to complement rather than duplicate services**.

Key Action Steps Moving Forward:

- Use local data (Community Health Needs Assessments) to guide coalition priorities.
- Foster ongoing partnerships and maintain relationships
- Frame trauma-informed approaches in ways that resonate with different stakeholders.
- Explore collaborative data-sharing opportunities to measure long-term PSE change impacts.

This meeting provided valuable insights into **scaling systemic change, strengthening partnerships, and ensuring sustainability** in trauma-informed initiatives.