

BREAKOUT SESSIONS: GOALS, INSTRUCTIONS, ETC.

Wednesday, 3:30 – 3:40

CTTT-RVA's goal is to reframe and model “reparations” for the city of Richmond - ***reframe*** by helping people understand that repairing our broken relationships and systems is crucial to abolishing the inequity that exists for people of color. ***And model*** by setting the example of dual leadership in our committees, working teams, diverse representation in decision making, and particularly as we develop strategies for our most vulnerable communities. We'll achieve that goal in a variety of ways, including providing a safe and welcoming space for people to engage in facilitated conversation on race, as well as the development of, and hands-on participation in, grass-roots reparative actions conducted in partnership with other community organizations. ***That second approach – development of and participation in grass-roots reparative actions -- is the focus of today's breakouts.***

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Breakout Goal and Desired Outcome:

- Each Group's Goal is to identify a single, actionable, education-focused program idea that CTTT-RVA can, in partnership with other community groups, adopt or expand in Richmond.
- Each Group's Desired Outcome is a 5 minute Final Presentation on the one program idea that it endorses.

(Note: It's likely that many good ideas will be brought to the table but not selected as the Group's finalist. To keep from losing those good ideas we ask each Group's Scribe to include in her/his notes 1-2 sentence summaries of those non-finalist good ideas.)

What we're looking for: Actionable program ideas (one per Group) that are:

- Focused on education
- Based on breakout participants' experience, opinions, and knowledge of what does and does not work.
- Either adaptations of successful existing programs (in Richmond or elsewhere), or new program ideas for which the Group believes there is a need and/or opportunity.
- Consistent with the following criteria:
 - ✓ Advance the knowledge and/or skills of needy students in the Richmond Public School System or other recognized educational programs in Richmond (GED, Vocational/Technical Training, etc.)
 - If intended for the Richmond Public School System, they should fit within RPS' current partnership framework, as summarized in the RPS Partnership Opportunities document that has been distributed.
 - ✓ Be practical, meaning that they must fit within the financial, organizational, and other constraints typical of non-profit, volunteer organizations like Coming to the Table.
 - ✓ Be measurable, meaning that progress can be gauged by periodic quantitative and/or qualitative assessments relative to appropriate established benchmarks.
 - ✓ Be substantive, meaning that they must bring substantial, positive change to students' intellectual, physical, social, emotional, or economic quality of life.
 - ✓ Be inclusive, meaning that they must have the potential to benefit needy students of all types in the Richmond community.

Final Presentation Questions: (*Note:* These are intended to bring consistency to the presentations, making it easier to follow and compare them. Detailed answers are not necessary. Stay focused on the Desired Outcome and provide just enough information for the audience to “get” your overall thinking.)

1. How would you briefly summarize the program?
2. What is (are) its goal(s)?
3. Who would it benefit and how would it benefit them?
4. In broad terms, how would you measure the program’s progress?
5. Would there be costs involved? If so what would be the major expense items? (Just the names of the items - not dollar figures – please.)
6. If it would involve a partnership with another group, what group – or type of group – would you suggest?

Skip the next two if you’re running short of time.

7. What would be the first 3 or 4 steps CTTT/RVA would need to take to get the program up and running?
Roughly how long would it take to achieve each of those there or four steps?

SUGGESTED BREAKOUT SESSION STRUCTURE

Wednesday, 3:40 – 4:45

Important Notes:

- Remember that each Group’s Desired Outcome is a 5 minute presentation summarizing the single program idea that it endorses, with just enough detail for the audience to “get” the idea.
- The timeframes that appear below are suggestions. Just bear in mind that you must have your 5 minute presentation in hand by 4:45.

- I. 3:40 – 3:45: Introductions (Brief, focusing on organizational affiliation and relevant experience)
- II. 3:45 – 3:50: Choose
 - A. A Facilitator (ideally an experienced volunteer)
 - B. A Scribe (who will take notes and help with the group’s presentation)
 - C. A Reporter (who will lead the group’s 5 minute Final Presentation)
 - D. A name or number for the group
- III. 3:50 – 4:00: Top-of-Mind Thinking - What’s **broken** in, or **missing** from, education as we think of it today? Each participant offers one or two brief thoughts (just a few words) in response to that question. (*NOTE: Hold conversation, feedback, etc. until each person’s thought(s) is (are) on the table.*)
- IV. 4:00 – 4:10: Top-of-Mind Thinking - How could we **fix what’s broken**, or **provide what’s missing**? Each participant offers an idea for a program (either a successful existing program or a new idea) that she/he thinks would meet one of those needs. Briefly, who does the idea help and how does it help them? (*NOTE: Hold conversation, feedback, etc. until all ideas are on the table.*)
- V. 4:10 – 4:20: Selection of 2-3 Semi-Finalist Ideas - Using as screens both their own experience and the criteria listed on the previous page 1 under What We’re Looking For, the Group discusses all ideas on the table and selects 1-3 semi-finalists that seem the most promising.
(*NOTE to the Scribe: Please include in your notes 1-2 sentence summaries of any ideas about which the Group seems enthusiastic but aren’t chosen as the Finalist, so they’re not lost.*)

VI. Selection of 1 Finalist Idea to be Presented, Preparation of 5 Minute Final Presentation (4:20 – 4:40)

(NOTE to the Scribe: During this conversation it should be possible for you to compile brief answers to the Final Presentation Questions, for each of the 2-3 semi-finalist programs. These will serve as the basis for your Group's Final Presentation.

- A. The Group drills down into each of the 2-3 semifinalists, focusing on what its members believe are the most important criteria (Practicality? Likelihood of success? Measurability? Inclusiveness? All of the above?)
- B. Using whatever process it prefers (A, B, or C grade? Scoring against each criterion? Show of hands vote? Written ballot?), the Group selects a single Finalist Idea that it will present to the entire gathering.
- C. Preparation of 5 minute presentation: Led by the Reporter, using the Final Presentation Questions as its structure, and based on the Scribe's notes, the Group develops its 5 minute presentation

4:40 – 4:45: RETURN TO CHAPEL

4:45 – 5:15: Group Presentations of Finalist Ideas, Questions to be Addressed

VII. 4:45 – 5:10: REPORTSs: Led by its Reporter, each group presents, in 5 minutes, its single Finalist Idea, using as a format their answers to the Final Presentation Questions.

VIII. 5:10 – 5:15: VOTE! All participants vote by show of hands to choose the single program idea they believe has the greatest potential.

5:15 – 5:13 Danita Rountree Green: Summary, next steps, close