Inspired Collaboration
An Introduction to Tapping Your Potential

Dorothy Stoltz | March 30, 2017
What lies behind us and what lies before us are tiny matters compared to what lies within us.

- Ralph Waldo Emerson
PARTNERSHIP

“You give me half the fish, and I tell my Mom to let you live.”
Objectives

1) Identify at least 3 methods for transforming a collaboration into a dynamic relationship to better serve the community.

2) Begin to think through your library’s potential for improving community engagement and partnerships.

3) Identify your next steps.
Today’s Outline

- Welcome and introductions
- Importance of libraries
- Importance of collaboration
  - BREAK
- Collaboration in action
- Infusing creativity into problem-solving
  - REJUVENATION/LUNCH
- Identifying community needs
- Evaluation of partnerships
  - BREAK
- Create your next steps
- Celebrate!
  - WRAP-UP
Introductions

- Your name
- Title
- Library
- Name one thing that you are hopeful about in regard to the work you are doing with your organization.
Individual Reflection Activity

- What is the purpose of a library?
- What purpose do I serve as a library staffer?
- In my role, how do I enrich the library?
- Why is my position necessary to the service of the library?
Quotations Activity

1. Which one resonates with you & why?
2. Go to chart with the quote, discuss with others at the chart why it resonates.
3. Record notes to report out to larger group.

- Quotation #1  Courage is what it takes to stand up and speak; courage is what it also takes to sit down and listen.

- Quotation #2  The way the team plays as a whole determines its success. You may have the greatest bunch of individual stars in the world, but if they don’t play together, the club won’t be worth a dime.

- Quotation #3  I struggled with humility...you will see, perhaps often, in this history; for even if I could conceive that I could completely overcome it, I should probably be proud of my humility.

- Quotation #4  I never considered a difference of opinion in politics, in religion, in philosophy, as a cause for withdrawing from a friend.

- Quotation #5  A quote of your choice?
Denton (TX) Public Library

Library Larry’s Big Day
Denton (TX) Public Library 2 GO
• Business Services (35)
• Community Organizations (8)
• Cyber Security (2)
• Education (5)
• Financial Services (4)
• Government (3)
• Healthcare (4)
• Individual Member (3)
• IT Services (9)
• Legal (4)
• Manufacturing (2)
• Marketing (9)
• Media (5)
• Student Member (2)
• Tech Councils (2)
• Telecom (3)
• Web Development (7)
The Mid-Atlantic Gigabit Innovation Collaboratory, Inc. (MAGIC)

We create the space for technology innovation and entrepreneurship to thrive.

501(c)(3) non-profit dedicated to fully realizing the economic development potential of the broadband infrastructure located in Carroll County, Maryland. Just call us MAGIC.
Youth Entrepreneurship Academy

Seth Goldman, entrepreneur and author, second from left, spreading the light of enthusiasm, honesty, and going the extra mile with Carroll Community College business students in Maryland. (Photo: Kati Hoffman)
Share one or two examples of high performing collaborations?
What makes them high performing?
What components are key to successful collaboration?
What are the intangibles (soft skills) that are important to library work?
How do you like that?

Jeff Haden, Inc.

*Baltimore Sun*, March 12, 2017

- Always listen more than you talk.
- Always shift the spotlight to others.
- Never practice selective hearing.
- Always be thoughtful, simply because you can.
- Always put your stuff away.
- Always give before you receive.
- Never act self-important.
- Never forget other people are more important.
- Always choose your words attentively.
- Never discuss the failings of others.
- Always admit your failings.
- Always define success your way.
How can I use the challenges of the last 25 years (or 10 or 5 years) to my library’s benefit?
The secret of change is to focus all of your energy, not on fighting the old, but on building the new.

- Socrates
How can we determine whether a common tie exists between the library and others?
Creativity Exercise for Solving Problems
Using critical incidents to build leadership competence

- Describe the facts of the incident: what was the intention, what actually happened, and who were the people involved.
- Diagnose what led to the incident: what are multiple hypotheses about “why” it did not turn out well.
- Decide what to do: what are new insights and possible next steps for trying something new.

Raj Chawla, Julie Bain Pillsbury
Identify Community Needs

Learn from the past to inspire the future
Seek Inspiration (Enthusiasm Applied)

The Art of Striving to Be One's Best
How can librarians invigorate themselves and those they serve?

- Have you met anything in the author you last read, remarkable or suitable, to be communicated? particularly in demonstrating respect and goodwill, in poetry and cultural arts, travel, technology, science, history, or other parts of knowledge?

- Do you think of anything at present, in which librarians may be serviceable to humankind, to their community, to their friends, or to themselves?

- Do you know of any deserving young thinker, whom it lies in the power of the library any way to encourage?

- Have you lately heard of any citizen’s thriving well, and by what means?
Identifying Community Needs Activity

- Harwood Institute for Public Innovation - ALA’s Libraries Transforming Communities

- What kind of community do you want to live in?
- Why is that important to you?
- How is that different than what is in your community now?
- What are some of the things that need to happen to create that kind of change?
Franklin et al sought to bring out the best in themselves and each other in order to improve their community. To join the group, members made a pledge:

1. Have you any particular disrespect to any present members? Answer: *I have not.*

2. Do you sincerely declare that you love humanity in general, of what profession or religion soever? Answer: *I do.*

3. Do you think persons ought to be harmed in their bodies, names, or goods, for mere speculative opinions, or their external way of worship? Answer: *No.*

4. Do you love truth for truth’s sake, and will you endeavor impartially to find and receive it yourself, and communicate it to others? Answer: *Yes.*
Three Golden Questions

What’s working well?

What’s not working?

What can you/your library do to be more effective moving forward?
Planning Questions to Help with Evaluation
“Success Factors”

- What elements are key to the success of a partnership?
  - Satisfied clients or stakeholders?
  - Met collaboration objectives?
  - Completed within budget?
  - Projects delivered on time?
Outcome Measurements

- What did the partnership achieve?
- What did individuals, families, businesses, and organizations take-away from the collaborative effort?
- What did participants learn? Become more aware of? Feel more confident about?

Adapted from Public Library Association’s Outcome Measurements
Future Ready Libraries
futureready.org

Future Ready School Event
July 20-21: Albany, NY
Growing Your Community Collaboration
Celebration & Wrap-Up
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