



Tapping our Wisdom II: Establishing Best Practices for Serving Chronically Homeless Persons with Serious Mental Illness

June 23, 2010

9:00 a.m - 4:00 p.m.

**Gateway Center
One Gateway Drive
Collinsville, IL 62234**

June 24, 2010

9:00 a.m - 4:00 p.m.

**Illinois Education Association
3440 Liberty Drive
Springfield, IL 62704**



Tapping our Wisdom II

When considering ways to serve chronically homeless persons with serious mental illness, the lens is often focused on the problems and positives are brushed aside. Often it is better to surface the strengths of our programs and agencies by talking, listening and reflecting by means of a facilitated conversation with fellow professionals. The Illinois Association of Community Action Agencies (IACAA) would like to offer you just such a chance in the form of two forums using the World Café model.

In November of 2009, an initial exploratory forum was held in Chicago. Two follow-up sessions are now being planned in Springfield and Collinsville. The nature and content of these forums have been shaped by the outcomes of the November event.

The forums will utilize the organic discussion process of the World Café model to generate a menu of mental health provider best practices that can be adapted to the needs of homeless service providers. These outcomes will be collated into a report that will be used by HUD for a variety of purposes, including the establishment of priorities for evaluating submissions from Continuums of Care seeking funding for services to chronically homeless persons with serious mental illness.

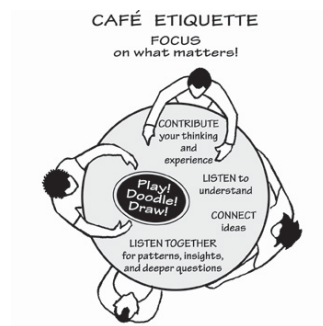
Who Should Attend?

Targeted organizations include agencies providing mental health services to chronically homeless persons with serious mental illness, and all homeless service providers that participate in local Continuums of Care. Central to the purpose of the forum is a dialog between these two groups. Since the outcomes will focus on programs and policies, the intent is to focus on potential individual participants that are comfortable dealing with program design and policy issues. This would include Executive Directors, as well as program directors and other mid-level professionals. This is an exciting process that requires your expertise, experience, and active input. Please join the conversation!

World Cafe Model

“Tapping our Wisdom II” is an opportunity to consider the Powerful Questions that surface by using the World Café approach. The Café provides a framework that:

- Is simple and clear
- Is thought provoking
- Generates energy
- Focuses inquiry
- Surfaces assumptions
- Opens new possibilities
- Invites deeper reflection
- Seeks what is useful



Sharing a conversation with our peers will bring clarity and movement to new ideas or address frustrations by sharing knowledge. Conversations are driven by the consideration of a powerful question. Knowledge emerges in response to compelling questions. Powerful questions that “travel well” help attract collective energy, insight, and action as they move throughout a system and reveal not only the fundamental strengths of the work, but may also reveal workable and realistic solutions.

The questions we ask and the way we construct them will focus us in a particular manner and will greatly affect the outcome of our inquiry. If we ask “What is wrong and who is to blame?” we set up a certain dynamic of problem-solving and blame assigning. While there may be instances where such an approach is desirable, when it comes to hosting a Café, it is much more effective to ask people questions that invite the exploration of possibilities and to connect them with why they care.



Tapping our Wisdom II

Agenda

9:00-9:30	Opening Session
9:30-9:45	World Cafe Instructions
9:45-12:00	Break into Discussion Groups
12:00-1:30	Lunch on your own
1:30-3:15	Discussion Groups Resume
3:15-4:00	Harvesting and final thoughts

Registration

There is no registration fee however registration is required. Registration is on-line only. Please go to www.icaanet.org to register. You will be able to choose one of the two sessions either the 6/23/10 Collinsville location or the 6/24/10 Springfield location. Only choose one as the session will be identical.

Locations

6/23/10 - Gateway Center One Gateway Drive Collinsville, IL 62234

Nestled at the crossroads of Collinsville, Illinois, Gateway Center provides a neighborly sense of comfort and Midwestern hospitality for any event. Surrounded by popular historic sites and attractions, the facility is conveniently located just minutes from St. Louis, Missouri, which offers all the culture and excitement of a metropolitan city.

Directions

Traveling North on Interstate 55/70, take Collinsville Exit 11. At traffic light, turn left onto Highway 157/Bluff Road to Eastport Plaza Drive, turn Left. Continue to Gateway Drive, turn right. Gateway Center is located on your left.

Traveling East on Interstate 40 or Interstate 44, Take Interstate 55/70 North, to Collinsville Exit 11. At traffic light, turn left onto Highway 157/Bluff Road to Eastport Plaza Drive, turn Left. Continue to Gateway Drive, turn right. Gateway Center is located on your left.

Traveling East or West on Interstate 64, Take Exit 9 and drive North on Hwy 157, approximately 7 miles, to Eastport Plaza Drive which is located off Hwy. 157. Turn left on Eastport Plaza Drive, then right on Gateway Drive. Gateway Center is located on left.

Traveling North or South on Interstate 255, take Exit 26, Horseshoe Lake Road, Turn Left. Immediately turn right onto Eastport Plaza Drive and then left onto Gateway Drive. Gateway Center is located on right.

6/24/10 - Illinois Education Association, Professional Development Center 3440 Liberty Drive Springfield, IL 62704

The Illinois Education Association's Professional Development Center is a 32,000 square foot facility providing professional development training, meeting and conference space. The technology throughout the building is state of the art. Through the PDC, the IEA provides continuing education to faculty and staff of the state's public pre-K-12 and higher education institutions.

Directions

I-55 to I-72 West. Follow I-72 west and take exit 93 towards Veterans Parkway. Keep right at the fork, follow signs for Springfield and merge onto IL-4 N/S Veterans Pkwy. Turn left at Lindbergh Blvd. Continue onto Liberty Drive, destination will be on the left.

Questions?

Please contact Al Timke, atimke@icaanet.org, with any questions.





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