Turn the Curve Population Exercise

Starting Points: 5 minutes

* Identify a timekeeper and a reporter.
* Choose two hats that you will wear during the exercise. Be yourself and another community partner who is not represented at the table who may have a role to play in turning the curve.

Baseline: 5 minutes

* Pick an indicator with a curve to turn (one of the examples provided).
* Draw your forecast – where is this curve going if we do nothing? It that ok or not ok?

Story behind the baseline: 15 minutes

* Discuss the causes/forces at work. What is pushing the curve down? What is pushing the curve up? Ask 5 whys to get to the bottom of why the system is behaving the way that it is.
* Capture any information you feel you need that you do not currently have on a “research agenda.” A real community group could research these things between meetings.

Partners: 5 minutes

* List your partners. Who is missing from this exercise? What unlikely partners exist that might be able to help you turn the curve?

What works? (What would it take to do better?) 20 minutes

* Now that the problem is defined, begin problem solving!
  + What works/what doesn’t? What has worked in the past?
  + What are some best practices? What would work in our context?
* Determine each partner’s contribution, who will do what?
* Be sure to include No cost, Low cost, and off the wall ideas
* Continue to add to your Information/ Research agenda

*Turn over for last 10 minutes:*

Report – 1 page: 10 minutes

* The reporter finishes up the process by capturing the group’s thinking on a single piece of paper. Decide together what the reporter should capture.
* REPORTER: Write the indicator, draw the baseline and forecast, give the key pieces of the story behind the baseline, list the partners, and finally, include the group’s four best ideas for what will work to do better. Include at least one low-cost, one no-cost, and one off the wall idea.

*It should look like this, but filled in:*

ONE PAGE REPORT

Result:

Indicator:

Data baseline:

Story behind the baseline:

Partners:

Four best ideas: