

**Thriving Communities Collaborative (TCC)  
May 18, 2016 Planning Meeting**

**Meeting Attendees:**

<u>Affiliation/Organization</u>	<u>Representatives</u>
Echo Resource Development	Dave Brown
Cure Violence	Matan Zeimer
Center for Urban Families	Wendy Blackwell
Zanvyl & Isabelle Krieger Fund	Brooke Hisle
Building Families/Community of Hope/Patterson Park	Debbie Marini
Baltimore Child Abuse Center	Miriam Kahn
Community of Hope	Sharron Jackson
Johns Hopkins Univ.	Peter M. Modlin
St. John's United Methodist Church	Kelley E Crawford
Power Inside	Ruby, Abbey Maloney
JHU/TheConnect	Phil Leaf
Family Connections / Univ of MD SSW	Christopher Beegle
Martin Pollak Project	Richard Norman
NARAL Pro-Choice Maryland	Diana Philip
YES	Patricia Cobb Richardson
Asage Marketing	Ros Williams
Fellowship of Lights	Ross Pologe
	Eugenia Argires

**Discussion & Notes:**

**Vision Modification** – Based on a member recommendation, the team agreed to add access to quality health care to the TCC vision.

**Planning Meetings** – One of the members noted that the term “Planning Meeting” may dissuade people not involved on a regular basis from attending, and several other members agreed. It was decided that we should change what we are calling our monthly/bi-monthly meetings from “Planning Meeting” to something more inclusive, perhaps General Meeting. It’s important that we reflect that all community organizations that share our mission and vision have a seat at the table. We’ll also relook at the website content to ensure this is reflected.

**TCC Language/Focus/Outreach Strategy –**

One of the key TCC initiatives is to provide Collaborative members with the education that they need to help adopt more trauma-informed practices in their organizations and their lives as well as to provide them with tools to “spread the word” to help build more thriving communities. As part of this initiative we reviewed the [webinar from ConnectionsMatter.org](http://www.connectionsmatter.org) and discussed what we liked, what we thought might be missing, and how we might leverage those tools here in Baltimore. Notably, this Iowa based group has developed a 20 and 50-minute presentation that they train community members to share. In addition to viewing this webinar, the team shared take-aways from research from across the country (compiled by [Fenton](http://www.fenton.com)) regarding the language around traumas that resonates with communities.

Overall, the team members shared a number of positives regarding the materials on [ConnectionsMatter.org](http://www.connectionsmatter.org). Specific discussion included:

Positives:

- The parent/child approach (Aspen Institute) Two- or Three- generation approach (positive)
- Using “micro-gardens” or “brief moments” as ways of connecting
- Importance of early head start
- Talking about the plasticity of the adult brain
- To-do or check list
- That the introduction of ‘trauma’ came much later in the presentation

- The connection of brain, relationships, community

**Observations:**

- We need to stress the importance of “meeting the client where they are”
- Importance of making discussing trauma/pathology audience specific
- One-on-ones
- Can’t forget to stress the importance of Safety & Trust
- Dive deeper into brain science/development particularly re: adult brain
- Not to forget “blame & shame”
- More interactive
- Shorter 5 slides
- Avoiding Re-traumatizing
- Inclusive vs. sector specific
- Context for a common language
- Some concern that we didn’t want to train people to be “trainers”, but rather educate them
- With the U.S. being so “non-community” focused – this represents a shift

This input/information will be used as we move forward with the sub-committee meetings. If you are on the Talking about Trauma team or the City-Wide Event or would like to join either one of these committees, please take a look at the [webinar](#) so that you will be up to speed on what we reviewed. (You can start around the 4:30 mark and view for the next 15 minutes or so)

- Talking about Trauma Team – language/elevator speech (Amanda, Paula, Patricia, Jan, Ros, Claudia)
- City-Wide Event Team – Chris B., Patricia, Michelle, Ross, Denielle, Paula, Lamar, Wendy, Brandin, Kristina, Ros

As part of this discussion we also talked about Building our # of Pledgees with the thought that we want to build a movement & get our #'s to the 1000's. Some suggestions:

- May want to rethink the language re: starting a movement – be a part of a movement – wildfires
- Add a checkbox to allow pledgees to opt out of future e-mails
- Make sure we are clear on who's welcome to the table (e.g. faith-based organizations, individuals, etc.)
- Make what people are signing up for clearer

**Policy Advocacy** – In order to allow for more time to fully delve into a policy discussion, we will be revisiting this in July or August led by Diana Philip of NARAL Pro-Choice for Maryland

**Next Meeting** – We spoke about a number of things for June, in lieu of a general meeting.

- Connecting with the folks from Patterson Park for an event
- Teaming up with Baltimore Child Abuse Center on one of their Events
- Doing a Paper Tigers, The Caregivers or Resilience Screening & Discussion
- Hosting an event w/spoken word artists
- Screening Brave New Films movie on Gun Violence

Please e-mail [info@thrivebmore.org](mailto:info@thrivebmore.org) with any comments or corrections.