Ch. 2. Activity 1: Identify Community Connections

**Summary:** This activity will help the core team intentionally ensure that everyone who needs to be present in the ERB process will be included and that equity is centered.

**Who:** The core team​

**Time needed:** 2-hour meeting with an option for 2nd meeting to revisit after additional research​

**Materials needed:** sticky notes and markers (alt: virtual whiteboards); any already existing stakeholder map, network analysis, or community engagement summaries

**Directions:**​

1. Gather with your core team members. Begin by brainstorming about the actors (groups, organizations, key individuals) in your community. Document all suggestions on a sticky note or virtual whiteboard. The point of brainstorming is to come out with anything that comes to mind, with the goal of abundance, so think broadly. ​
2. Continue the brainstorming by considering the following questions and calling out the names that come to mind: ​

* Where do people go to get information? Who do they trust? Who do they get support from for basic needs? ​
* Where do people go for resources or support after a disaster? ​
* Who provides a sense of community and are key connection points to members of your community? ​

3. After roughly 15 minutes of brainstorming, stop and discuss each suggestion. As a team, determine which of the suggestions to include in the table below, with a goal of engaging all the relevant actors in the community, but filtering to include only actors that are relevant.​

4. Complete the table below with a discussion and analysis on each actor. (Example below)​

* **Actor**: Organization or Individual ​
* **Contribution to community:**What roles does this actor play in the community? What did they do or represent that prompted their name in the brainstorming?​
* **Sectors or Community Groups affiliated with:**How would you classify this actor's involvement in the community and with which sectors or groups in the community do they primarily interact with?​
* **Potential Interest in ERB:**What ways do you imagine this actor may be interested in contributing to or learning from the ERB process?​
* **Level of invited involvement in ERB:***(Leave this box blank as it will be completed during community engagement session)*  ​

5. **(Optional)**Each member of the team does further research in more actors that team members may not have been aware of and revisit this activity for another work session. ​

Community Connections Table

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **A** | **B** | **C** | **D** | **E** |
| **Actor** | **Contribution to Community** | **Sectors or Community Groups affiliated with** | **Potential Interest in ERB** | **Level of invited involvement in ERB** |
| Example: XYZ Non-profit org | Key contact and resource provider for immigrant families provides weekly dinner open to the community, provides employment assistance and classes, provides community updates on social media | XYZ neighborhood, non-English speaking population, immigrant population, workforce development | Interested in storytelling and connecting with community members, information for disaster preparedness and becoming more of a community resilience resource | **To be completed later in Chapter 2:**  *Jayne (organizer) invited to be key member in ERB process, invite all organizations and network to public meetings* |
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