

# ABLE Change

## Guide to Engaging Diverse Perspectives

Foster-Fishman & Watson  
Michigan State University

### Key Processes:

Define

- 1. Who should you engage in addressing the targeted problem?
- 2. What should you engage them in?
- 3. How should they be engaged?

Design

- 1. How can you design a context to effectively engage them?

Define

- 1. Who should you engage in addressing the targeted problem?
- 2. What should you engage them in?
- 3. What roles should they play?

**Define – Question 1: Who should you engage in addressing the targeted problem?**

<b>Consider these perspectives:</b>	<b>Who in your community is important to involve in addressing your targeted problem? Be specific.</b>
<p>Those <b>experiencing the problem</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Families, youth, and residents living with the problem</li></ul>	

<p>Those <b>providing services</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Public &amp; Private Service providers</li> </ul>	
<p>Those <b>supporting at the local level</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stakeholders involved in resident-led, faith-based, local businesses, and neighborhood organizations</li> <li>• Individuals delivering informal supports</li> </ul>	

Those **deciding on changes & how resources are used**

- Funders
- Local institutions & local organizational leaders
- Local officials

**Define – Question 2: What should you engage them in?**

<b>Look at your list on previous pages. Who should be engaged in each of these phases?</b>	
Selecting the Targeted Problem	
Understanding Why the Targeted Problem is Happening in the Community	
Designing Solutions to Address Targeted Problems	
Carrying Out Solutions	
Assessing Whether Solutions are Being Implemented Effectively	
Learning Whether Solutions were Effective at Addressing the Problem	



**Define – Question 3: How should you engage them?**

<b>Look at your list on page 5. Who should be engaged in the following ways?</b>	
<p><b>Consultant</b> Stakeholders are asked for their feedback. However, they have no influence over decision-making. They just give information that others will use to make decisions.</p>	
<p><b>Partner</b> Stakeholders are involved in discussions about how to address targeted community problems and have influence over final decisions about which efforts should be prioritized.</p>	
<p><b>Change Agent</b> Stakeholders not only engage in discussions and decision-making, but also actively take part in collecting information about the community, analyzing the information, implementing strategies, and collecting data for ongoing learning, deciding.</p>	

Design

- 1. . How can you design a context to effectively engage them?

**Define – Question 1: How can you design a context to effectively engage them?**

<b>Meaningful Roles &amp; Capacity Building</b>	
What new roles are needed to meaningfully engage all stakeholders?	What new capacities are needed by ALL to support stakeholders in these new roles?

### Support System

What supports are necessary to ensure stakeholders are authentically engaged?

How can we put these supports in place?

--	--