

**Tamarack Institute
Community Engagement
Proposal
Chittenden County
Opioid Alliance**

- ★ The people who are affected the most need to be included in the process.
- ★ True systems change needs to come from the community.
- ★ We don't know, what we don't know.
- ★ You never fear someone's story you know.
- ★ The community will act if it has a role in developing the plan.

What?

A 12-month community engagement strategy to delve deeper into the community's understanding, knowledge and experience with opioids. Truly listen and learn about the crisis in our community, to build authentic relationships and trust, get to know one another, share information and build momentum to ultimately create a 3-5 year CCOA Workplan. The engagement process is run by a separate CCOA Community Engagement/Listening Team, but involves all members of the CCOA.

How?

- **Establish Community Engagement/Listening Team**- The Community Engagement/Listening team organizes ~ 12-20 "larger" conversations and then ~ 10 "smaller" partner led conversations in the community. Examples of conversations include:
 - ✓ Riding on the city bus and asking community members questions, they then get a free bus pass as incentive for participating
 - ✓ Asking community members the questions:
 1. What's happening now?
 2. What are the causes of the opioid crisis?
 3. What are the changes you want to see?
 4. What can we do together?
 - ✓ Appreciative inquiry interviews
 - ✓ Conversation Café's- roundtable discussions in a fun, creative "café" environment
- **Establish Data Team**- responds, develops, and communicates data, led by Sam
- **Organize and Design Community Engagement Kick-off event** – 100 people- all 4 sectors represented for a 1 and 1/2 day event that is instrumental in building community momentum and buy-in. Details:
 - Intense conversations of opioid use in Chittenden County
 - Brainstorm concrete ideas on possible solutions
 - Presentations include- what are we most proud of we have succeeded at, what kind of org's are working on this issue and what is their success
 - Sharing of Stories- issues, depth of the problem
 - Comprehensive data- what do we know is happening
 - Strong community leader- share, motivate, and initiate the engagement strategy
- **Action Teams** continue to meet and work on their quick-win strategies
- **Outcomes** measured and documented
- **Document, Discuss and Plan** with all CCOA members
- **Launch** the CCOA 3-5 year Community Plan!

Each team is comprised of people from 4 different sectors, 25% each of- business, non-profit, government, and lived experience.

Why?

To develop a 3-5 year community plan that includes input from over 1,000 community members who are engaged and willing to work together. The Plan will include:

- | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------|
| • Common Agenda | • Governance |
| • Priority Areas of Focus | • Fund Development |
| • Shared outcomes | • Commitment |