

Turn & Talk – Breakout Session

Tuesday, October 14, 2025

Part 1: Guiding Questions

(Spirit) Origins & Non-Negotiables

1. What lived moments forged your non-negotiables and purpose as a prevention leader?
2. What would cultural sensitivity, inclusivity, and respectful engagement with community members look like in your coalition's prevention work?
3. What community-level transformation is your coalition aiming for, and how will you track it using community-defined indicators?

(Science) Community, Equity & Framing

1. Who must be at the table before decisions are made (elders, youth, culture-keepers, sector partners, data holders)?
2. Who currently benefits or is burdened, and how will you reframe deficit narratives with asset-based language while designing upstream prevention strategies?
3. What shared measures, stories, and messaging will your coalition use to move community members from bystanders to upstanders—and to grow distributed, community-rooted leadership?

(Action) Power, Accountability & Repair

1. Where do you hold power and voice in this coalition? How will you share or redistribute it with partners and residents, and how can they safely tell you when you've missed the mark?
2. What does timely repair look like in coalition work (clear steps, timelines, and roles with partners, participants, and community)?
3. What specific upstander behaviors will you practice as a coalition (e.g., naming harm, interrupting stigma, redirecting resources)? What supports will sustain them, and how will you cultivate leadership in others?

(Return) Tensions, Learning & Courage

1. What assumptions about communities, systems, or 'what works' are you ready to unlearn?
2. What truths about equity, harm, or impact have you been softening, and what would it take to name them plainly?
3. What risks will you take to align prevention practice with your values? How will you maintain reflective practice (self-care, critique, and hope) with boundaries that keep you grounded?

Turn & Talk: Pick one core principle and talk with your neighbor about where you're at with this principle right now. Core Principles & Discussion Prompts

Be Positive

- Reframe community stories by naming how "risk-only" labels took hold—and replace them with asset-based, strengths-forward storytelling.
- Celebrate resilience, culture, and identity as acts of resistance; refuse colonial erasure of community strengths.

Be Present

- Interrupt stigma and silence in the moment; make visible how history shaped today's unequal conditions.
- Stand with those long excluded; show up, listen first, then amplify their aims.

Be Perceptive

- Unmask inequities buried in "neutral" policy, research, or practice; trace them to their historical origins.
- Read for intergenerational trauma and institutional blind spots; choose dignity-restoring responses over surveillance or control.

Be Purposeful

- Align decisions with equity and liberation; decline programs that recycle harm or lean on carceral responses.
- Center collective repair by investing where institutions failed to meet community needs.

Be Perfected

- Practice accountable humility: name complicity in oppressive structures and learn publicly from mistakes.
- Share power and decision-making with those historically dismissed, restoring regard for local expertise.

Be Proactive

- Trade reaction for community-led alternatives in justice, health, and education; design upstream solutions.
- Build intergenerational cultures of belonging and mutual care before crises emerge.

Be Passionate

- Speak plainly against inequity; refuse the normalization that silence creates.
- Channel lived experience and collective struggle into advocacy that compels institutions to change course.

Be Paradoxical

- Hold critique and hope together: expose harm while co-creating liberatory replacements.
- Pair accountability with compassion through healing-centered safety models that move beyond punishment.