TRAUMA INFORMED COMMUNITY BUILDING EVALUATION

A formative evaluation of the TICB model and its implementation in Potrero Hill.

Trauma Informed Community Building Model

TICB is an approach to community building that recognizes the everyday stresses in residents’ lives, specifically the pervasive historical and current trauma brought about through community violence, generational poverty and racism. The four central TICB principles inform the TICB strategies at each level of the ecological model. These principles and strategies are then largely realized through community building infrastructure and activities. The ultimate outcomes that the TICB model aims to achieve are increases in engagement, connectedness, and readiness.

TICB in Potrero Hill

In Potrero Hill, the TICB model is largely realized through the implementation of community building activities that are open to both public housing residents and those in the surrounding South and North Potrero Hill neighborhoods.

Methods

- 19 interviews with Potrero Hill residents
- 17 interviews with resident staff, program staff, and service providers
- Observation of community building activities
- Analysis of participation data and budget information
- Two focused discussions about the concept of readiness
Learnings: Outcomes

Participation of both public housing residents and greater Potrero Hill residents in community building activities grew substantially since the introduction of the TICB model.

Mental and physical health improvements experienced as a result of attending community building activities matter to participants and foster ongoing engagement.

“Zones of Safety” may exist around community building activities, while community safety is a significant challenge to participation in activities.

Community building activities foster new and meaningful connections between participants and are a catalyst for cross-cultural and multi-generational relationships.

Learnings: Implementation

Community building activities, in particular the walking school bus, provide an access point for institutions to connect with PTA residents on their terms.

Resident staff play significant leadership roles in implementation of community building activities which greatly enhances participant engagement and their own personal and professional development.

The routine of the weekly activities assists in providing a sense of structure and consistency for residents.

Community building activities provide a significant opportunity to foster conflict management skills.

The gift card incentive acts as a motivator for engagement in community building activities and has become an integral and relied upon source of income for many participants.

Recommendations

Further development of TICB model

Further explore TICB and readiness, and incorporate strategies that promote health, safety, and conflict management skill building.

Strengthen implementation of TICB

Secure stable and sustained funding, ensure representation of all groups, collaborate with system partners, collect data strategically.