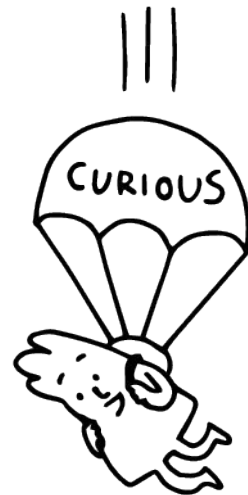




BCBS

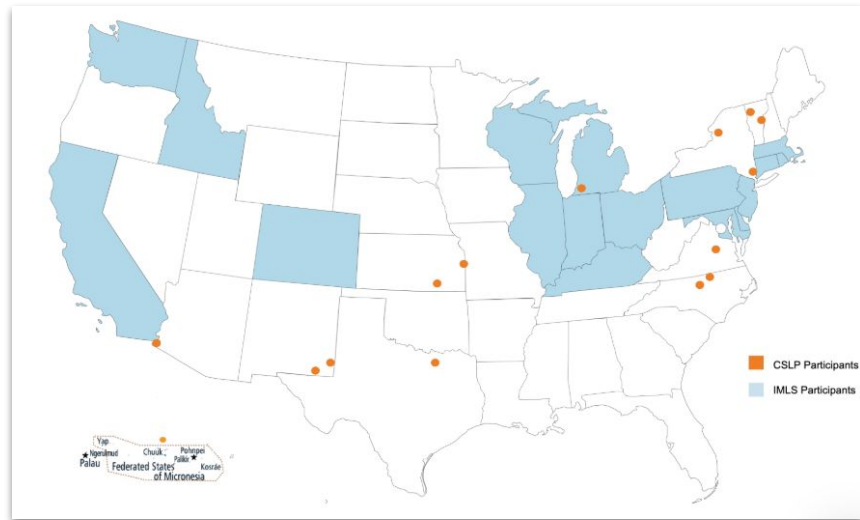
BUILDING COMMUNITY BASED SUMMERS



Building Community-Based Summers: Rethinking Your "Why"



Cathy Lancaster
Youth Services Coordinator
Library of Michigan
LancasterC5@Michigan.gov



"To serve a community we must listen and be transformed."

Today's Handouts: https://bit.ly/BCBS_MLA25

Agenda and Agreements

- Agreements
- Definitions
- Equity Principles
- Golden Circle
- Finding Your “Why” of summer services
- Root Cause Analysis
- Next steps...



What is BCBS?



**AUTHENTIC PARTNERSHIPS
BEYOND TRANSACTION
LISTEN DEEPLY
INVOLVE IN PLANNING**

Definitions

Equality

The term equality focuses on people having the exact same support and services.

Equality means that solutions are the same for every individual no matter their situation.

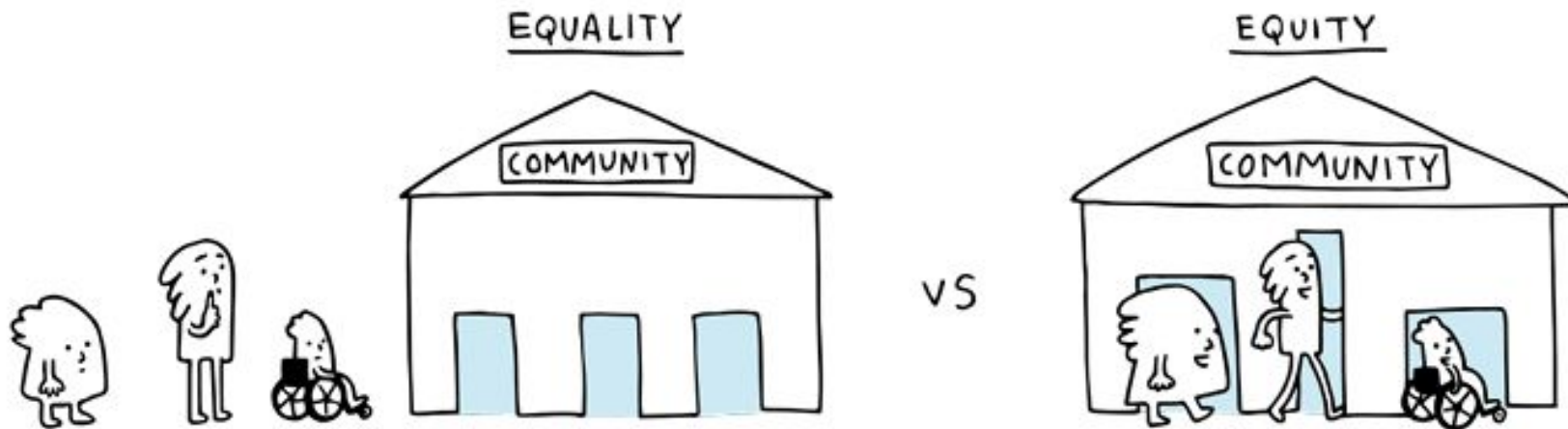
Definitions

Equity

Equity “is the fair treatment, access, and opportunity for advancement for all people, while at the same time striving to identify and eliminate barriers that have prevented the full participation of some groups. Improving equity involves increasing justice and fairness within the procedures and processes of institutions or systems, as well as in their distribution of resources.”

(Worcester State University, n.d.)

Equality vs Equity



Source: <https://communitybasedsummers.org/>

Definitions

Marginalized Experiences

Community members experiencing marginalization can bear the impacts of social, economic, educational, and/or political exclusion. Often these are a result of a combination of intersecting factors such as race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, socioeconomic status, age, physical or mental disability, and religion.

These experiences are characterized by a lack of power and privilege, discrimination, and limited access to resources and opportunities. Those experiencing marginalization often face systemic barriers that impede full participation in society and can lead to disparities in health, education, employment, and overall quality of life.

Equity Principles

- Center Community
- Rethink Internal Systems
- Reflect Continuously
- Foster a Culture of Learning

Four Principles of Community-Based Summers

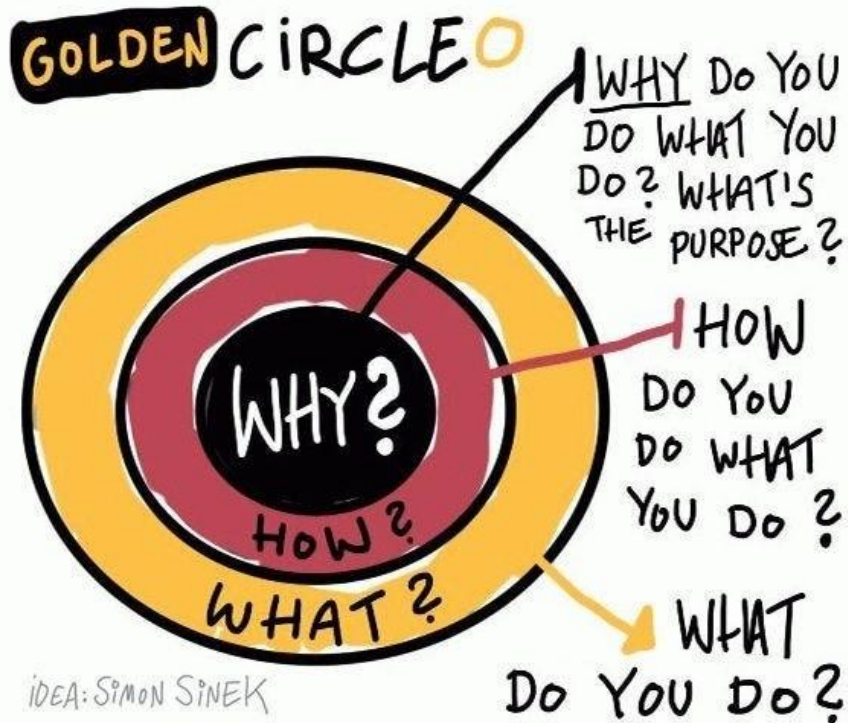
Responding to questions below helps you to build community-based equitable practices. The BCBS Principles form a clover, showing the interconnectedness between each principle. Addressing one principle often positively impacts the others.



Sinek : *Start with the*



Golden Circle

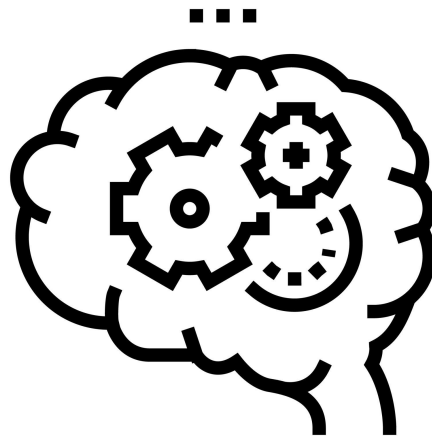


- Without a clear “why,” it’s easy to focus on logistics.
- With a strong “why” priorities shift.

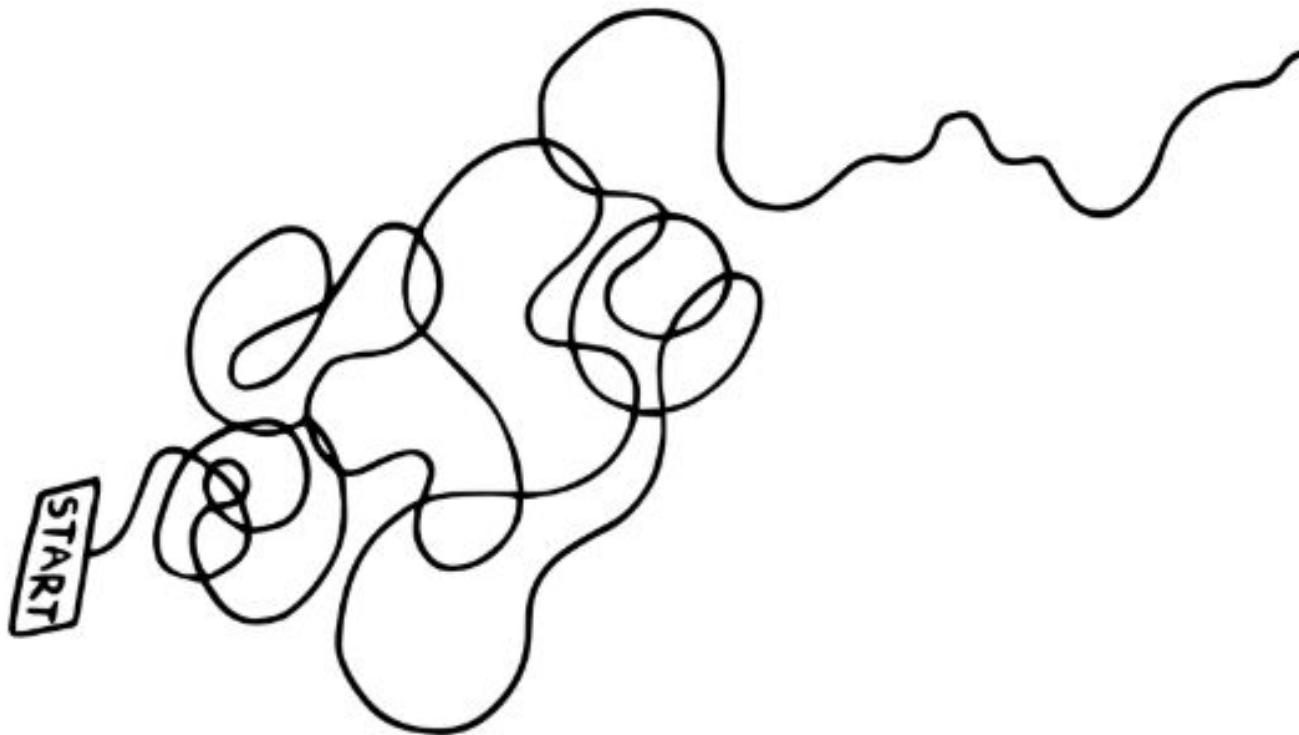
What's Your "Why" of Summer Services?

The Five “Whys” Tool

1. Write your initial Why:
Example: “To bring people into the library”
2. Ask: **Why is that important?**
Because: “Over the summer youth and families often need a place to go to be a part of a community”
3. Ask again: **Why is that important?**
Because: “Being a part of a community is essential to gaining a sense of belonging”
4. Ask again: **Why is that important?**
Because: “A sense of belonging helps youth and adults build confidence”
5. Ask again: **Why is that important?**
Because: “Confidence leads to a sense of agency and independence.”



Share-Outs





Next Steps...

- Letting go of Traditions
- Connecting with Community
- Measuring Progress

Additional Resources

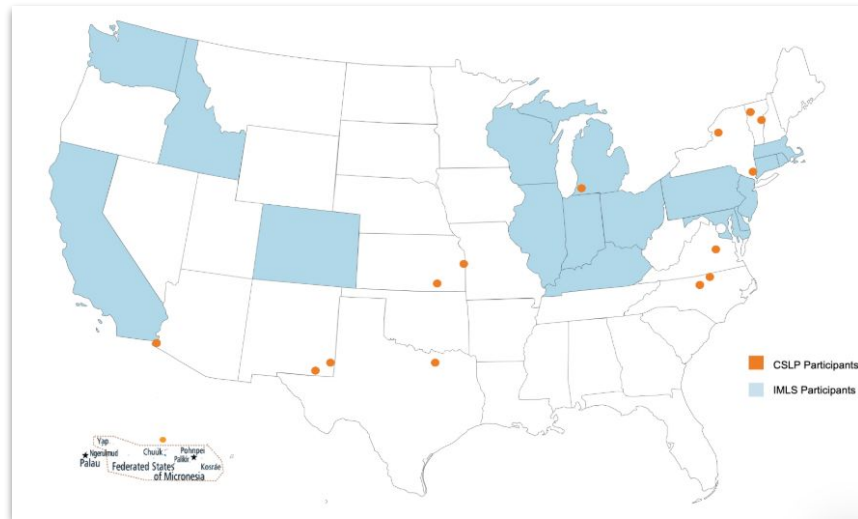
- [Building Community-Based Summers](#)
- BCBS has a home with the [Collaborative Summer Library Program](#)
- [BCBS Workbook](#)
- *Getting Started with Building Community-Based Summers* is available on [WebJunction](#)
- Future cohorts!



Thank you!



Cathy Lancaster
Youth Services Coordinator
Library of Michigan
LancasterC5@Michigan.gov



**“To serve a community we must listen
and be transformed.”**

Today's Handouts: https://bit.ly/BCBS_MLA25