The Magic of Photos and Web-based Storytelling to Raise Rural IL Awareness

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Funding statement

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Overview of session activities

- Introductions
  - Sign in sheet
  - Who is new to APRIL!? Who is an old hat!?
- Overview
  - RCLD
  - Photovoice
  - Story-mapping
- Let's tell the story of APRIL together!
  - Breakout groups to review and discuss photos
  - Group session to review and select photos
  - Build the story-map

Rural Community Living Development (RCLD)

- In partnership with APRIL and an amazing group of rural IL experts (rural service CIL staff from across the country) we:
  - Developed a Rural Outreach Toolkit (visit our vendor table to learn more!)
  - Engaged in participatory evaluation of the process using photovoice and story-mapping
  - Are establishing a rural outreach peer network to continue to support each other in bringing the magic of IL to our rural communities.

RURAL COMMUNITY LIVING DEVELOPMENT

What is photovoice!?

- An interactive way to gather and weave together visual images and stories from several stakeholders around an important issue or needed change

- Photovoice uses participants' (consumers, community members) own images and voices to gather information and communicate an experience

- Photovoice has been used across the world to advocate for underrepresented and marginalized people and communities

- With photovoice, the participants have control over the process. Their photos, words, and voices tell the story

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What is story-mapping?

- Storymap.com is a free and accessible web-based resource for making webpages that can incorporate photos, audio, text, and mapping to share a story about an event, a community or an experience.

- Skills needed:
  - You do not need to be a web design professional
  - Drag and drop/user friendly
  - Upload visual and audio content
  - Be inquisitive and trouble shoot

- Review the RCLD story map for inspiration!

StoryMaps℠

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How you can use this at your CIL and in your community

- Share the story of your CIL
  - Work with staff to share information and stories about the work they do and why they do it!

- Share the impact of your work
  - Bring together a group of consumers to share about the impacts your CIL programs have had in their lives
    - Transportation, housing, IL skills classes, peer support programs

- Share the story of your community outreach
  - Bring together community partners to share about how they serve their communities and why they do the work they do
  - Ask us about community resource mapping!!

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Let's do photovoice together!!

- Break out into four/five groups (to the best of our abilities)
- Spend some time reviewing the photos together
  - Text descriptions are on the back of each photo
  - Read the descriptions to each other or ask for us to come by!
- Identify 3-4 photos that speak to you about the "Magic of IL" and the "Magic of APRIL"
  - Why these photos? What drew you to them?
  - What do these photos say about your experiences?
- Take some notes, we will come back together to discuss!

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Small groups select photos (20 minutes)

P: Describe your PHOTO.

H: What is HAPPENING in your photo?

O: Why did you OBSERVE this?

T: What does this TELL us about your work?

O: What learning OPPORTUNITIES does this picture provide?

RURAL COMMUNITY LIVING DEVELOPMENT

Full group review of top photos (20 minutes)

P: Describe your PHOTO.

H: What is HAPPENING in your photo?

O: Why did you OBSERVE this?

T: What does this TELL us about your work?

O: What learning OPPORTUNITIES does this picture provide?

The magic of APRIL…

Notes

Themes

Sharing the magic….

- Let's build a story map together!
- Sign in on the sheet to make sure you get the final version!

Wrapping up….

- Do you think you might use these tools at your CIL?
  - How?
- What kind of technical assistance do you think you would need?
- Other thoughts or comments!?

- How to get involved in the next phase of this project….
- Visit our table!
- Contact us!
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