UB **UNITED FOR BROWNSVILLE**

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PAT Meeting #39 01/07/2022

Attendance:
- 6 UB Backbone Staff (David Harrington, Athenia Rodney, Aileen Gonzalez, Danielle Herring, Ruth Horry, Briona Clark)
- 28 PAT Members
- 10 FAB members

Meeting Objectives:
- Understand new project priorities for 2022
- Who else needs to be involved? Identify FAB and PAT as well as new community partners necessary for projects to succeed.

Takeaways
The first PAT Meeting of 2022 announced staffing changes and updates about upcoming priorities.

Opener
Ruth led the opener asking
What is something new that you are looking forward to in 2022, whether personal or professional?
- Onzie's Birthday is coming up
- This is Sarah Robinson's first week back from maternity leave
- Continued learning with the group
- Mary-Powel Thomas is bringing on new staff as a part of their city-wide doula initiative and is looking to hire for a part-time position. She shared the job posting for the role, Community Action Network Coordinator: https://www.paycomonline.net/v4/ats/web.php/jobs/ViewJobDetails?job=17312&clientkey=30E67B8EB4D134CD03C82F22EB872BE9

Previously at UB…

- The **December PAT** meeting focused on appreciating all your contributions to UB's new work in 2021. Other topics included
  - External barriers faced by families trying to access early intervention services and resources of where to turn for help when client face these challenges
  - Other potential benefits optimization projects, with discussion focused on childcare vouchers
- The **December FAB** was used to arrive at a consensus on new project priorities
- The Community Solutions CEO is following up on our **Child Tax Credit** project impact data

News and Updates

Staffing - The beginning of 2022 brings with it the adjustment to Backbone staff changes of the last few months of 2021, summarized below.

Long time UB Backbone member Danielle Augustine is moving up into a new role at Community Solutions. Her leadership on projects like Learning Landscapes was key to bringing them to life. She will now be the Project Manager of catalytic Projects and Community Race Equity at Community Solutions.

Dionne Grayman has been a consultant at UB since its formation. Throughout her time, she greatly impacted and informed the trajectory of UBs work towards true accountability and racial equity. Her other work in wellness and education in Brownsville will be ongoing.

Aileen Gonzales was the first at UB to build the EI Ambassador role from the ground up. Prior to her transition, she has worked with our new EI Ambassador to facilitate a smooth hand off for families and providers. She will be entering into a new phase of her graduate program at Emerson College.

Danielle Herring will be taking over for Aileen as our new EI Ambassador. She welcomed the PAT to work with her and sent out a survey to continue understanding their current positions.

Athenia Rodney moves up into her new role of Assistant Director for Applied Projects. She is taking over the development, planning, and implementation of tangible projects.
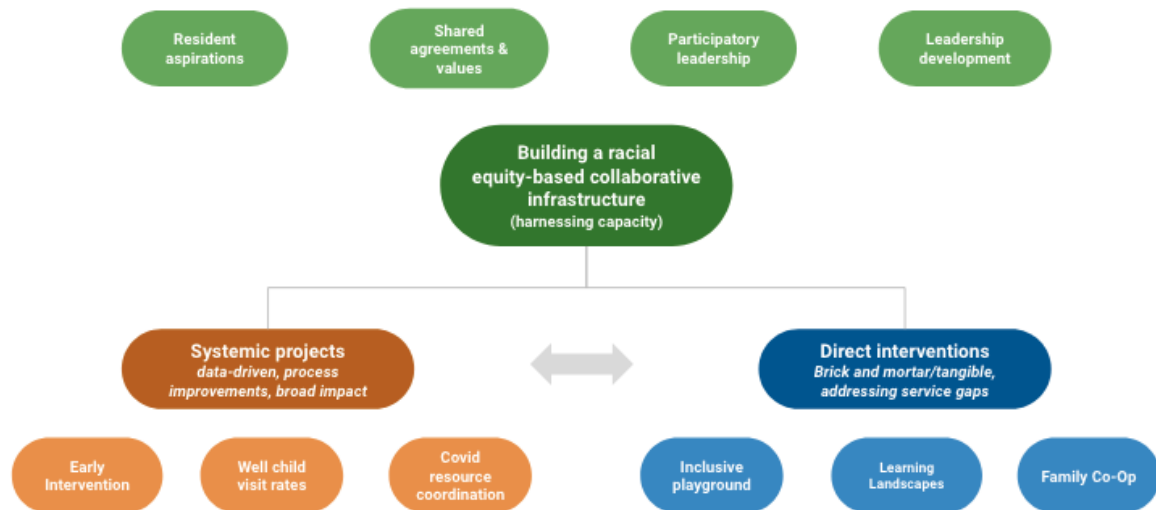
Learning Landscapes

Ub has more Learning Landscapes Kits to be distributed. Kits include books, toys, custom made educational cards created by the FAB, and more. With many schools doing remote learning and closed through the pandemic, these kits filled a need felt by the community.

Ruth will be distributing kits at the Greg Jackson Center every Friday from 3-5pm. Email Ruth at rhorry@sco.org to register families for pickup.

New Project Priorities

The group reviewed UB's workstream web that gets to problem-solving projects through collaboration and the key UB founding principles.

UB Workstreams for Collaborative Problem-Solving

Resident aspirations

Shared agreements & values

Participatory leadership

Leadership development

Building a racial equity-based collaborative infrastructure (harnessing capacity)

Systemic projects
data-driven, process improvements, broad impact

Direct interventions
Brick and mortar/tangible, addressing service gaps

Early Intervention

Well child visit rates

Covid resource coordination

Inclusive playground

Learning Landscapes

Family Co-Op

UB Workstreams

- Systemic Projects vs. Direct Interventions
  - David reviewed the difference between systemic and direct intervention projects.
    - Examples of past <u>systemic work</u> include early intervention work and well child visit rates, while <u>direct intervention</u> would describe UB's Learning Landscapes Project.
  - The future of 2022 will include both types of workstreams listed as our 2022 projects in the packet emailed out prior to the meeting
  - Athenia's role as Assistant Director of Applied Projects is to focus attention onto these more direct intervention projects, ensuring they receive proper attention.

- Projects for 2022
  - *Learning Neighborhoods:* a direct intervention project to engage parents and caregivers as co-designers for an extension of the Learning Landscapes project. It aims to:
    - Revitalize unused community spaces and create "Ready to Learn" prompts
    - Make literacy functional and hands on
    - Create spaces that encourage critical thinking skills

- - *Benefits Optimization:* a direct intervention project to support families who are in need of social assistance by
    - Coming together to better understand issues such as underutilization due to lack of access to benefits like TANF, SNAP, WIC, Child care vouchers and other public benefits
    - Revisiting successful methods used by UB and the PAT, like our work on the CTC, to address barriers and circulate critical information
  - *Equitable Access to Early Childhood Pediatric Care* : a systemic project that seeks to answer the questions
    - How can we increase pediatric well child visit rates in Brownsville?
    - How can we ensure pediatric care is more culturally compatible for children in Brownsville?
    - How do we make infant/toddler health care and services easier to navigate for families?
  - *Daycare and Educational enrollment*: a systemic project aimed at getting more early childhood education and enrollment data to ensure that Brownsville children are receiving the research-proven benefits of early educational programming.
- Breakout Group/Activity
  - The group split into 4 breakout groups, one for each project, and discussed for 45 minutes while backbone team members recorded notes of responses.
  - Prompts included questions like…

Why does this issue matter to you?
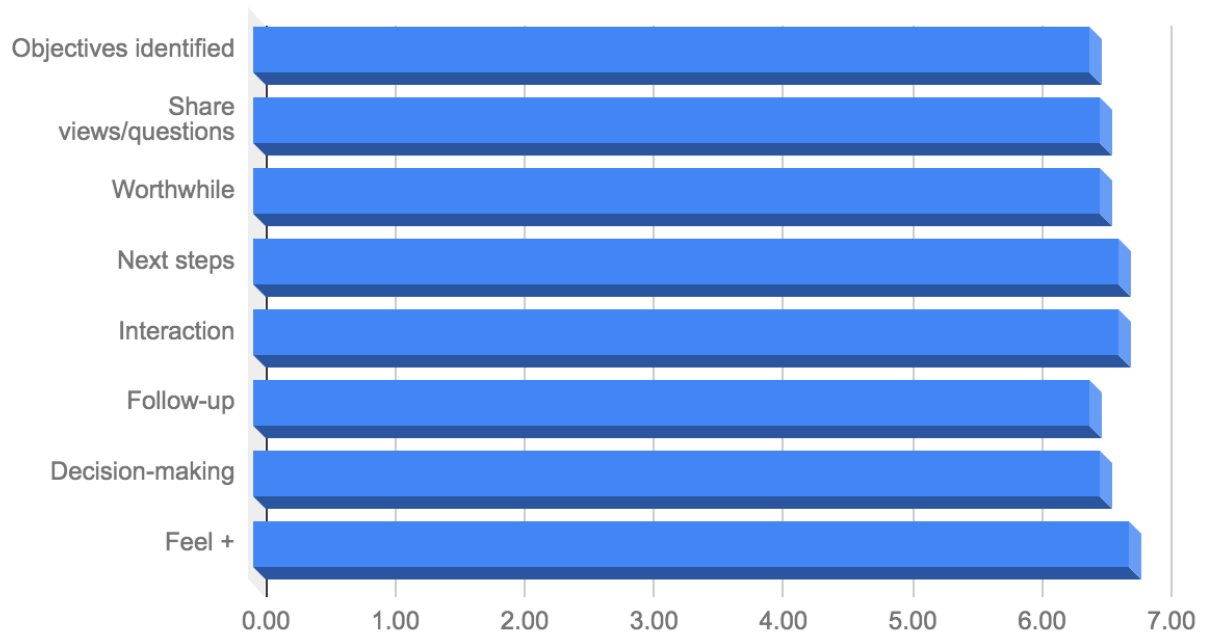*What information, data, or research do we need to understand this problem better?*
Who else (organizations, people, programs, etc.) is needed in order for this to be successful?

Answers for each group were recorded by a present Backbone team member in a separate document for later review.

Next Steps
- PAT and FAB members follow through on actions to connect UB to key collaborators
- UB Team will continue to network and research for these project ideas

PAT Reality Check Average Answers

A horizontal bar chart titled "PAT Reality Check Average Answers" with the following categories and approximate values:

Category	Value
Objectives identified	~6.3
Share views/questions	~6.4
Worthwhile	~6.4
Next steps	~6.6
Interaction	~6.6
Follow-up	~6.3
Decision-making	~6.4
Feel +	~6.6

X-axis scale: 0.00, 1.00, 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00

Word cloud containing the following words:

access aileen ambassador assistant athenia backbone benefits bringing brownsville care child coming community continue create danielle data direct early educational ei ensure fab families group include information intervention job key kits landscapes learning meeting members pat pediatric priorities program rates role ruth solutions staff systemic ub understand work workstreams project