

COLLECTIVE
IMPACT

The Why and How of Working with Communities through Collective Impact: An E-Course



LIVING CITIES

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Overview

This free e-course will help you better understand the process of working with community members through collective impact.

The recent surge of interest and resources around collective impact principles has highlighted an important concern and challenge for many practitioners: *Where does the community fit in?* Living Cities constructed this e-course to equip those involved in collective impact initiatives with tools for including and working with community members.

Our free e-course walks participants through five modules, designed to help collective impact initiatives better understand how to work with community members. Each module includes resources, discussion questions and interactive exercises. While the course can be taken as an individual, we recommend that participants discuss the modules in a group with other members of their collective impact initiative.

This e-course is not intended to be the final word on community engagement in collective impact. Rather, it is a starting place for the conversation. We offer these curated resources as an introductory scan of the literature and a way for your collective impact initiative to begin developing strategies for partnering with community members more deeply.

Timeline

We initially released a live iteration of this 5-week e-course in March 2015. You can now take the e-course at your own pace! We recommend completing these modules in groups, and spending about 1-2 hours a week of group time on each module.

At the end of each module, we ask that you complete a short post-module survey to confirm your work, shared feedback and help us continuously improve.

Course Components

Each module has four components to complete: Reading materials and/or video, an exercise, online discussion and a post-module survey. Module 5 includes a capstone [webinar on racial equity](#) which can be viewed as a stand-alone resource as well. Access or download any of the modules using the links below. The “download document” box at the top right corner of this page allows you download a PDF of this page for easy future reference.

Discussions

- You can also join the on-going conversation on the Collective Impact Forum [community discussion page](#), which requires free registration for the Collective Impact Forum.
- You can also follow the conversation on social media with hastag [#CEinCI](#).
- And [sign-up now](#) to get content related updates sent right to your inbox!

Access the Materials

[Pre-course Survey](#)

Take five minutes to establish a baseline for where you are in the work and give us useful data so we can understand your needs and continue to improve.

[Module 1: Why Involve Community Members in Collective Impact](#)

The first module focuses on the theoretical framework for working with community members, and helps participants understand how to link engagement strategies with engagement goals.

[Module 2: Amplifying the Voice of Community in Collective Impact](#)

The second module introduces participants to approaches for supporting community members to better contribute to collective impact initiatives.

[Module 3: Creating Community Feedback Loops to Fast Track Change](#)

The third module introduces the concept of “feedback loops” and how they can improve your work with community members.

[Module 4: Applying Business Concepts to Community Engagement](#)

The fourth modules of our e-course looks at opportunities for collective impact initiatives to apply business concepts to community engagement work.

[Module 5: Working with Communities to Advance Racial Equity and Eliminate Disparities](#)

The fifth and final module of our e-course explores how you can work with community members to promote racial equity through collective impact.

[Post-course Survey](#)

Take five minutes to reflect on your learning and provide feedback we will use to improve this course material.