

United in Trust: A Multi-sectoral Community-Academic Approach to Building and Evaluating Trust in North Omaha, Nebraska

Methodology

- ***Speak Freely Sessions***

- The core team and community partner organizations met (July 2024) to decide on a new project approach that better met the needs of community residents to discuss their experiences interacting with the five key sectors in this project.
 - We also met to determine the process to coordinate the Speak Freely sessions.
- To adhere to the project timeline and budget, we decided to hold **three** Speak Freely sessions with each community, inviting **eight** residents from each community to participate in the sessions.
 - The sessions were 2-hours in duration:
 - 30 minutes: networking and dinner
 - 90 minutes: discussion
- The Speak Freely format was chosen to create a space where residents can openly share their experiences, which guided the direction of discussions.
- One core team member coordinated and **facilitated** the Speak Freely sessions for the three communities
 - Bluebird Cultural Initiative: Native
 - Visionary Lions, LLC: Black
 - African Immigrant Family Services: Refugee
- One of the community partner organizations **co-facilitated** the sessions with a core team member
 - Big Elk Native American Center: Native
 - The Wellbeing Partners: Black
 - N.O.A.H. Clinic: Refugee
- We had at least two scribes at each session for each community to capture notes from the discussion. At the July 2024 meeting, the collective decided not to digitally record the sessions as a means of initiating the conversations with trust.
 - We ensured all notes had personal and organizational names removed. Additionally, the results were presented in aggregate to prevent any direct statements or questions from being associated with specific individuals.
- The PI (King) and core team members (Frankel, Allen) worked with the co-facilitators to coordinate the sessions including location, food, and incentives.
- Each resident who participated in the discussions received a \$50 Visa gift card per session. In addition, we provided a meal at each session for all residents.
- We encouraged residents to attend all three sessions; however, this was not required.

- We encouraged the community partner organizations to attend and participate in the conversation (as many are also part of the community). The partner organizations who participated in the sessions did not receive \$50 gift cards. Instead, they received a \$500 stipend as a token of appreciation for their participation in the groups, planning meetings, and supporting the work of their respective community.

- **Data Analysis**

- Data analysis was a community-academic partnered process where all core team members and community partner organizations participated in the process.
- Emailed the notes from all Speak Freely sessions 4 weeks before the analysis meetings to core team members and community partner organizations.
- The Pls (King and Shipman) scheduled a total of **six** 2-hour meetings
 - Two meetings were scheduled for each community.
 - All data analysis meetings were hosted in the community at one of the core team members' organizations.
- Prior to the data analysis meetings, King and Rebolledo-Gomez prepared for the meeting by creating an Excel with sheets for the coding analysis for each community and the codebook,



- The Refugee community data analysis meetings used an extra-large sticky wall to train all partners to conduct the analysis (See Figure 1).
- To check the reliability of wo core team members recorded codes and discussion notes in a pre-prepared Excel worksheet with the notes and codebook (See Figure 2).
- We coded the notes using the codebook developed by core team and community partner organizations.
- Developed a codebook with 3 sets of codes categorized as follows:
 - Principles of Trustworthiness
 - Key sectors: housing, education, public health, healthcare, and policy.

TRUSTWORTHINESS GRANT			
DATA ANALYSIS: REFUGEE LISTENING SESSION		*P- Packet, p- Page, L- Line	
CODE	Note Quote	Reference*	Note
	Culture representing: East Africa- Somalian, Afgan, West Africa, South Sudan, Karen, Congolese-Somali, Syrian, Egyptian and Middle East.	P1p1L7	
	Karen: School at 15 years old. Misidentified her. Korean instead of Karen. Skipped lunch because felt as not belonging.	P1p2L11	
	Sudanese: Male, married, wife and 3 kids. Gvt decided to bring them to NE. Documents I-94, no passports.	P1p2L14	
	People at airports were not educated on refugees. He and his family lost their plane. Different commutes and planes lost. Kids and family stressed out, no food. They asked for help and first-time eating McDonalds.	P1p2L16	
	It felt that people in Omaha knew more how to work with refugees.	P1p2L20	
	Didn't know how to drive, learnt in 7 hrs. Traffic signaling was a barrier that he overcame the hard way during snow season.	P1p2L21	
	West Africa: came as exchange student. Different situation because he was more well off, learnt to cook in the US. Studied in Savanna GA, he was able to land a job in Omaha, NE in translation services from French to English.	P1p3L24	
	He was told that Nebraska was a "White people place"	P1p3L28	
	More racism in GA than NE. Obtained BS in Bellevue, MS in Maryland. Married and living here since 2019.	P1p3L30	
	Afgan: Used to do military combat interpreter work, that is different from health or medical interpretation. He and his wife arrived to NY. His Case worker meet, put in a hotel. Bus Transportation misunderstandings because it is different from Afghanistan.	P1p3L32	
	Another pronunciation is in the word weza. Afgans told that this kind of pronunciation. Need for it.		

Figure 2. Coding Template for Data Analysis

codes in the Excel worksheet.

• **Data Validation: United in Trust Symposium**

- Based on the data analysis, a summary of the project and the major themes from the Speak Freely sessions were presented back to the community residents who participated in the Speak Freely sessions at the United in Trust Symposium.
- All invited community residents had a chance to review the theme summaries and recommendations while enjoying a culturally expansive dinner buffet with signature dishes from each community.
- The breakout sessions were 45 minutes and led by the Speak Freely session co-facilitators. Each breakout also had a core team member to take notes of any changes to the key themes and recommendations.
- A summary of all the Principles of Trustworthiness and Key sectors that were discussed the most by the respective communities during the Speak Freely sessions were also shared in the breakout sessions with community residents.
- The results of the breakout discussion were presented back to the larger group to finalize the data validation.

- New codes defined during analysis meetings.
 - The Black and Native data analysis meetings did not use the sticky wall. Instead, meetings were led by one of the facilitators from the Speak Freely sessions with two notetakers to document the