

RITF May 19, 2017 Appreciative Inquiry (AI) & Strategic Planning

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Special Guest: Sue McKensie

Aaron- We are visioning towards the future today and spending energy on our ability to positively impact the issues that are important to the group.

Reviewed the power point. See attached.

AI paired interview process. See attachment for instructions. Find the strengths and positives. The goal is to listen intently and ask question.

- Forward thinking & innovation. Exploring themes. Want to see the RITF continue into the future. Sense of community and coming together. Focus on both rural and urban communities. Broader scope of peer and spears of people and ideas. Thinking broader in terms of membership and what we mean by peer support. How do we think of ourselves and what we do. Diversity is a theme- not the same thing as representative of our state. Need youth voices for example that we learn from. We should learn and then act. We need to have specific outcomes and can't be too broad where we have no focus. We are of similar ages etc. and we have historically focused on things within our experiences- but there are many new experiences that we don't understand. We need to mentor leadership in the next generation. Expand the concept of hope beyond the individual and encourage the development of tools that deliver hope broadly. Peer support is a way of interacting and can be recognized and related to across many types of communities. The work should be done within our communities. Compile stories and themes to influence local policy etc. It's about replication of engagement, not programs. Sharing stories is critical to impact change. We don't need to reinvent the wheels- go back to our origins to see what still applies (Recovery In Action projects). Consider a look backwards to see what the Blue Ribbon Commission and Recovery In Action recommended and see where we are at and if things are still applicable that are not accomplished. We can look at why people don't access the "system"- as opposed to focusing on the system, we can focus on alternatives to the system? Access to peers has become focused on Medicaid instead of relationships.

Focus:

1. RITF Community- **6 votes**
2. Recovery Stories- Uniqueness, hope, shared experience- **5 votes**
 - a. Representation- local, urban, rural. Health diverse skill building / leadership
 - b. What's working in communities & individually
3. Youth- grow our understanding and mentor / leadership **** - 6 votes**
4. Expand the concept of Peer to all- include Professionals, integration / humanness. Clarify CPS / PS. **** - 11 votes**

- a. PSS- community organizing. Employer training, coaching, accountability- understand of.
5. Learn together about those we want to represent and impact.
6. Identify state, budget policy and local policies that support or need to change.- 4 votes
7. Revisit the past- what will help us in next stage? **- 8 votes
8. What tasks / focuses are we ready to let go of?- 1 vote

Roles and Behaviors: (Zone of helpfulness)-

Consider devoting more time to committee's and less time to the RITF as a whole. Either dedicated meetings for committee's only & full body meets 2 X per year or more time at each meeting for committee's and 1 hour to RITF for reporting? Committee reports can be limited to a short time of actionable items with all minutes posted to the website for details. Use the standardized agenda's etc. for continuity.

- Emphasize "work" to committees
- Reduce/ Remove general Mtg (?)
- Having a "savvy" structure, efficient
- RITF as a Learning Environment (speakers, presentations etc.)
- Idea of leadership academy or mentoring/tutoring for new members and / or new Chair persons
- Re-visit term limits, make sure we have some consistency of expertise at the table (members)
- Tighten up meeting times
- Take a look at current committees and if they are still in line with the goals and direction of RITF
- Refine the committees to bring energy/outreach to "mainstream" peer support
- Revisit committee goals and purpose and does it relate to the current RITF?
- Survey larger RITF on compelling topics to work on, ideas for committee work and focuses etc

Possible pitfalls-

- The BPTR is less transparent than in the past. There is an issue of not feeling like the input is not valuable. The impression of being shut down- if the RITF has to do an Open Records Request- how is this a valued partner with the Bureau? Members felt tokenized at times from BPTR.
- We need to have open conversation about privilege and how we as a group welcome perspectives.
- If leadership does not value this voice- this voice can work towards it's goals in other ways.

July meeting will be a pot luck! Invite Pat Cork and / or Joyce to join us.

*Lalena- create CD's of RITF historical doc's, the Leadership Academy. New Partnership for Women, and the Recovery in Action documents. A small group will review and look for info & themes. Pull together existing documents & tools that already exist e.g. agenda format, co-chair application forms etc. Updates needed? Aaron will draft an input survey for members who were not able to attend today.