

Promise Partners
Early Childhood Strategy Development
Documentation of Participant-Generated Work Products
March 18, 2016
8:00 am - 1:00 pm

Overarching Strategic Focus:

In the light of current funding challenges, how will we position Promise Partners over the next three years to collectively meet the needs of Pottawattamie's young children and families?

Session Objectives:

- Craft a 3-year strategic vision and plan for Pottawattamie's early childhood programming and services
- Create partner ownership of the plan and commitment to its implementation
- Determine next steps and accountability for action

Agenda:

- Context - Why are we here and what will we accomplish?
- Environmental Scan - What does our current planning landscape look like and what trends are impacting our mission and work?
- Shared vision for collaboration - What specific priority outcomes do we want to see in place in three years as a result of our collective action?
- Strategy development - What substantial innovative actions can we take to address our obstacles and move toward our vision for Early Childhood?
- Next Steps - Who needs to do what by when to move our planning process forward effectively?

Initial “Top of Mind” Questions from Participants:

- Are our goals still relevant?
- How could we get more connected and help each other?
- How can we support our government & communicate the value?
- How do we further maximize our collaboration for greater impact?
- How do we reach holistic impact to the whole family?
- What’s the messaging around the importance of preschool and attendance?
- How do we get to underlying root causes & not just treat symptoms?
- How can Promise Partners elevate awareness to address these things collectively?
- How can we integrate more with mental health?
- What shared indicators will help us share impact?
- How can we increase community awareness and buy-in?
- How can we reach the population we’re still not serving?

“What factors in our planning landscape need the most strategic attention?”

What is working that needs to be carefully watched, preserved, or encouraged?	What are the negative consequences of inaction?	What could be affected or changed in a positive direction in 5-10 years if we did something specific now?	What future desired result or change in the current situation is going to require our persistence and perseverance? (Not a quick fix...)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> High quality of services provided (when engaged) Dedicated & well-trained individuals (providers) Reaching a wider population ⇒ still need more! 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Avoiding the problem doesn't make the problem go away. The problem will continue to exist and will probably increase. When we are able to identify (define) the problem, we can focus on solutions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collaboration: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leads to a single point of entry for families. Maximizes community impact and promotes <u>cost sharing</u> and <u>service effectiveness</u>. \$ - seed money. Communication: Increase the message to families, legislators, community members. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coordinated comprehensive system to benefit all community members that addresses: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mental health/substance abuse Trauma Poverty
What bold new risks could we explore or take?	Where do you see signs of the future happening now?	What is currently removing old barriers to our future?	In today's planning environment (social, political, financial, technological, etc.), what might be our “window of opportunity”?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transportation – Thinking of community resources ⇒ volunteers, churches, transportation rep. coming to meetings – liability/insurance Tokens for completion of family wellness acts for bus (for family activities), childcare, gym. Mall of the Bluffs ⇒ one stop shop <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>childcare</u> – healthy food (obesity), exercise in safe environment, quality education, smoke free environment, on the bus route, gym for families. Mental health services. “Let me walk you to...” Collaborate in same spot. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Awareness: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Around reading Early childhood impts Social Issues <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Single family households Wages Mental health Good & Bad <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Technology and screen time 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Technology – Blink Teen Pregnancy Navigator (CBCSD) Preschool availability (9/10 schools) Grade level reading campaign Legislation (enforcing comp. attend. for 4 yrs.) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Show how Mental Health connects to and impacts all aspects of health, development, education, etc. Require/suggest use of holistic assessment and approach Demonstrate how costs are actually cheaper if MH is addressed (in long run); eventually change flow of \$ Education opportunities to inform families and community about healthy lifestyles

“What do we want to see in place in three years as a result of our collective action?”

Secure and Nurturing Families	An Empowered Community that Encourages the Well-Being of All	Combined Effort for Collective Impact	Easily Accessible Resources	Children Ready to Succeed in School
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child Safety • Parents as partners in education and community • Healthy individuals • Families become independent and empowered • Preventative approach 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greater legislative awareness and support (of what families deal with) • It Matters/Early Childhood is important to <u>EVERYONE!!</u> • Social media awareness campaigns • End the stigma • Linking common provider websites • Community acceptance and participation in mental health • Engaging and collaborating with private industry • Education about services • Decrease stigma • ↑↑ public awareness. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintained or improved collaboration • Diversify partners; expand Human Service Council • Open communication and collaboration amongst partners • Partners are engaged and see return on investment • Collective community wide goals • Standardized measurement (program outcomes) • Resources support prioritized goals • Abandon some to prioritize the precedent • Coordinated planning to address systematic barriers • Stable diversified funding with private investment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One entry point for services • Open enrollment: “You Qualify!” • Centralized intake containing resource directory and holistic assessment • One database shared among ALL • Funding for transportation • Child care and transportation in order to access resources • Wider utilization of services (reach the unreachable) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>No or low cost</u> preschool (3-5) • Universal preschool for 4 year olds • Increase access to preschool • Improved access to quality, affordable childcare

Strategy Development

Strategic Challenge Question	Why important	Related Issues	Focus Issues	Possible Actions	Chosen Actions
How will we prepare children to succeed in school?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sets the foundation for success in school, workforce, Life, etc... 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$\$ • Access for everyone • Transportation • Lack of understanding of the importance • Parents not understanding their impact/influence of their role in early childhood education • Quality childcare and PK 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access for everyone • Parents as Partners • Quality childcare and PK 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Find more money/funding • Integrating funding sources • Strategic communication campaign around E.C. (Birth to 5 years) importance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Find and integrate funding sources • Strategic communication campaign around E.C. importance • Collaborative Professional Development and agreed-upon curriculum • Equip ALL parents to be quality 1st teachers for their children (birth to school age)

Strategic Topic	Why important	Related Issues	Focus Issues	Possible Actions	Chosen Actions
How do we support the development of secure and nurturing families?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is the foundation of a solid, healthy community and society. • Caring adults, capable adults 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mental health issues • Abuse and neglect • Prevention • Independent and empowered families • Substance abuse • Parenting practices • Child development education and awareness • Generational issues (health, poverty, etc.) • ACES/trauma • Resiliency 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education/prevention • Trauma - resiliency • Connections 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community education on the impact of trauma: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - poverty training - ACES - Trauma Informed Care - Connections Matter - Mental Health First Aid - Mandatory Reporting - Parent Education - Resource 101 - Mentoring Youth 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Education • Parent Education • Mentoring

Who Involved: Agencies, Business, Government Officials, Teachers, Child Care Providers, Families/Parents, Youth, Mentoring programs

Strategic Topic	Why important	Related Issues	Focus Issues	Possible Actions	Chosen Actions
How can we make resources easily accessible?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Simplify process to best meet needs of family and community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Centralized application (personal) • Community resource directory • Transportation to resources • Available to all • Funding! 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All inclusive Resource Directory - responsibility and lead • Centralized personal intake application • Transportation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Locating current resource directories (Steering committee, Consistent leader, Communicate) • Committee of shareholders to explore options (fulltime position, MCO - collaboration) • Talking to taxi, DOT, SWITA re: transportation - partner with Pott Co. transportation committee 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Locating current resource directories (Steering committee, Consistent leader, Communicate) • Committee of shareholders to explore options (fulltime position, MCO - collaboration) • Talking to taxi, DOT, SWITA re: transportation - partner with Pott Co. transportation committee

Strategic Topic	Why important	Related Issues	Focus Issues	Possible Actions	Chosen Actions
In what ways will we empower a community that encourages the well-being of all?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Necessary for sustainability • The needs exist • “Nothing about us without us.” 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of involvement/ awareness • Challenges social norms & stigmas • Limited time & capacity to make change • Lack of expertise in marketing/ public relations/ communication • Lack of community ownership • Matching skills/ abilities to opportunities to participate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of involvement/ awareness • Challenges social norms & stigmas • Limited time & capacity to make change • 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reach community with Connection Matter • Identify people/ time/money that will be necessary • Have a marketing/ public relations/ communication training • Develop communication plan including key leaders/ organizations • Consider need for 3rd party support for planning/process facilitation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reach community with Connection Matter • Identify people/ time/money that will be necessary • Have a marketing/ public relations/ communication training • Develop communication plan including key leaders/ organizations • Consider need for 3rd party support for planning/process facilitation

Strategic Topic	Why important	Related Issues	Focus Issues	Possible Actions	Chosen Actions
<p>How will we combine our efforts for collective impact and what is needed to achieve this?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainability maximizes impact 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expanding on coordinated intake referral process • Implementation of effective and efficient practices • Expanding RBA • Expand partnerships • Identify and align common initiatives • Identify expertise within umbrella • Research and identify sustainable funding • 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leadership infrastructure • Build upon what we have • Streamline efforts and share resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify existing expertise and elect/ identify leadership (nothing new) • Pott County involvement - County convene a “Call to Action” 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pott County IS the umbrella!

Debrief Questions and Responses

Call to Action: Propose to county a larger collaborative umbrella or governing committee that would bring together variety of collaborative groups.

Initial response?

- Seems like the right time.

Possible dangers?

- There may be overlap between a number of collaborative entities doing similar, overlapping work... (e.g. on mental health)?
- What are some of those colliding collaboratives?
- What are the messages they need to hear?
- We don't want them to go away, but we recognize their unique strengths and niches and want to capitalize on their expertise.
- When PP came together, we began doing empowerment and DECAT. But there may be another entity where PP is still under the umbrella. We're not trying to bring everyone under our house, but build a bigger house.
- Where did you hear alignment and common threads among reports?
- Partners
- Education
- What's the larger whole?
- Going to repeat the process with those partners focusing on child welfare in the formal child welfare system.
- Again, with the governmental piece.
- Then envision looking at each strategy and priority first steps, and then who we need at the table to get that off the ground.

Conclusion: Are there things that need to be shifted as a result of today.

What would you want governing board to be mindful of as process evolves?

- Ensuring wide participation and inclusivity if a governing committee is created.

Reviewing the day...

What are you feeling good about?

- the excitement about dreams and aspirations of the community

When did excitement come out? What did you hear that you got excited about?

- It would be phenomenal to have centralized assessment so people aren't falling through the cracks; currently have access to family support programs, but if I meet a family that won't benefit from that, it would be great to have a lot more options. Don't have everything at my fingertips now.
- The blue clouds and graphics... if I just look at those, it makes me excited and reenergized that what we do matters. We've made progress and we can keep improving if we just keep going.
- Being asked to be involved in the planning.

Yeah... but...

- Who's going to do it?
- Who has to relinquish control to allow certain things to happen?
- Funding

Anything we've overlooked this morning?

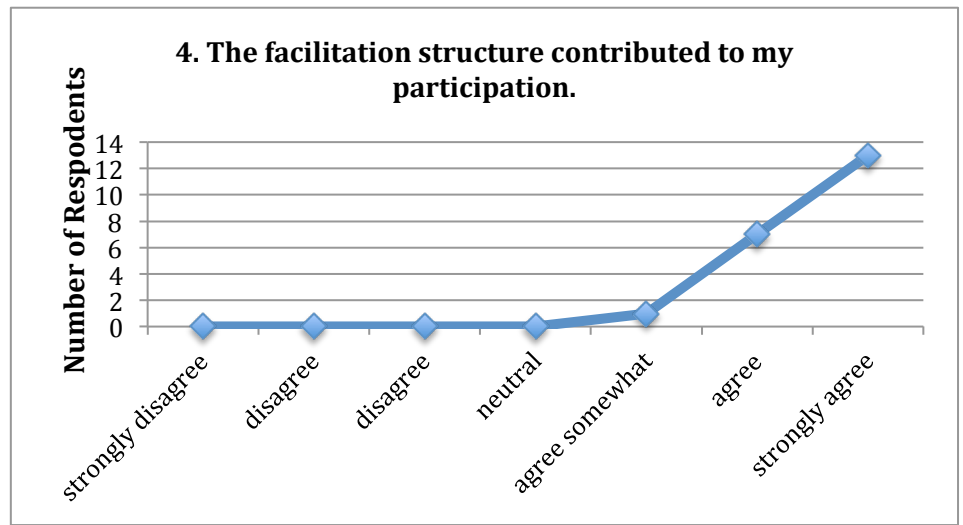
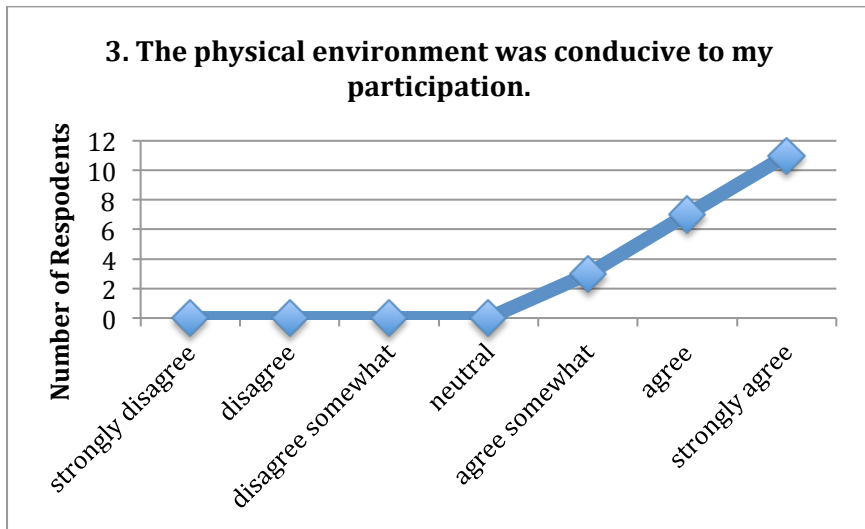
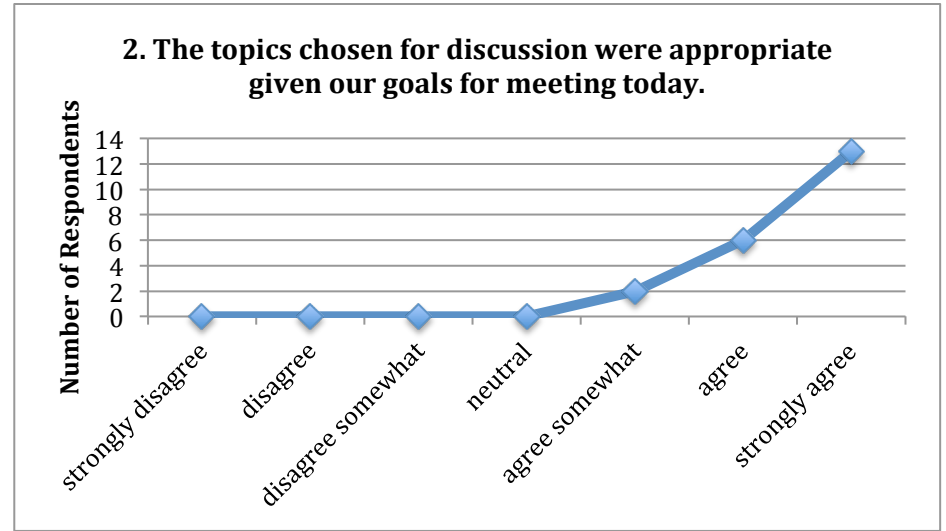
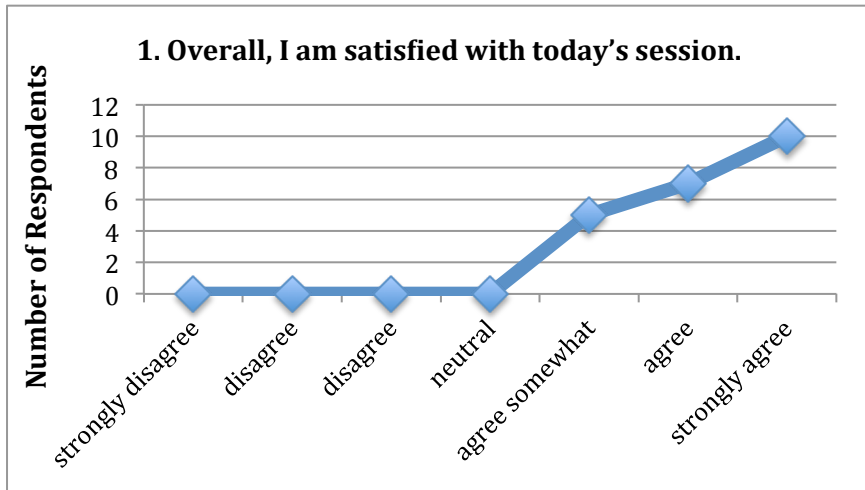
What difference do you think this work today will make when you go back to work tomorrow?

- hope for the future
- we finally have methods to get to the end
- we don't have to try and do it alone
- makes me want to find out more about the resources in the community so I can help my moms through the referral process

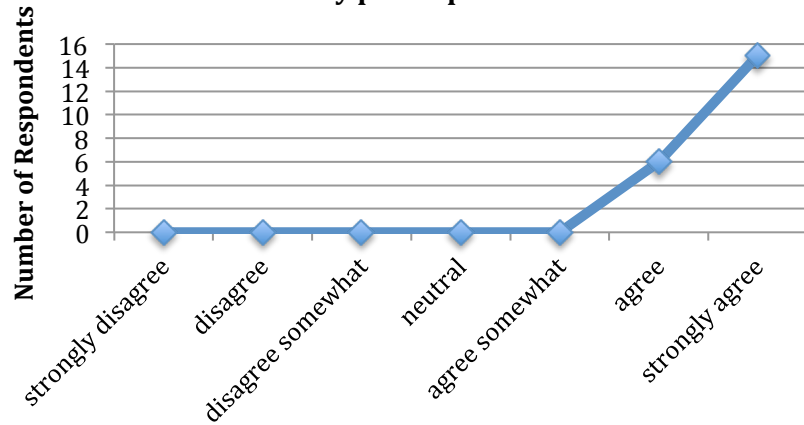
When you go back to your office, what are the things you might tell folks about what happened today? What's your consistent message? 3 key messages?

- no antagonism; common message, common vision
- need to educate others on the shared vision
- we're not alone

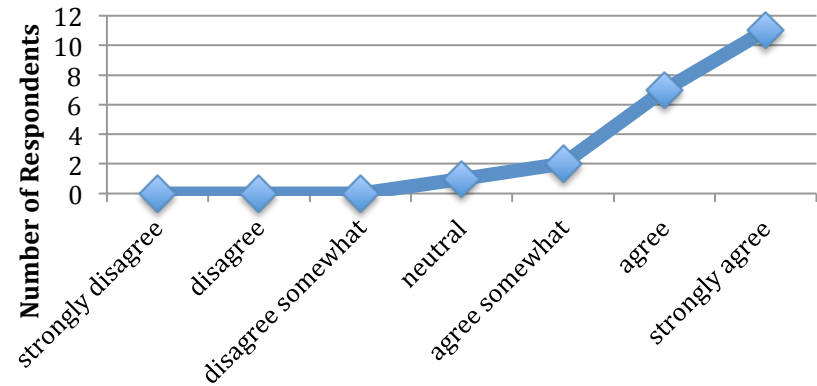
Participant Evaluations



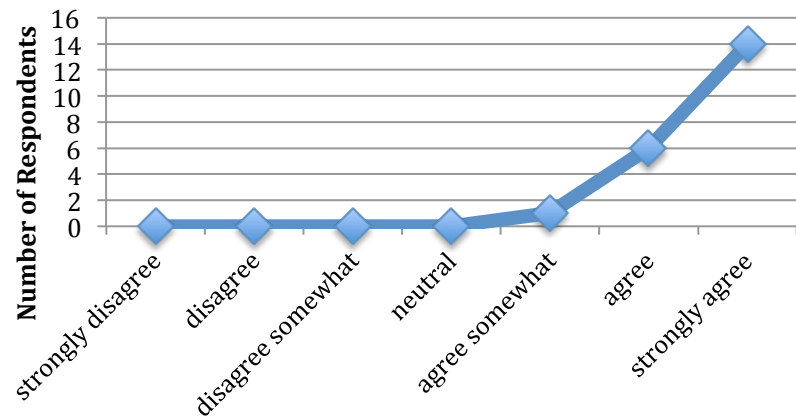
5. The facilitator's presentation style contributed to my participation.



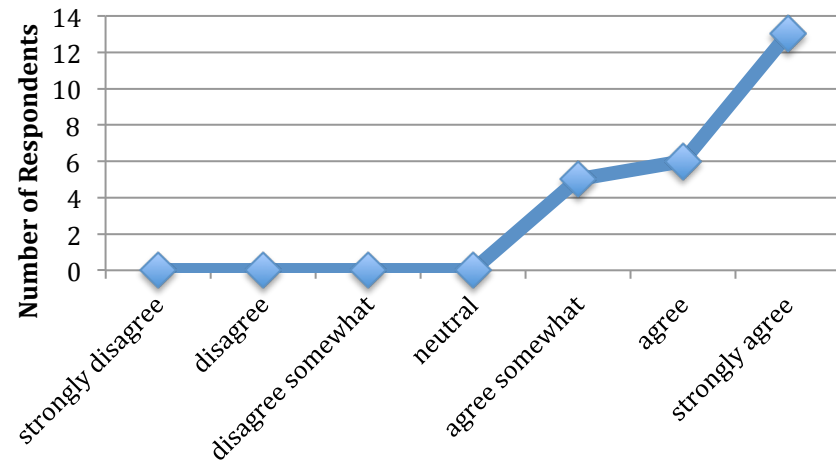
6. The time allowed for this session was appropriate.



7. The exercises/activities we completed were engaging.



8. I was comfortable with the pace of the session.



An “ah-ha” for me during this session was...

- Everyone has similar goals, dreams, and aspirations
- More services/opportunities than I was aware of for our families
- This large group was focused on common positive goals!
- Community involvement
- The number of individuals and agencies willing to collaborate with a common goal
- It will take some more energy to move from the silos we are in
- The stats on Pott Co. of obesity, teen preg., etc could all be helped with quality, affordable childcare in a centralized location with other family support services. Children are in care 12 hours or more a day. WE CAN MAKE AN IMPACT IN THOSE 6-12 HOURS!
- A lot of people/agencies working toward a shared vision
- Very painless, which is not often the case in these sorts of sessions! Thank you. Job well done!
- Mental health really drives & is behind more than I thought
- Still some lack of knowledge of community programs that can help their individuals and families

The positive aspects of this session were...

- We are not alone in our desires for the communities
- Thanks for keeping us focused
- We are not alone & are able to share amongst one another
- The common mission and goals of the group. Ability to have a very workable plan.
- Educate, step up to help others
- Good ideas and input from everyone
- Organized method to plan for the future. Positivity of participants.
- Great participation from the community
- Networking opportunity
- Lunch
- A common goal of empowering the community & individuals
- Collaboration, progress, discussion
- Collaboration, positive ideas, engagement
- Everyone working together
- Collaboration

I would suggest that in future sessions, we...

- Review - annually the common vision & mission!
- Continue the good work
- Utilize this method again for strategic planning
- There are other key partners that need to be at the table
- Start later - 9-2.
- Dive to the trenches of meth (drug), unemployment, violence, MENTAL HEALTH, entitlement
- Include SWIA MHDS Region. Include All Care Health Center - Bill W.

Other Comments...

- Thank you for the opportunity! I'm honored!
- Great meeting, learned a lot. Thank you!
- Thanks for bringing in an outside facilitator to move things along
- Great planning session
- Thank you
- Thank you!
- Great session overall. Thanks!
- Fast paced!
- Cold!