



BUILDING EQUITABLE & HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

Global Learning Exchange Guidebook



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Project Objectives: Building Equitable & Healthy Communities - A Global Learning Exchange

The driving premise behind this successful project is that **efforts to build healthier and more equitable communities in the US can learn from successful slum upgrading strategies in the global south.** Slum upgrading is a process where the urban poor organize, build networks that support immediate health and service needs, plan and implement housing, infrastructure and other life-supporting improvements, and negotiate with the state for policies that can alter the conditions that create and sustain urban slums in the first place. Slum upgrading, as practiced by Shack/Slum Dwellers International (SDI) - the largest network of slum dweller organizations in the world working in over 33 countries - is simultaneously about supporting people, improving places, changing policies and building power.

More specifically, the objectives of the Building Equitable & Healthy Communities Global Learning Exchange included:

1. Connecting US and global slum dweller community-health practitioners
2. Learning about successful slum upgrading strategies in cities of the global south
3. Building a network of global, urban health equity community building practitioners
4. Identifying slum upgrading strategies that might be applied to health equity work in the US
5. Piloting two projects in the US that build from successful slum upgrading/community building work in the global south.

The objectives were achieved by the University of California, Berkeley, Institute of Urban & Regional Development (IURD),

led by Professor Jason Corburn, facilitating two global exchange workshops. The workshops included practitioners. Professor Corburn, having worked in partnership with healthy community building practitioners in the Bay Area and globally for almost a decade, connected practitioners from Richmond and East Oakland, California, with SDI slum upgrading practitioners from Africa (South Africa & Kenya) & Asia (Mumbai). UCB organized two in-person workshops, or global exchanges - one in the Bay Area and another in Nairobi, Kenya, to connect practitioners, learn in-the-field, identify opportunities for sharing and piloting projects.

Project outcomes include:

1. A new global network of healthy community practitioners linking the US to Sub-Saharan Africa and India;
2. A co-created model for global, community health practice exchanges (see guidebook);
3. A workbook for understanding how slum upgrading strategies in the global south can be applied to community health equity efforts in the US (see workshop workbooks);
4. Transformation through travel, as US-based community groups and local government found new ways to work together for equitable practices (especially in Richmond, CA);
5. Youth community leadership, prioritizing the role young people can play in trauma recovery and re-building community

health;

6. Economic security models, as US-based community groups have begun to integrate slum dweller micro-saving approaches into their strategies for community health, including re-focusing on local wealth-building, micro-enterprises, and community economic security;

much more than 'community participation' but rather must include explicit strategies - in partnership with multiple organizations and institutions - that address multiple determinants of health, from direct economic benefits, to improved living environments, to increased access to and affordability of essential services.



We demonstrated that the SDI/slum upgrading approach has much to offer US-based healthy community building efforts, and that Richmond and East Oakland activists had much to share with their global partners. **In short, we discovered a significant gap in the world of public health, namely that urban, community building efforts in the global south were disconnected from those in the US, and this missed an opportunity to share and innovate for improved well-being in both places.**

7. Incremental, learning-by-doing community-building - where residents are employed to co-design and build their own public spaces, not just contract out;
8. Integrated violence reduction and place making strategies - an renewed appreciation for community health efforts to simultaneously focus on eliminating violence, addressing the trauma of chronic violence (i.e., supporting people) while also rebuilding spaces into healing places;
9. New organizations - one called Youth Uprising - in Nairobi, Kenya, focused on the same strategies as the East Oakland organization;
10. Commitments to continue the exchanges and build new ones, in particular between US youth and environmental justice organizations and those in Cape Town, South Africa.

The workshops focused on the SDI, Oakland and Richmond healthy-community building strategies, including but not limited to: (a) improving community built and social environments without displacing residents or gentrifying neighborhoods (b) improving residents' economic status (c) addressing historic and contemporary practices and policies (such as colonial racial residential segregation) that often drive unhealthy living conditions in the first place (d) building networks of power and information exchanges (e) models for negotiating with the state and others for essential services (f) strategies for long-term organizational viability including financing.

This report synthesizes the project learnings and outcomes in a **Guidebook for Health and Equitable Community Building**.

All of these outcomes highlight that healthy and equitable community building involves



Shack/Slum Dwellers International

SDI is a network of community-based organisations of the urban poor in 32 countries and hundreds of cities and towns across Africa, Asia and Latin America. In each country where SDI has a presence, affiliate organisations come together at the community, city and national level to form federations of the urban poor.



Youth Uprising, Oakland

Located in the heart of East Oakland, YU is a neighborhood hub offering young people services and programs to increase physical and mental wellbeing, community connection, educational attainment, and career achievement among youth members.



POGO Park, Richmond

Founded by a Richmond resident in 2007, Pogo Park is a community organization focused on transforming lives and opportunities by working side by side with neighborhood residents to create, program and operate public spaces.



RYSE Center, Richmond

RYSE Youth Center was born out of a youth organizing movement initiated in 2000 in response to a string of homicides amongst youth near Richmond High School that galvanized students to take action to address the violence and lack of safety at school and in the community.



City of Richmond

The City of Richmond, California, is a leader in using city-level policy to promote greater resident inclusion in government and to address neighborhood-scale inequalities, including violence reduction, affordable housing and access to quality public spaces.



Office of Neighborhood Safety, Richmond

Under the leadership of the Neighborhood Safety Director, the Office of Neighborhood Safety the ONS is responsible for directing gun violence prevention and intervention initiatives that foster greater community well-being and public safety.



UC Berkeley

The Center for Global Healthy Cities is an action-oriented, community-engaged initiative that utilizes science and policy analysis to improve the lives and living conditions of the most vulnerable urban populations around the world.

Insight 1: Building on Pre-existing Working Partnerships

The first insight of the Building Equitable and Healthy Communities Global Exchange was the importance of building, maintaining long-term partnerships between unlikely organizations.

All participants noted that project and learning exchange were made possible because of pre-existing, trusting working partnerships between UC Berkeley and many key community partners. As one SDI participant noted:

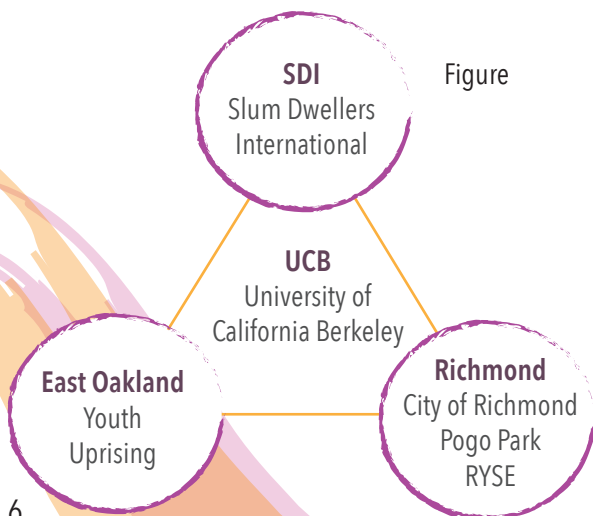
I was skeptical from the beginning that practice in Africa had much to learn from the Bay Area, but we trusted UCB based on our prior work together. Their (UCB) familiarity with both contexts helped galvanize participants and get folks invested in the possibility that this could benefit all of us.

Professor Jason Corburn had been working with the healthy community building organizations in Richmond, CA and Nairobi, Kenya for ten years at the time of the proposed learning exchange.

In Richmond, the partnership helped draft and implement the a Community Health and Wellness Chapter to the City’s General Plan, starting in 2007. The partnership evolved into UCB supporting the research, drafting and adoption of the first US municipal Health in All Policies (HiAP) ordinance in 2014. Throughout these processes, community health partnerships were built between UCB, staff within the Richmond City Manager’s office and other agencies, and a host of community based organizations, including Pogo Park and the RYSE Youth Center.

The partnerships with SDI began in 2008 in Nairobi, Kenya, as UCB partnered to help the organization stop forced evictions in an informal settlement called Mathare. From 2008 through 2018, Professor Corburn and researchers at UC Berkeley have partnered with SDI, the federation of the urban poor in Kenya called, Muungano WaWanavijiji and local universities, including the University of Nairobi and Strathmore University. The collaboration among partners has evolved from anti-eviction work to participatory planning with a number of slum dweller communities, as well as policy and advocacy work. According on one SDI partner:

It isn’t just a student-community or research partnership. UCB has supported us in government meetings and struggled along with us in community meetings. We’ve fund-raised together and shared our work at local and global conferences. We’ve been to California, along with Kenyan students, as much as they have come to us.



“There is a long tradition of collective action, of community organizing [in the global north] - very similar to the global south - and therefore there is a big space that should be opened up for global learning”

**- Jack Makau
Director, SDI Kenya**



Source: SDI South Africa

Insight 2: Build on SDI Models of Exchange

This project explicitly borrowed from the successful south-south model of leaning exchanges developed over multiple decades by SDI. The SDI International federations utilize a “horizontal exchange model” in which urban poor residents host and participate in visiting exchanges where community driven strategies and tools are shared. This often includes residents traveling with city officials and organizational support staff to visit innovative projects and learn from community solutions in informal settlements in other parts of the world. These exchanges sometimes also include partners from local universities, but this is less frequent.

“Through exchanges, communities build a horizontal platform for learning and to share successes and failures in projects, give and receive advise on engaging government, share in work and life experiences, and exchange tactics and plans. This horizontal learning creates the critical mass and

body of knowledge produced by the poor required to take community-based planning to scale. Exposure to international experiences and regional dialogues occur through the vast network of SDI.

To advance experiential learning, new leaders are accompanied by experienced leaders and visit settlements to begin dialogues on issue-based development solutions. An exchange can either be directed at introducing new settlements to the Alliance’s core activities, or for established settlements to share information, experience and skills. Often government officials accompany these exchanges, and a level-playing field is created with the focus on upgrading and improving living conditions.”

- SDI South African Affiliates

Insight 3: Co-create Agenda and Objectives

A challenge of any project that aims to build healthy and equitable communities is to ensure that community residents themselves define the interventions, participate in implementation and help evaluate success. Similarly, this project aimed to have all participants co-create the agenda and objectives, while aiming to keep to those defined in the original grant.

The first step in the co-creation process was to have SDI and US partners co-draft the original grant proposal. The idea for global learning was introduced by UC Berkeley, but only after on-going consultation with US and global partners was agreement reached to draft a grant proposal. As mentioned above, the project aimed to build-upon existing organizational and community building ideas and needs in each place, and ensure all groups saw some valued-added to their organizations by participating.

Discussions around the vision for the first of two workshop exchanges

between Bay Area and Global South practitioners started in conversation with SDI leadership including Secretariat Joel Boelnick and SDI-Kenya Director Jack Makau. A key part of the vision for the exchange was expanding the invited participants beyond partners in Nairobi, to represent the rich diversity of the SDI global network. Originally the idea was to do two workshops in the Bay Area, inviting international participants to visit community building initiatives, share input, and connect the learning to their own global work. However, upon further discussion it became clear that the exchange and learning opportunities would benefit greatly from hosting one workshop in the Bay Area and one in the Global South.

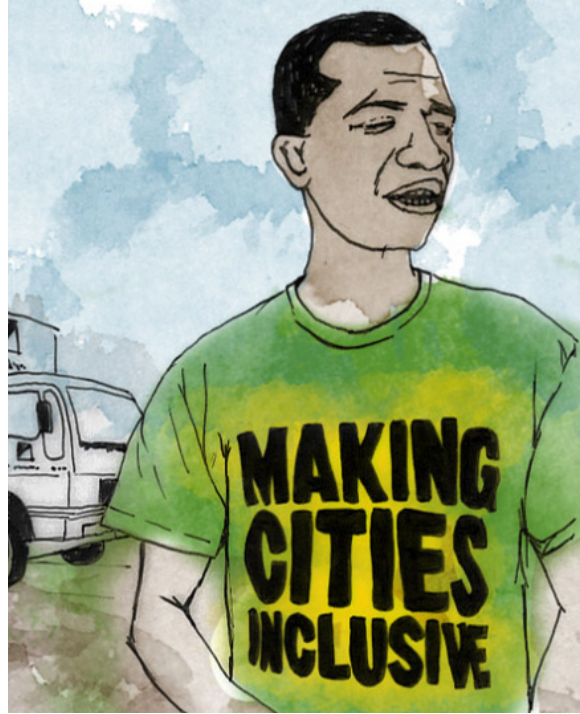
Once the grant was secured, dialogue and co-creation continued. A leader from Youth Uprising in Oakland, CA, was invited to Nairobi to co-design the project objectives and activities with UCB and SDI partners. Professor Jason Corburn and Youth Uprising Director Olis Simmons



traveled to Nairobi in March 2017. During this visit, a series of planning meetings between community mobilizers and SDI support staff and leadership were held to discuss workshop content, site visits, and the overarching objectives of the exchange. In the discussions, the following key themes emerged under the larger umbrella of health and equity:

1. Community partnerships & power
2. Youth empowerment & advocacy
3. Economic security
4. Violence reduction & trauma healing
5. Housing & displacement
6. Parks and public space
7. Planning and Policy

The project also intentionally and explicitly decided that both organizational leaders and community residents must be participants and co-leaders of the exchange. The group of participants was selected from three SDI affiliate countries: Kenya, South Africa, and India; and five Bay Area organizations/entities: City of Richmond, Office of Neighborhood safety, RYSE Youth Center, Pogo Park, and the East Oakland based Youth Uprising.



Source: SDI South Africa

In the months leading up to the first and second workshops, briefs on each organization were developed and distributed along with additional communications materials provided by the organizations, which gave participants the opportunity to familiarize themselves with each other's work prior to meeting in person. Each organization shared short videos with other members of the exchange to get more familiar with each other's culture, work environment, challenges and opportunities. UCB created a website and online sharing platform containing all of the exchange materials, readings, organization profiles and participant bios were developed and published prior to the first workshop exchange, with the idea that participants could upload materials and access information during the week.

**"We need more of this, dialogues,
sharing information, sharing knowledge"**

*- Joseph Muturi
Muungano WaWanavijji*

Insight 4: Sharing Who We Are and What We Do

The first workshop, held in September 2017, brought global community practitioners from Cape Town, Johannesburg, Mumbai, Beijing and Nairobi to the Bay Area. The week kicked off with presentations from each organization and a series of discussions around the question, “what does community building look like to you?” during which participants got to know each other and began identifying overlaps across their communities. The following days included site visits to the City of Richmond & Office of Neighborhood Safety, Pogo Park, RYSE Youth Center, and Youth Uprising.

A majority of the week was spent learning about one another and the similarities and differences in cultures and political contexts.

As one participant noted:

I think the first workshop really helped me just learn about the other participants and organizations. We didn’t jump right into practice discussions before creating a space to just get to know who we were and what we did. It turned out we learned so much about our commonalities, not just differences. This helped set the stage for discussions about practice and what we could learn from one another.



WORKSHOP 1 AGENDA Healthy Community Building in the Bay Area, CA

Monday 9/11

Introductions

Activity: getting to know our communities

Presentations from each organization

Discussion:
Co-producing a healthy community-building network

Tuesday 9/12

City of Richmond site visit

Pogo Park site visit

RYSE Youth Center site visit

Debrief & reflection

Wednesday 9/13

UC Berkeley Healthy Cities Class discussion & presentations

Youth Uprising site visit

Thursday 9/14

Tour of San Francisco Bay Area & discussion on opportunities to collaborate

Friday 9/15

Debrief and next steps, reflect on US strategies in comparative perspective with SDI and identify overlaps and learning

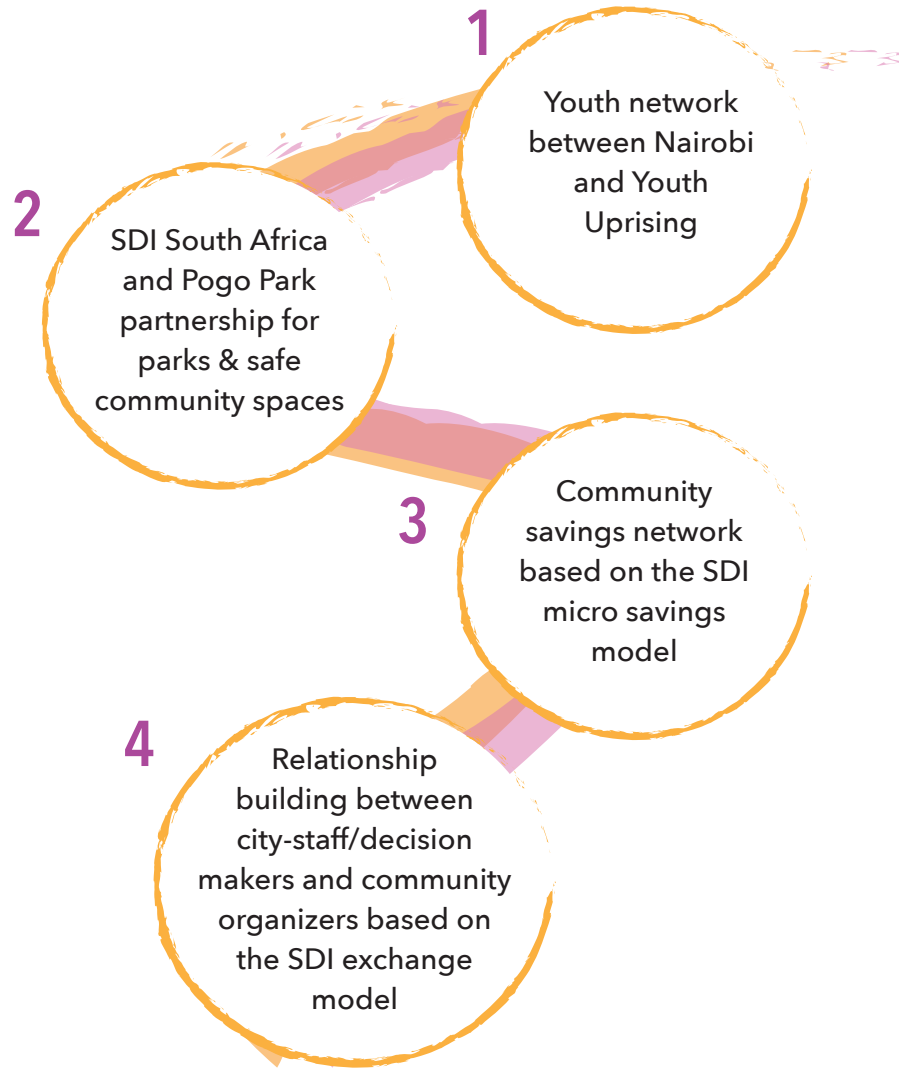
During the first workshop, participants also discussed specific healthy community building strategies that could be applied in both Richmond and East Oakland. The framing around this conversation was not prescriptive of content or scope, but rather allowed participants to identify common challenges and interests, and to think creatively about what strategies from abroad

might benefit communities in the U.S. From these discussions three strategies were identified as potential pilot projects in the Bay Area:



1. A youth network between Nairobi and Youth Uprising & RYSE,
2. A partnership between SDI South Africa and Pogo Park for park renovation and safe community spaces,
3. A community savings network based on the SDI micro savings model, and
4. Relationship building activities between city-staff/decision makers and community organizers based on the SDI exchange model.

Workshop discussions focused on the opportunities and barriers to implementing the potential pilot strategies in a U.S. context, and how the strategies could be adapted to better fit the needs of communities in Richmond and East Oakland. Participants decided to take the discussions back to their respective organizations, and continue the conversation around key strategies to frame the activities and outcomes of the second workshop.



"I learned so much and it generated a lot of questions, thinking about time scale... thinking about scaling it up, thinking about the indicators and what are the barriers that vary across communities.... these are things that we have to start to document"

**- Mahasin Mujahid, PhD
UC Berkeley School of Public health**

Insight 5: A Shared Model of Community Health Equity: Crisis & Context

Almost all the practitioners that participated in the healthy and equitable community building learning exchange did not view themselves as public health workers. One partner noted:

I always thought of our work as working on the building-blocks of communities, like housing, supporting organizing, reducing violence, stuff like that. We never claimed that as health work. The exchange has helped make clear to us and given us the frameworks to really explain to all our members that our work is crucial to community health.

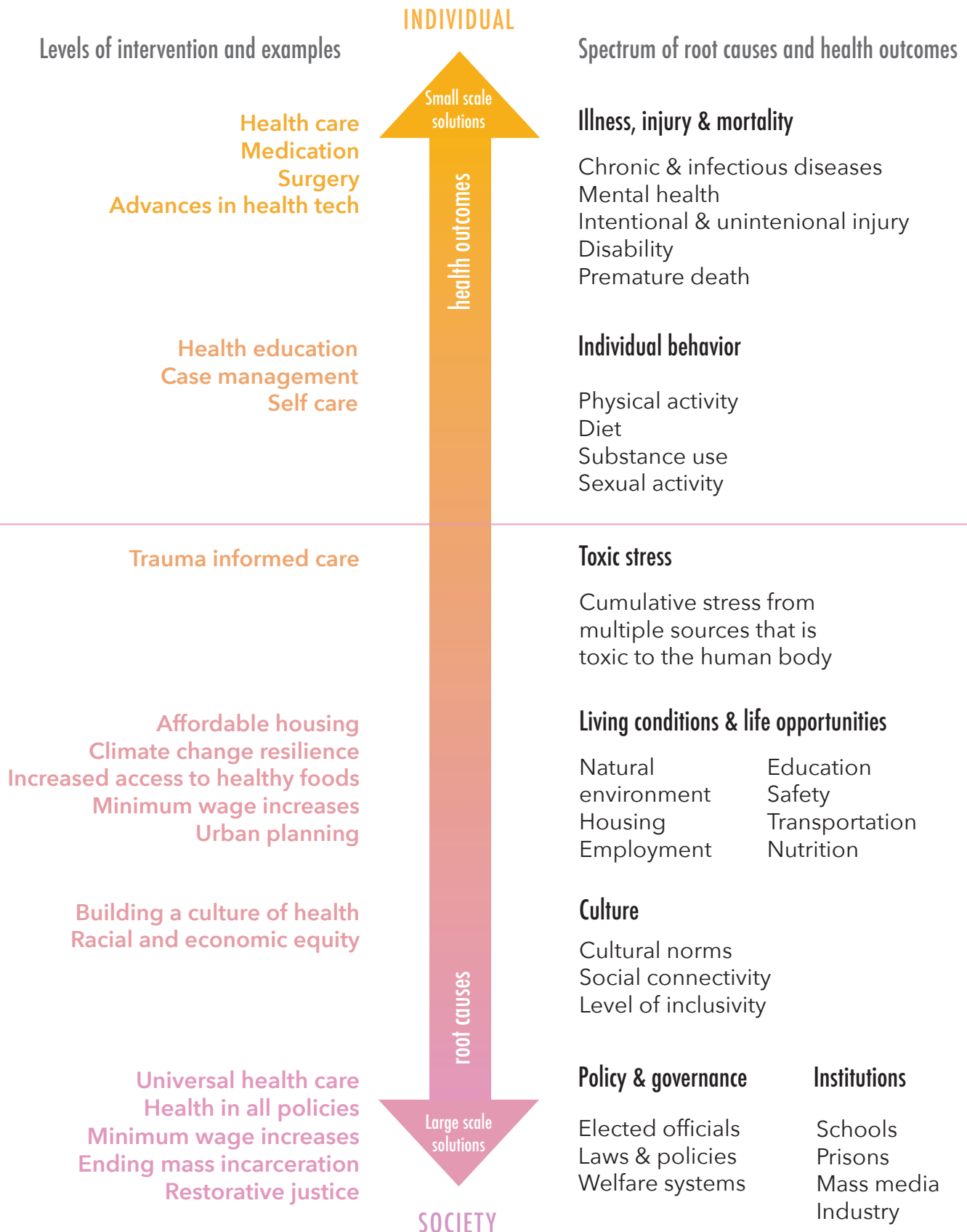


The project leaders were explicit in sharing community health equity models and frameworks. In the workshop materials, readings and explicit definitions of health, equity, and community health were offered. The concept of ‘toxic stress’ was introduced and discussed, particularly in the context of the youth violence reduction and trauma recovery work by YU, RYSE and

the ONS in Richmond. Over the course of the exchange, participants moved toward more common language and framing of their community building work as focused on health equity. As illustrated on the following page, the Global Learning Exchange framed community health and health equity as a spectrum of root causes and health related outcomes and behaviors. While public health practice and medicine have traditionally focused on individual behavior and treatment of existing illness, the Global Learning Exchange focused its healthy community building strategies and interventions on the root causes of poor health and health inequities.

Discussing and using these definitions and models proved to be important as the collaboration moved forward. Similar stories of community divestment and discrimination emerged in both the US and Nairobi. The models helped define community building work as simultaneously about addressing immediate needs (such as food, safety and shelter) but also about focusing on structural and historic inequities. A significant outcome of the dialogues and sharing was a clear articulation of the pathways between the identified 8 thematic areas and preventative and institutional changes for well being. A worksheet was developed by the UCB team and eventually completed with the aid of participants that offered practical strategies and interventions to address community health.

What influences community health, and where can we intervene?



What makes a community healthy & equitable?



Defining Community

Communities are complex, multi-layered groups of people defined by relationships, cultural identity, and interactions with local environment and institutions. Whether a community is healthy or not is largely determined by the built and natural environment, policies and laws, and governance in the area in which the community resides. Today large inequities, including major differences in life expectancy and other key health outcomes, exist across communities in the U.S. and globally. These health inequities are caused by structural inequality and policies and practices that concentrate negative health risks in low-income communities and communities of color. However, the Global Learning Exchange does not define communities by the challenges they face, but rather their strengths, rich culture, and daily practices that support life and health.

Defining Health

Working for healthy & equitable communities is not something that only happens at a clinic, hospital or medical office. Too often, medical care comes too late or treats people only to send them back into the living and working conditions that are making them sick. That is why we consider community leaders as health practitioners. Community health includes:

- Efforts to improve the quality, access and affordability of life-supporting services and the living and working conditions that shape our access to safe, clean and non-toxic environments.
- Addressing the structural or root causes

of social inequality, such as racism, colonialism, and discrimination, that shape decision-making processes and distribute which communities and places get health supporting resources

- A focus on people; the places where we live, learn, work and play; the policies that shape our opportunities; and the power dynamics that shape decision-making.

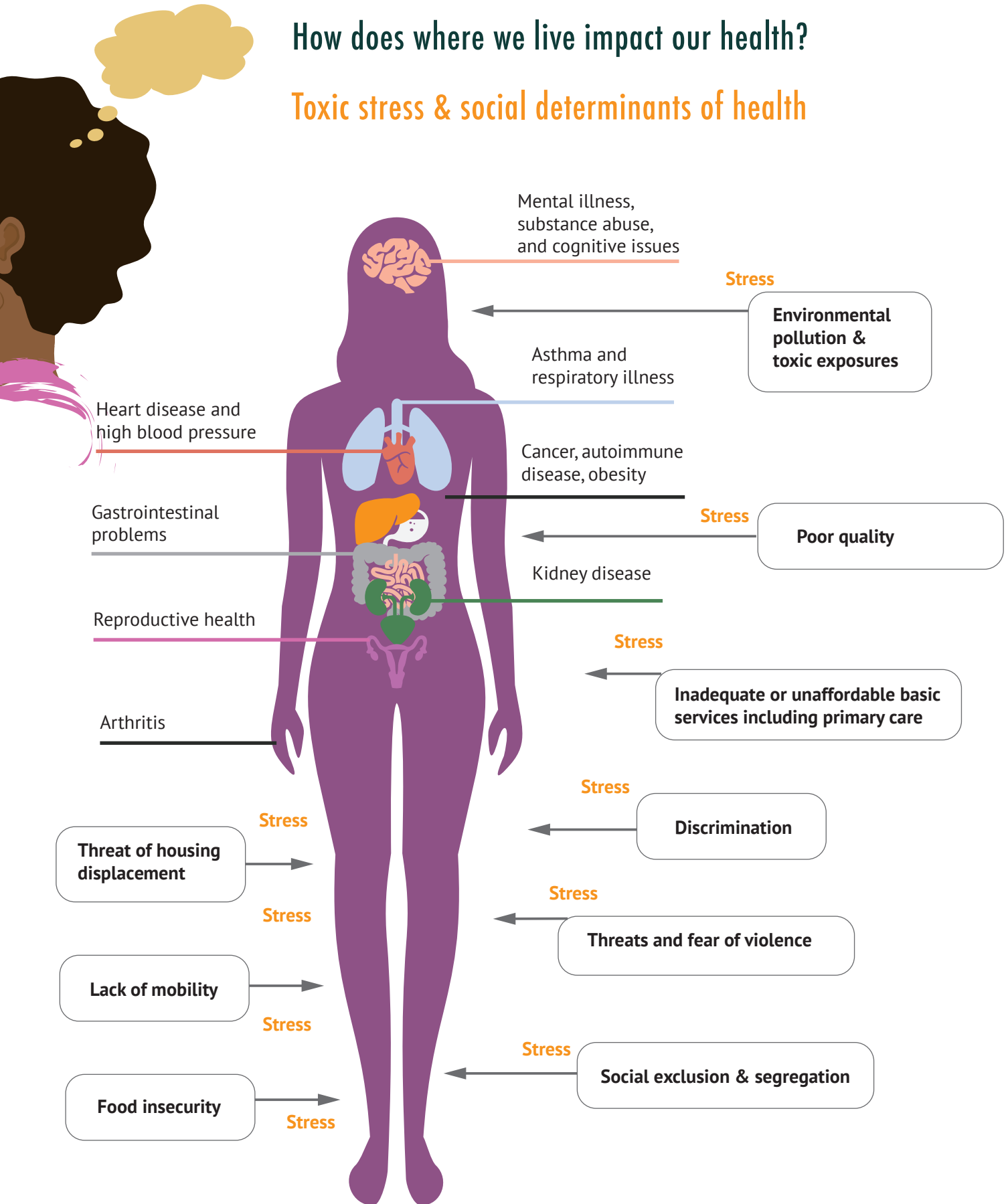
Defining Equity

Two key ideas that motivated the sharing of community building strategies in this exchange are health equity & toxic stress. Health equity requires valuing everyone equally, and thus distributing resources based on need, to ensure that everyone has the opportunity to be healthy. This includes focusing societal efforts to address avoidable inequalities and historical and contemporary injustices, as well as eliminating health and health care disparities.

Toxic stress is the notion that multiple and long-term stressors are toxic to our bodies. These stressors include things like fear of evictions and violence, environmental pollution, discrimination, lack of mobility, poverty and economic insecurity, among others. These stressors impact our bodies from in utero throughout our lives when stress hormones, such as cortisol and adrenaline, are constantly released. People subject to this 'toxic stress' can be more susceptible to infectious diseases, overweight, hypertension, heart disease, stroke, diabetes, asthma, and this can even damage our DNA and gene expression. Thus, community building is about promoting health equity through reducing the

How does where we live impact our health?

Toxic stress & social determinants of health



Insight 6: Continuity and Maintaining Trust

A key insight from the project related to community building efforts was that a one-off event or even six-months of planning together needed to be sustained and the momentum and energy built upon to reach project-scale ideas. For one Bay Area participant, the in-between work proved to be crucial for re-articulating the objectives of the exchange and the potential for organizational and community-based transformations. They reflected:

To be honest, we weren't sure what value to our organization would come out of the whole process, especially after the first workshop. I mean, it was great to meet all those folks, but how it would translate into transformation with our community health work wasn't so clear. The UCB team helped keep the momentum going and pushed us to identify staff that could commit to the Nairobi trip.

As another Bay Area participant noted, the continuity is generally lacking in community health projects or is derailed by competing objectives or short grant cycles. They noted:

The post-workshop #1 work and building the agenda together for workshop #2 was probably what kept us involved and gave us a hint that this could be useful for our work. We were used to well-meaning academics starting something but then leaving. The UCB team kept us engaged and committed and helped highlight the ways this might be different.

UCB maintained communication and intentional conversations with all partners after the first workshop. A WhatsApp group chat was created to share updates and plans. Beyond facilitated conversations, individual organizations began to connect and develop ideas for future collaboration. SDI Nairobi and Youth Uprising began exploring the possibility of hosting a follow up youth exchange between young people in Nairobi's informal settlements, and young people from East Oakland served by YU.

From conversations and potential pilot strategies identified in the workshop, discussions emerged around the possibility of Cape Town as the location for the second Global Learning Exchange workshop to be held in the spring of 2018. However, due to conflicts in availability across all organizations and budget limitations, the group ultimately decided to host the second workshop in Nairobi during the week of March 26th. In addition, Youth Uprising (YU) in Oakland underwent a major shift in leadership during this period, and was not able to continue participating in the exchange. The organizations also decided that given the shifts, each Bay Area organization would invite additional participants to maintain the original number of total participants as planned.



Insight 7: Re-focusing on Adding Value to Organization's Current Work

The organizations shifts and insights from workshop #1 participants contributed to a new insight, namely that the second workshop needed to be more focused on specific needs within both the US and SDI organizations. The UC Berkeley team co-facilitated a reflection meeting with Bay Area participants from the first workshop and included a discussion on content areas

focus more narrowly on three key themes for the second workshop that could directly support their organization's current work:

1. youth advocacy & trauma healing,
2. savings & economic empowerment, and
3. Institutional partnerships.

Participants were asked to answer reflection and thought questions in the weeks prior to the workshop, and the UC Berkeley team worked closely with organization leadership to identify site visits and activities that incorporated the feedback and input from workshop participants. The questions and select responses are summarized on the following page.



that be frame the focus on the second workshop. New participants from the Bay Area were invited, briefed on the previous work, and group discussions helped familiarize the new participants with the SDI approach to community building. A second meeting before workshop #2 took place at RYSE Youth Center in Richmond. In this working session Bay Area organizations engaged in a discussion on key questions for community building practitioners in Nairobi, and returned to the potential pilot strategies identified in the first workshop.

Given the changes in organizational representation, the participants decided to

“How to we broaden this, how does this network become even bigger and involve more people, more organizations, more institutions? Just to share, to reflect together, to dialogue together, and to generate ideas together”

**- Joseph Muturi
Muungano WaWanavijiji**

1

List 1-3 projects that you are working on that you might share during the workshop:

- Community outreach
- Building and designing park play structures
- Affordable housing & rent control initiatives
- Breast Cancer and Community Based Participatory research in faith based institutions
- Developing a makers' space for youth
- RYSE Commons expansion project
- Spoken word collective
- Health in All Policies

2

List up to three strategies, tools, or approaches that you use in your work:

- Community based participatory research
- Network building across systems
- Justice framework
- Asset framework
- Leading with love
- Canva & other design tools
- Storytelling & cross cultural dialogue
- Film and music for trauma healing
- Photovoice

3

Describe up to three challenges you face in your work:

- Implementing policy
- Democratizing research and data
- Linking local strategies to national strategies and policy
- Changing perceptions around education and creating alternative pathways
- Holding trauma and confronting institutionalized injustice
- Keeping young people safe
- Staying accountable to community

4

List up to three things about the upcoming workshop in Nairobi that you are excited about:

- Learning about community investment and savings
- Building partnerships with new people
- Learning about this work in the context of a new culture
- Seeing how young people build power and work together

5

List up to three projects, tools, approaches, or partnerships from your current work that might benefit from the upcoming workshop.

- Ongoing planning process in Mukuru
- Creating revenue streams that aren't soft money
- Connecting young media workers
- RYSE Commons expansion
- Pogo Park development
- Promoting housing affordability and preventing displacement

Insight 8: Youth Leaders and Facilitators

The second workshop held in Nairobi, Kenya, in March 2018, was organized to allow Nairobi slum dweller youth to co-lead the exchange. While staff and community leaders from SDI Kenya, Muungano WaWanavijiji and Akiba Mashinani Trust introduced themselves to the Bay Area practitioners and organizations, youth were asked to co-lead each session. The presence of Kenyan youth as leaders contributed to one Bay Area participant to tell a story about his childhood experiences in Richmond, which were strikingly similar to those experienced by Nairobi slum dwelling youth. As the early exchanges continued, the presence of youth leaders seemed to allow the group to identify shared experiences, and see the **“common struggles of poor, neglected communities, the health impacts of this structural discrimination and the humanity in us all.”**

In the afternoon, the group traveled to an informal settlement called Mukuru, where youth leaders gave a tour of a local community center, library, and youth run radio station. On Tuesday, participants spent the entire day visiting community projects, centers and upgrading sites, including Mathare Environmental, Ghetto Foundation, and the Huruma Housing Upgrading site and Kambimoto Library. In the following days, the group visited the UN HABITAT headquarters in Nairobi to discuss the global learning exchange model and learn about UN initiatives, and spent time debriefing and reflecting on their learning. In discussions on key

community building strategies, participants explored the SDI micro savings model, anti-displacement and affordable housing solutions, and SDI youth media platforms including KYC TV, where young people document stories and challenges in their community to inform better urban planning. In addition to the formal workshop activities and discussions, participants engaged in relationship building activities including playing a friendly soccer match against youth in the Mathare informal settlement, and visiting Nariobi National Park.



“I always say youth are the change makers, I was born and raised in a slum, but one thing that has never gotten into my mind is that there is anything that is impossible”

**- Nelmo Munyiri,
Youth leader**

WORKSHOP 2 AGENDA

Slum Upgrading in Nairobi, Kenya

Monday 3/26

Introductions & Objectives overview – Jason Corburn & Jack Makau

Site visit: Mukuru Kwa Reuben with Inuka Angaza Youth

Tuesday 3/27

Site visit: Mathare Member of County Assembly Office

Site visit: Mathare Environmental

Site visit: Ghetto Foundation Mathare

Site visit: Huruma upgrading site & Kambimoto library

Wednesday 3/28

Site visit: UN HABITAT

Site visit: Karura Forest

Debrief & reflection

Thursday 3/29

Discussion and debrief

Learning and way forward

Friday 3/30

Workshop wrap up and reflections, & group site visit to Nairobi National Park



Insight 9: Transformative Travel

For all participants, but especially the US practitioners who had rarely if ever traveled outside their communities, the workshop in Nairobi was personally and professionally transformative. Practitioners from Richmond, CA, noted that spending a week together in Kenya had allowed them to discuss issues about Richmond in a way that they couldn't do at home. This built new trust and opened avenues for a working partnership between community groups and city government officials. As one participant noted:

I have a new understanding and respect for my colleagues. At home we often take positions based on organizational affiliation, and sometimes fail to see these folks as allies. After sitting on a bus in traffic for hours and other experiences this week, I realize these folks are partners in the same community change work and we need to collaborate. When we get home I want to meet with them to talk about our projects.

“What we did experience was the beginning of developing relationships, which for us becomes the foundation for change.”

- Dan Reilly, RYSE

“Before [the exchange] I never looked too far outside of the bay area, honestly, around how we can learn from other communities.”

- Joseph Griffin, POGO Park

“I think getting out of the car was a vastly different experience, literally touching foot to ground.”

- Ciera-Jevae Gordon, RYSE



Strategy

Community residents, leaders and city staff travel to visit global community building projects and get to know each other on a deeper level



Activities

Participants are able to share their experiences and talk openly about priorities and dreams for their community



Outcomes

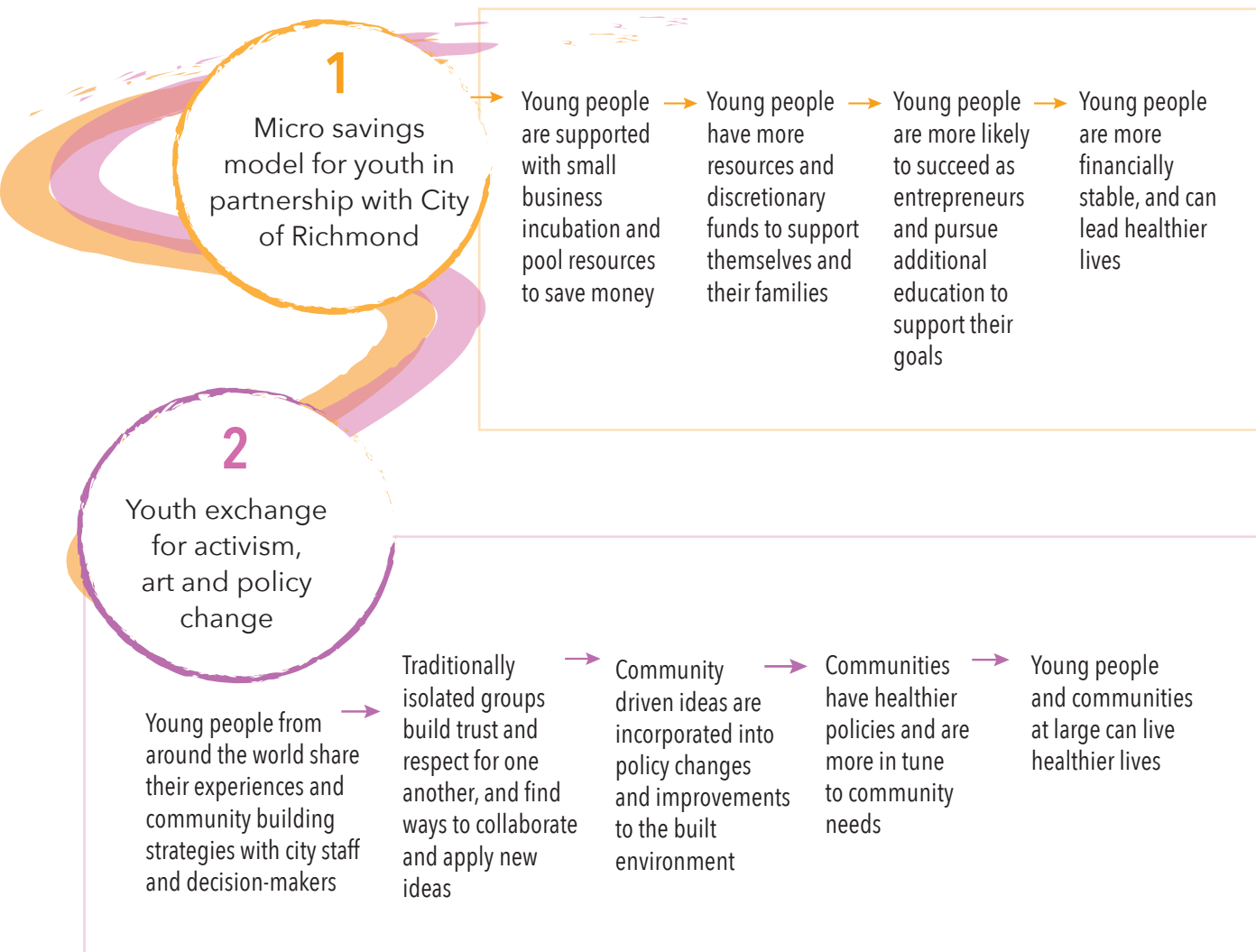
Participants are able to see each other beyond traditional perceptions and assumptions and work collaboratively for community health

Proposals for healthy community building

Emerging from the second workshop were two specific proposals for healthy community building in Richmond:

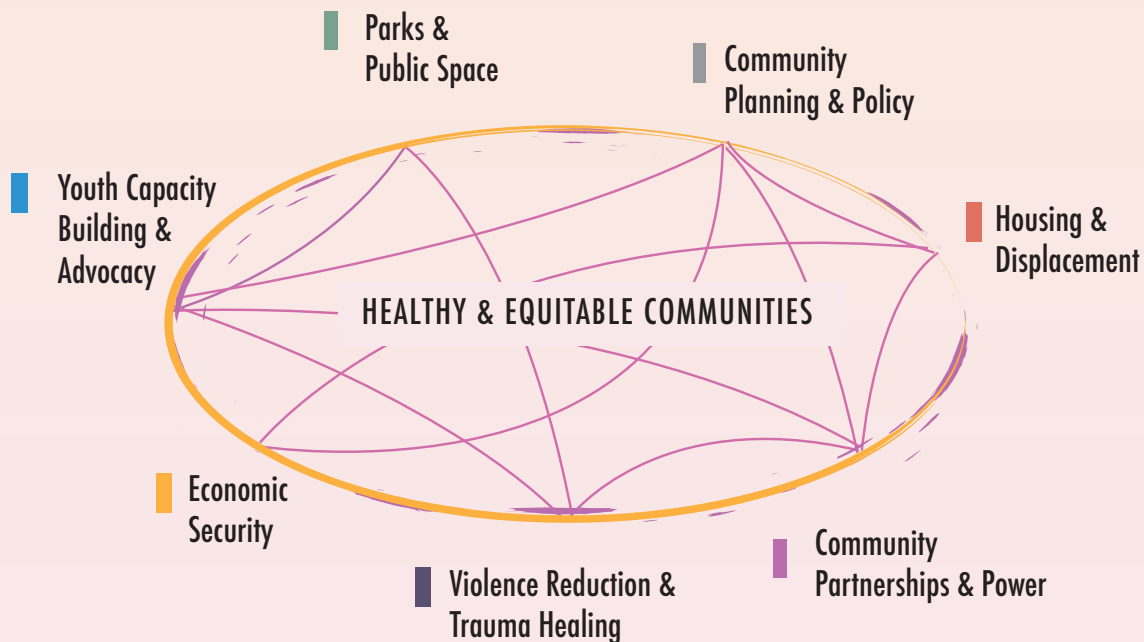
1. implementing a micro savings model at RYSE Youth Center in their center expansion project RYSE Commons, and
2. a follow up youth exchange and transformative travel experience between Richmond city staff, young people, NGO leaders and the South African SDI Alliance.

Participants also explored strategies to address the housing and displacement crisis in the Bay Area, however given the scale and complexity of the challenge, the group did not develop a concrete proposal for action in Richmond for this focus area.



Healthy & Equitable Communities Guidebook Themes

The Building Healthy & Equitable Communities Global Exchange focused on 7 thematic areas that emerged from participants and the exchange itself. The following section summarizes key learning outcomes, strategies, and examples for each of the thematic areas below.





1. Community Partnerships & Power

Overview

Building community power is critical to long term change for increased equity and improved health. Community power is built through collective action and strategic organizing on behalf of the most vulnerable, and is grounded in community expertise. This power can push for necessary policy changes, and holds elected officials and decision-makers accountable to the needs of the communities they serve.

The global learning exchange focused heavily on community power building strategies across all of the exchange focus areas. At each site visit and discussion, participants shared how their efforts to promote equity and health in their communities resulted in strengthened community power and future responsiveness of community in times of need.

Key Practices

- Community organizing & peaceful protest
- Developing key policy change focus areas driven by community priorities
- Co-creation with decision makers for long term change
- Developing youth leaders
- Supporting education pathways and higher ed opportunities
- Valuing and validating community expertise
- Community led data collection & democratization of data
- Creating platforms for art & culture that amplify community voice
- Focus on movement building rather than one off initiatives or projects
- Creating sustainable systems for community input

“If you want to know what it means to Know Your City, I want you to talk to one of the SDI federation members. You’ll find them in more than 30 countries. They’re easy to spot. Usually they’re singing and making a lot of noise. I want them to tell you about measuring shacks that are so close together you need to climb up on roofs to see what’s what; about mapping settlement boundaries and trying not to fall in drainage channels lined with garbage; about going house to house and hearing stories that make you want to cry; and about being chased by dogs and even by people with weapons as you administer enumerations. SDI members will tell you why they go to all that trouble and why they’re always screaming, “Information Is Power!””

- Rose Molokoane, SDI Know Your City Report 2018



Examples

SDI enumeration model:

Community planning activities build political capital for communities both internally and externally. Within communities, activities like enumeration (household-to-household socio-economic surveys) and mapping create space for communities to: identify developmental priorities, organize leadership, expose and mediate grievances between segments of the community, and cohere around future planning.

For more information visit:
<http://sdinet.org>



Mathare Zonal Plan:

This report describes an ongoing project aimed at improving the lives and living conditions of slum dwellers in Nairobi through a partnership between Muungano Support Trust, Slum Dwellers International (SDI), the University of Nairobi, and the University of California, Berkeley. The project started in 2008, produced a report for slum upgrading for select villages in the Mathare Valley in 2009, and this report presents findings and recommendations for upgrading infrastructure across the entire Mathare Valley informal settlement.

For more information visit: http://healthycities.berkeley.edu/uploads/1/2/6/1/12619988/matharevalley_report_ucb_2_25_2012_final.pdf

Resources & tools

1. Weru, J. (2004). Community federations and city upgrading: the work of Pamoja Trust and Muungano in Kenya. *Environment and Urbanization*, 16(1), 47-62. | This article describes the support for community-based savings schemes, including enumeration and house modeling, and how savings have helped to give a voice to the urban poor in national conversations.
2. Beukes, A. (2015). IIED working paper. Making the Invisible Visible - Generating data on 'slums' at the local, city, and global scales. <http://knowyourcity.info/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/10757IIED-1.pdf> | This paper considers the tensions inherent in systemising a community-driven data-collection process, and the difficulties involved in balancing multiple and sometimes contradictory aspects of the process.
3. Slum Dwellers International. (2018). Know Your City: Slum Dwellers Count. http://knowyourcity.info/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/SDI_StateofSlums_LOW_FINAL.pdf | An initiative of SDI and its partners, Know Your City (KYC) unites organized slum dwellers and local governments in partnerships anchored by community-led slum profiling, enumeration, and mapping.



2. Youth Capacity Building & Advocacy



Overview

Listening to, empowering, and creating safe spaces for youth are cornerstones for promoting meaningful youth engagement, which is essential to developing responsive and effective interventions to a range of local, regional and national issues. Authentic youth engagement and advocacy— which is driven by youth voices and lifts up young people’s experiences and ideas - is central to youth capacity building and to helping youth become effective change agents.

Discussions during the Global Exchange focused on approaches to engaging youth through art, music, and cultural expression, as well as skill building, trauma recovery, and mental health services that help promote wellbeing. Bay Area organizations RYSE and Youth Uprising shared their experiences, challenges, and unique approaches to serving youth in Richmond and Oakland. SDI Kenya shared experiences from its newest youth initiative Inuka Angaza or “Youth Arising” named after Youth Uprising. Participants discussed the unique and sensitive needs of youth, as well as their critical role in shaping community health and wellbeing. Though each organization serves youth facing varying levels of stress, as well as educational and health challenges, the week’s conversations highlighted a consensus around the need for specialized, youth-driven responses and targeted resources that give young people a platform for skill building, trauma recovery, leadership, and self-expression.

Key Practices

- Meaningfully engage youth by providing a space that is responsive and flexible to their changing needs
- Create strong and youth-led community agreements
- Use art and cultural expression as a platform for community organizing and trauma recovery
- Reduce stigma around mental health and provide direct mental health services
- Build concrete and transferable skills, and provide career pathways and employment opportunities
- Don’t focus on individual behavior change, but rather advocate for systems change while providing direct youth support
- Promote educational success by creating spaces for learning and tutoring, as well as support with academic planning
- Collect data and information on youth experiences, challenges, and needs, and lift up these priorities to influence policy/ structural change
- Manage the expectations of funders and external stakeholders to ensure youth interests are at the center of all organizational activities
- Continue to support transitional youth, and engage with extended family and community members including children and elderly
- Identify and develop safe physical spaces and environments for youth activities



Examples

RYSE Commons:

RYSE Youth Center is building a 37,000 square foot campus, which will be the site of RYSE Commons. At this expanded, youth-designed campus, RYSE will continue to offer youth-driven programming and services and will promote entrepreneurship opportunities, including youth-run pop up shops.

For more information visit: <https://rysecenter.org/rysecommons/>

Know Your City TV (KYC.TV):

Know Your City TV equips poor urban youth with video documentation equipment and skills, enabling them to share their lived experiences with the rest of the world. By sharing their stories, they hope to contribute to the transformation of cities and slums in the global south and beyond.

For more information visit: <http://www.knowyourcity.tv/colabforchange>

Resources & tools

1. Hunt, M. (2015, January 21). **RYSE Youth Center a safe haven for Richmond artists, activists.** SFGate. Accessed on SFGate website: <https://www.sfgate.com/entertainment/article/Ryse-Youth-Center-a-safe-haven-for-Richmond-6031210.php> | *This article details how RYSE Youth Center actively supports young people to process life experiences and trauma through the means they find the most effective.*
2. Ginwright, S., & James, T. (2002). **From assets to agents of change: Social justice, organizing, and youth development.** *New directions for youth development*, 2002(96), 27-46. <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/epdf/10.1002/yd.25> | *This article explores how youth of color are engaging with the political system to make systemic and social change and how they can be supported to continue to push an equity-focused agenda.*
3. **RYSE. Theory of Liberation.** Accessed from RYSE Website: https://static1.squarespace.com/static/58ece61644024383be911a95/t/59e7ba2112abd9eb164d82c4/1508358693560/TOL_infographic_INHOUSE+print+%281%29.pdf | *The RYSE Theory of Liberation is the approach used to their work, which includes their core values, principles and beliefs*



3. Economic Security

Overview

Economic security is key to building equitable communities where everyone has the opportunity to lead safe and healthy lives. Being economically secure impacts health not only by improving access to health care and medical services, but by allowing communities to access health protecting resources like education, neighborhood safety, and healthy foods. Additionally, economic empowerment can decrease toxic levels of stress, which contribute to poor health outcomes in many low-income communities of color. While employment, workforce development, and increases in minimum wage are key strategies to improve family income, savings models that help poor communities pool resources can be critical first steps in improving access to small loans and making community led improvements in disinvested neighborhoods.

Key Practices

- SDI savings model
- Women at the center of savings
- Workforce development
- Small loans
- Savings as an opportunity for collaborative urban planning



Examples

SDI India - Mahila Milan:

“Women Together” in Hindi—is a decentralised network of poor women’s collectives that manage credit and savings activities in their communities. Mahila Milan aims to provide a space for women to take on important decision-making roles and be recognised for their contributions towards improving their communities. Today, Mahila Milan has given out tens of thousands of loans to poor women all across the country and has collectively saved millions of rupees.

For more information visit:

<http://www.sparcindia.org/index.php>

SDI South Africa - FEDUP:

By saving together, families learn to trust one another. This trust provides the basis for effective collective action. By setting up effective savings collectives, the community generates valuable social capital through building networks of trust, accountability, and transparency. There are a number of advantages to community-based savings: Firstly, savings draws people together on a regular basis. Secondly, savings build a local resource base and makes communities more resilient against the perils of poverty. Thirdly, this process creates an on-going learning environment.

For more information visit:

<https://www.sasdialliance.org.za/what-we-do/savings/>



Resources & tools

1. Weru, J. (2004). Community federations and city upgrading: the work of Pamoja Trust and Muungano in Kenya. *Environment and Urbanization*, 16(1), 47-62. | This article describes the support for community-based savings schemes, including enumeration and house modeling, and how savings have helped to give a voice to the urban poor in national conversations.
2. D’cruz Mudimu. (2013). Community savings that mobilize federations,

build women’s leadership and support slum upgrading. *Environment and Urbanization*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0956247812471616> | This paper describes how in urban areas in many nations, community savings groups not only help meet the individual and collective needs of the poorest groups but also underpin the growth of citywide and national SDI federations where these groups have influence.



4. Violence Reduction & Trauma Healing

Overview

Addressing violence and resulting trauma is essential to building healthy and equitable communities. During the past couple of decades there has been a sharp decrease in the violent crime rate in the United States. However, this national trend has not extended to all urban communities, which experience violence, and gun violence in particular, at alarming rates. In urban communities where gun violence is prevalent, there is an immeasurable gap between “anti-violence” programming and most likely perpetrators and/or victims of gun violence. As a result, gun violence persists at unacceptable rates, and in turn, traumatic experiences continue to affect children and adults on a daily basis. Multi-pronged, multidisciplinary and cross-sector interventions are necessary to address the root cause of violence, the effects of violence, and to promote healing from the trauma of violent episodes.

Throughout the learning exchange, participants discussed violence reduction and trauma healing strategies that take a targeted approach to meet young people where they are, by creating safe spaces and building trust.

Key Practices

- Target main sources and individuals associated with violence
- Provide direct and personalized support
- Employ individuals with firsthand experience and deep understanding of community dynamics, these may often be formerly incarcerated people
- Shift perception of individuals involved in violence and acknowledge structural/systemic determinants of behavior
- Target both individuals involved in violent crime as well as younger generations exposed to violence
- Acknowledge tension and mistrust between law enforcement, the criminal justice system, and communities impacted by violence
- Create safe physical and emotional spaces for open sharing
- Promote restorative justice and community policing as strategies to decrease violence and address inequities in the justice system including mass incarceration

Examples

Office of Neighborhood Safety:

In 2007, Richmond, California experienced 47 fatal shootings and was considered one of the most violent cities in America. That same year, the city introduced a new non-law enforcement office, the Office of Neighborhood Safety (ONS), tasked with responsibility of (1) reducing gun homicides and gun violence in Richmond; (2) preventing gun homicides and gun violence in Richmond; and (3) establishing a link to responsible and credible social services. The Office of Neighborhood Safety aims to reduce gun violence in Richmond through intensive outreach that supports

the development, health and wellbeing of the young people often at the center of gun violence.

For more information, please visit: <https://www.ci.richmond.ca.us/271/Office-of-Neighborhood-Safety>



Resources & tools

1. RYSE. (2017). Interacting Layers of Trauma and Healing. Retrieved from RYSE website: <https://www.acesconnection.com/fileSendAction/fcType/0/fcOid/471094516484702000/filePointer/471094516484702019/fodoid/471094516484702016/Interacting%20Layers%20of%20Trauma%20and%20Healing%2C%202017.pdf> | This model illustrates how principles and practices interact with personal and systemic-based trauma to address trauma and begin healing.
2. RYSE. (2016). The RYSE Center's Listening Campaign. Report. Retrieved from RYSE website: <https://static1.squarespace.com/static/58ece61644024383be911a95/t/593e57012e69cf4a3e12ec6d/1497257742081/RYSE+Listening+Report+2016.pdf> | "The Listening Campaign seeks to understand with more sensitivity, clarity, and empathy the lived experience of young people burdened with trauma exposure, marginalization, and histories of oppression, as well as the expressions of distress and healing emergent from their individual and collective experiences.
3. Schick, L. (2016, October 30). Love Thy Neighbor: A Human(e) Approach to Gun Violence. Harvard Political Review. Accessed from Harvard Political Review website: <http://harvardpolitics.com/covers/love-thy-neighbor-humane-approach-gun-violence/> | This article describes the role of the Office of Neighborhood Safety in Richmond, CA and discusses its successes and challenges.



5. Housing & Displacement

Overview

Housing and displacement are key barriers to creating and sustaining healthy and equitable communities. Threats of increasing rent and forced evictions plague urban communities both nationally and internationally. Eviction and displacement are especially detrimental to building sustainable healthy communities, as long-time residents are often forced to relocate to neighborhoods that are further away from their social networks and employment opportunities. Fear of eviction and displacement is also detrimental to individual and community health, causing increased long-term toxic stress that has adverse effects on cardiovascular health.

During the series of exchanges, one of the key overlaps that emerged between Bay Area and Global communities was the challenge of safe and affordable housing for the urban poor. Participants discussed rising housing costs and pressures of gentrification and displacement across the Bay Area, as well as ongoing land contestation debates and tenure rights in the global south. In both places, efforts to support disinvested communities through improved infrastructure and housing often led to gentification and rising costs of land and housing. Participants discussed solutions that ensure community benefits reach and support the most vulnerable longterm residents, including incremental upgrades and community land trusts.

Key Practices

- Promote incremental upgrading
- Minimize displacement
- Support the most vulnerable populations and places
- Integrate housing with improved services and supporting infrastructure
- Engage community in conversation on housing and upgrading
- Use models like community savings groups to promote communal land ownership
- Use enumeration and community data collection as a power and capacity building tool
- Focus on rent control and affordability
- Understand power dynamics between renters, land owners, and structure owners
- View housing as a basic human right

Examples

Flamengo Crescent, South Africa:

The incremental re-blocking of Flamengo aimed to reconfigure the spatial layout of the settlement to ensure the provision of services and the formalisation of roads. This involved: upgrade existing structures with fire-retardent klip-lok material, provision of basic services such as installation of water, sanitation and electricity per re-blocked structure (1:1 ratio), paved access roads throughout the settlement, road names and postal addresses, refuse removal, and the construction of a centrally located creche and multi-purpose centre.

For more information visit: <https://www.sasdialliance.org.za/projects/flamingo-crescent/>



Resources & tools

1. Newman, K., & Wyly, E. K. (2006). The right to stay put, revisited: gentrification and resistance to displacement in New York City. *Urban studies*, 43(1), 23-57. <http://journals.sagepub.com/doi/pdf/10.1080/00420980500388710> | This article challenges mixed-income redevelopment and other forms of gentrification, by "drawing on evidence from a mixed-methods study of gentrification and displacement in New York City.
2. Savchuk, K. (2012, October 8). Innovative funding model allows urban poor to determine their own future. *Guardian Cities*. Retrieved from the Guardian Cities website: <https://www.theguardian.com/global-development/poverty-matters/2012/oct/08/urban-poor-fund-communities-determine-future> | This Guardian Cities article illustrates how the Urban Poor Fund International, a fund derived from community savings, is shaping development in cities and empowering the urban poor.
3. Weru, J. (2004). Community federations and city upgrading: the work of Pamoja Trust and Muungano in Kenya. *Environment and Urbanization*, 16(1), 47-62. | This article describes the support for community-based savings schemes, including enumeration and house modeling, and how savings have helped to give a voice to the urban poor in national conversations.
4. Zuk, M., Bierbaum, A. H., Chapple, K., Gorska, K., & Loukaitou-Sideris, A. (2018). Gentrification, Displacement, and the Role of Public Investment. *Journal of Planning Literature*, 33(1), 31-44. <http://journals.sagepub.com/doi/abs/10.1177/0885412217716439> | This literature review explores the relationship between gentrification, displacement and the role of public investment and the implications for future public improvements.



6. Parks & Public Space

Overview

“Parks, especially playgrounds, are some of the most important public spaces. They have the catalytic power to change entire communities”

- Toody Maher, Director, Pogo Park

Public spaces, and parks/outdoor spaces in particular, are centerpieces of healthy communities. Public spaces promote important practices, including community building, physical activity, civic engagement and community investment, which are essential to creating more healthy and equitable communities. Parks in particular can have transformative effects on communities, by becoming shared assets that help to increase feelings of well-being and safety, all while helping to promote healthy behaviors and violence reduction.

One of the key focus areas of the first workshop was community-centered public space. During the week, Richmond organization Pogo Park shared their experience developing the Elm Playlot from a dilapidated, underused, and unsafe city park, to a beautiful play space and hub for community activity. SDI affiliates from South Africa also shared their lessons and challenges in re-developing a community park in an informal settlement in Cape Town. The conversations sparked questions around sustainable funding models for community managed and incrementally built public spaces, as well as strategies to promote public space as a community health and wellness investment.

Key Practices

- Recognize and re-frame public spaces as key spaces for community health and neighborhood change
- Ensure community members and residents are at the center of public space design as well as the upgrading process
- Create jobs and public space management structures that employ local residents and promote community ownership
- Build in resident skill building and training in the process of public space upgrading
- Balance an outcome vs. process oriented approach to the planning of public spaces
- Prioritize community needs when considering partner and funder expectations
- Make the case for incremental design and re-building
- Promote creativity and think outside of traditional park/public space design and materials
- Implement baseline and follow up surveys, data collection, and community led monitoring and evaluation
- View public spaces as connected to surrounding communities, built environment, housing, community facilities and services
- Explore the use of parks as spaces not just for children, but points of convergence for parents, young adults, and the elderly
- Make public spaces flexible and multi-use, adaptable for different groups and activities





Case Studies

Pogo Park's Elm Playlot:

In 2008, Pogo Park began a multi-year journey, fixing up one of Richmond's Iron Triangle's most dangerous and dilapidated parks and turning it into a vibrant and innovative play space. Pogo Park was built by and for the community, with residents providing input on everything from park design to implementation.

For more information, visit: <https://pogopark.org/2013/07/elm-park-scale-model/>

Mathare Environmental Conservation Youth Group:

In Mathare, one of Nairobi's largest informal settlements, there is little public space to promote community building. The Mathare Environmental Conservation Youth Group transformed a garbage heap into a soccer field, and by doing so, has created a beloved space that promotes physical and communal well-being.

For more information, visit: <https://www.facebook.com/Mathare-Environmental-Conservation-Youth-Group-MECYG-178188698913143/>

Resources & tools

1. City of Richmond, FEHR PEERs, Local Government Commission, Pogo Park and Vallier Design Associates, Inc. (2015). Yellow Brick Road: Iron Triangle Walkable Neighborhood Plan. Retrieved from the City of Richmond website: <http://www.ci.richmond.ca.us/DocumentCenter/View/36050/Yellow-Brick-Road-Final-Plan-5-9-15> | The Yellow Brick Road is initiative to create a safe path for children and families to walk through the Iron Triangle. The plan details the specific vision and strategy behind making this road a reality.
2. Francis, J., Giles-Corti, B., Wood, L., & Knuiman, M. (2012). Creating sense of community: The role of public space. *Journal of Environmental Psychology*, 32(4), 401-409. <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0272494412000461> | This article details how perceived quality of neighborhood is positively associated with sense of community, which is associated with improved well-being.
3. Maxmen, A. (2016). The privilege of health. *Nature*, 531(7594 S1), S58-S58. | This Nature News article discusses how Pogo Park is working to improve physical health and well-being of Iron Triangle Residents.
4. Villanueva, K., Badland, H., Hooper, P., Koohsari, M. J., Mavoa, S., Davern, M., ... & Giles-Corti, B. (2015). Developing indicators of public open space to promote health and wellbeing in communities. *Applied geography*, 57, 112-119. <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0143622814002872> | This article discusses "a novel approach to identify policy-relevant public outdoor space indicators by using an evidence-based conceptual framework purposefully linking indicators to health and wellbeing outcomes."



7. Planning & Policy

Overview

Healthy communities are supported by a network of physical and social infrastructure. Neighborhood infrastructure and key services include transportation, water, energy, waste management, and education among others. This infrastructure is generally managed by city governments and has a key role in the health and well-being of residents, but is too often fragmented into departments that work independently and miss opportunities to make explicit connections to health. Acknowledging that the health and prosperity of urban communities is largely impacted by the quality of key city infrastructure can help integrate services and support health in many ways, including promoting physical activity, preventing accidents and promoting public health, and providing a living environment in which all feel valued and protected.

During the learning exchange, participants discussed environmental justice concerns and the negative impacts of poorly managed water and waste on poor urban communities across the globe. The conversations identified key strategies that lift up community concerns at the city level, and put people, health, and equity at the center of policy solutions.

Key Practices

- Health in all policies
- Use Health Impact Assessment tool to analyze health impacts of key infrastructure projects
- Integrate city services and departments to deepen focus on community well-being
- Incremental upgrading of infrastructure
- Identify opportunities to integrate functional infrastructure upgrades with other community benefits
- Use a restorative justice framework for criminal justice system reform
- Adopt a human rights framework for basic services
- Incorporate community managed solutions to promote local hiring and job creation
- Address poverty penalty by assessing relative vs. absolute costs of services
- Develop emergency and disaster response systems that address the most vulnerable communities first
- Promote creative land use, zoning, and other urban planning tools to allow communities to benefit from development
- Create pathways for community input and participation in service upgrades
- Develop sustainable long term infrastructure solutions rather than one-off projects



Health in All Policies Report

Case Studies

Mukuru SPA

Muongano, SDI, AMT, and Mukuru community members have recently negotiated with Nairobi City County to declare the settlements of Mukuru Kwa Njenga, Mukuru Kwa Reuben, and Viwandani a Special Planning Area, using the rich data- and community-led analysis of existing conditions to advocate for the allocation of City County resources for planning and improving the area. The special planning designation will allow city planners and community members to develop plans that address both immediate and long-term challenges.

For more information visit:

<https://www.muungano.net/browseblogs/2017/10/16/a-special-approach-to-slum-upgrading-the-special-planning-area-in-mukuru-nairobi>

Richmond HiAP:

The City of Richmond continues its leadership in working towards health equity exemplified by the recent adoption of a Health in All Policies (HiAP) strategy and ordinance by the Richmond City Council. The HiAP strategy sets a framework of collaboration within city departments as well as with community based organizations and other government agencies to address community health, equity and sustainability in Richmond. Through this lens, Health in All Policies is both a practice and destination.

For more information visit:

<http://www.ci.richmond.ca.us/2575/Health-in-All-Policies-HiAP>

Resources & tools

1. **Mathare zonal plan (2011).** Accessed from Healthy Cities Website: http://healthycities.berkeley.edu/uploads/1/2/6/1/12619988/matharevalley_report_ucb_2_25_2012_final.pdf | The Mathare Zonal Plan is a community-led, comprehensive development plan that presents findings and recommendations for upgrading infrastructure across the entire Mathare Valley informal settlement in Nairobi, Kenya.
2. **Corburn, J. et al. (2014). Health in All Urban Policy: city services through the prism of health.** *Journal of Urban Health.* doi: 10.1007/s11524-014-9886-3. | This article describes the evolution of Richmond's HiAP strategy and its content. It highlights how this urban HiAP was the result of the coproduction of science policy.
3. **Corburn, J. et al. (2015). Making Health Equity Planning Work - A Relational Approach in Richmond, California** <https://doi.org/10.1177/0739456X15580023> | In this article asks how city planners can reorient urban governance to focus on health equity. The article explores health equity planning in the City of Richmond, California, where planners are leading an integrated strategy to promote equity by addressing structural racism and many place-based "toxic stressors."

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