



Utilization of the Collective Impact Framework to increase support of families of deaf or hard of hearing children in South Dakota

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BACKGROUND

SD EHDI (Early Hearing Detection and Intervention) Collaborative is a partnership between the University of South Dakota and the South Dakota Department of Health that was formed in 2015 to allow the initiation of HRSA grant quality improvement activities within the South Dakota Newborn Hearing Screening Program.³



South Dakota Hands & Voices was formed in 2019 as a provisional chapter, moving to full chapter status by the end of that year. This strong parent lead organization has had a substantial impact on the family support network, resources, and activities in South Dakota.⁴

Improving support of families of deaf or hard of hearing (DHH) children through engagement and partnership has been a continuous goal for EHDI programs and the HRSA Maternal and Child Health Bureau. The SD EHDI Collaborative supports this program objective through the work of the state's HRSA EHDI grant goal to strengthen the statewide capacity to engage and support families with children who are DHH. As a strong advocate of South Dakota Hands & Voices, the SD EHDI Collaborative has provided financial backing, as well as technical assistant and affirmational support.

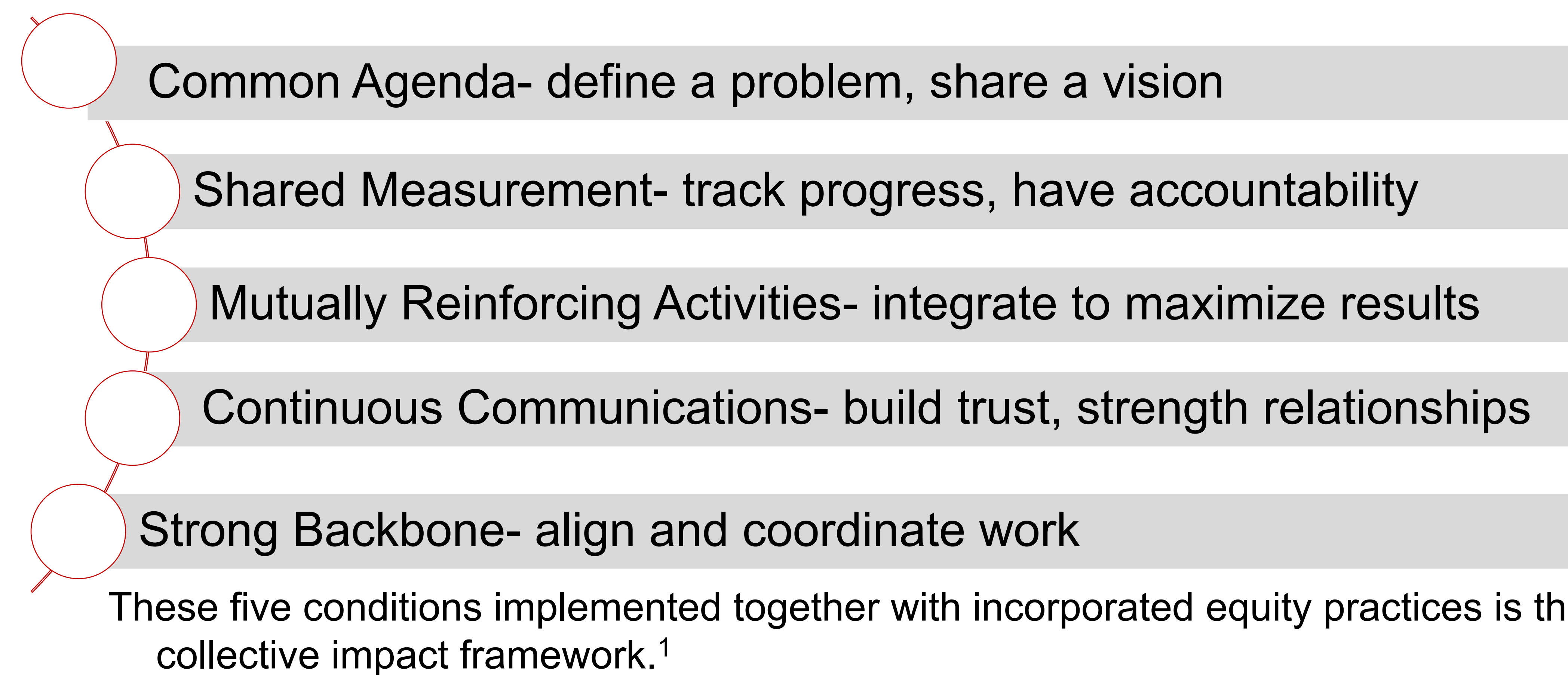
DISCLOSURES

Ms. Jepperson currently serves as the Project Director for the South Dakota HRSA EHDI grant.

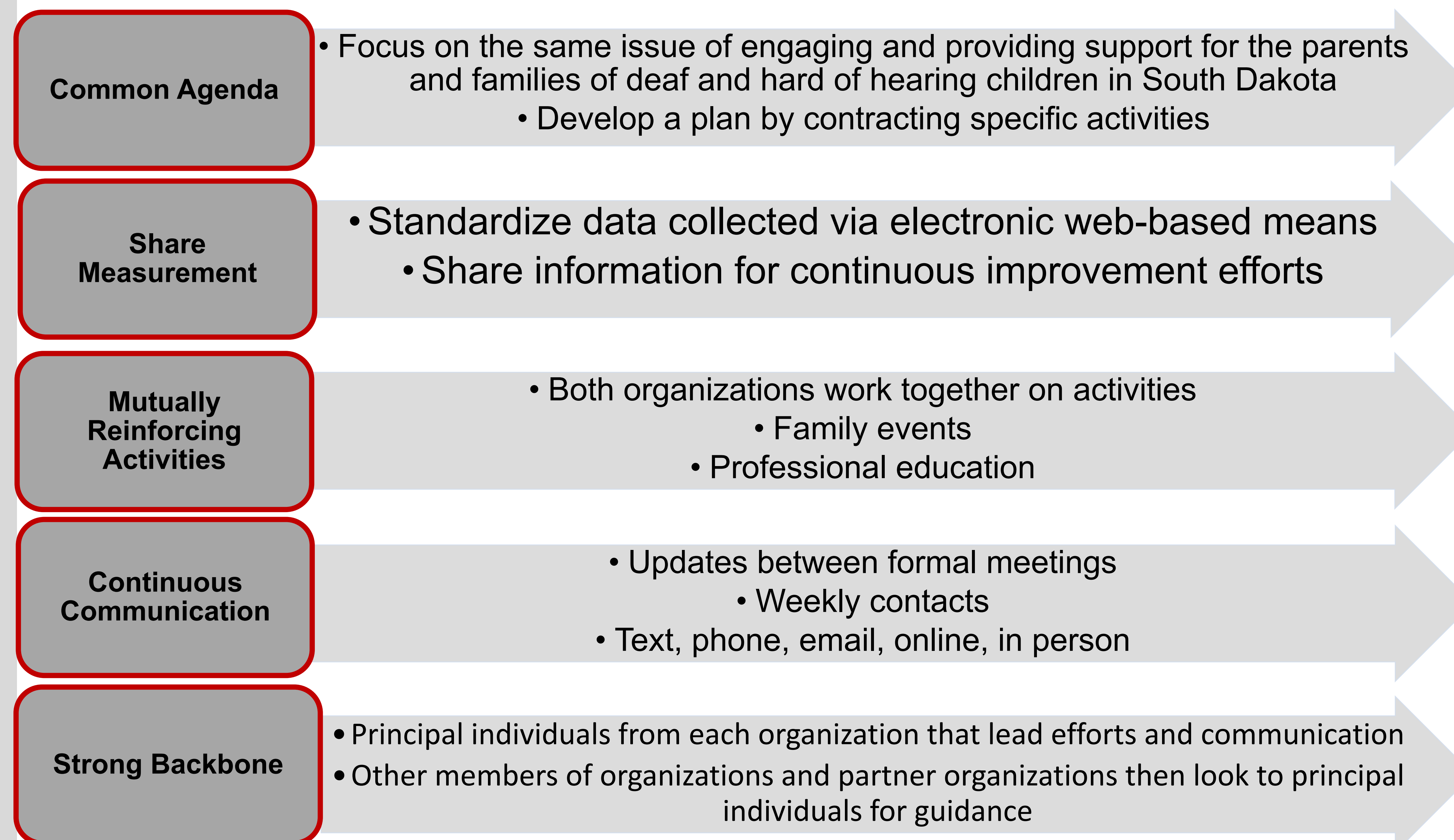
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COLLECTIVE IMPACT



ACTIVITIES AND EXAMPLES



Being a sparsely populated state with many low socioeconomic indicators, attention is continually paid to including the voices of diverse groups and the accessibility of resources and events.

FUTURE PLANS

While further evaluation is planned, preliminary observations suggest that initiation and continued use of collective impact practices has fostered a successful collaboration that has led to a systemic change in support of families of DHH children in South Dakota.

By the end of the grant year, a collective impact index instrument will be utilized to evaluate opportunities for further collective impact practices in the EHDI system. This 20 questions instrument will be administered over a three-week period via a Qualtrics survey link distributed in an email. The five conditions of collective impact will be assessed by partner organizations included on the HRSA EHDI grant advisory board representing parents, community groups, educators, healthcare providers, and government agencies. Results will be used to target collective impact conditions in future grant work plan efforts.²

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We would like to express gratitude to all families who have engaged in grant supported family support activities. We are deeply appreciative of all students, staff, faculty, professionals, and partner organizations that have assisted with related grant efforts.

REFERENCES

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