

Examples of Types of Course Projects (organized by form of capacity the project builds for the community partner)

NEEDS	Types of Projects	Common Outcomes, Products
<p>CAPACITY OF KNOWLEDGE</p> <p><i>Projects address what partners might need to KNOW to better fulfill their mission</i></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Primary Data Collection -- <i>creating <u>new</u> information through for example focus groups, surveys, or interviews</i> 2. Secondary Data Analysis -- <i>understanding <u>existing</u> information to share through, for example, a report or presentation</i> 3. Needs Assessment -- <i>identifying and prioritizing community needs</i> 4. Asset Mapping – <i>identifying the resources and stakeholders that could be mobilized toward addressing a community need</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Research Report - Presentation of Findings <i>information gained through:</i> - Survey(s) - Interviews - Oral Histories - Quantitative Data Analysis - Focus Groups - Mapping - Content Analysis
<p>PROGRAMMATIC CAPACITY</p> <p><i>Projects address HOW partners might more effectively fulfill their mission through strategic ACTIONS</i></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Program Evaluation – <i>understanding the effectiveness of organizations’ program(s) or service(s)</i> 2. Best Practices and Models – <i>exploration of case studies that would be helpful or instructive</i> 3. Program Design/Development – <i>Designing and/or making recommendations for the development of particular program, curriculum, process, event, or other form of infrastructure the organization can then sustainably implement</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Program Implementation with a summary of the process (so it may be replicated) - Written plan or presentation for a new or evolved program - Handbook - Curriculum Development - Written Report (of best practices or program evaluation)
<p>COMMUNICATIONS CAPACITY</p> <p><i>Projects address how partners might better share their story to RAISE AWARENESS of issues or their work, and/or EDUCATE others on their mission</i></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Synthesizing Existing knowledge – <i>for example, creating videos, brochures, website text, social media campaign, or a marketing plan</i> 2. Extending Knowledge to New Communities – <i>e.g. efforts to translate materials into Spanish, adapting materials to new audiences, etc.</i> 3. Creative Projects -- <i>representation of knowledge through for example, logo or brand development, theatric representation of an educational theme</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Video - Brochure - Website, blog - Social media - Marketing campaign - Logo or brand development - Theatric representation - Contributions to news outlets - Storytelling or Creative events

	<p>4. <i>Storytelling Initiatives -- efforts to better communicate untold or less visible stories; particularly impactful in centering and elevating marginalized voices, narratives, and forms of knowledge</i></p>	
<p>FINANCIAL CAPACITY</p> <p><i>Projects address how partners might mobilize more (or more sustainable) FUNDING</i></p>	<p>1. <i>Grant Writing – supporting grant-writing efforts through synthesizing or gathering relevant knowledge</i></p> <p>2. <i>Fundraising Support – through design of sustainable strategies, events, and processes</i></p>	<p>- Foundational research report to be used for grant</p> <p>- Grant proposal</p> <p>- Fundraising Event</p> <p>- Fundraising Strategy</p>
<p>HUMAN RESOURCES/CAPACITY</p> <p><i>Projects address how partners might best leverage PEOPLE (staff, volunteers) to fulfill their mission</i></p>	<p>1. <i>Volunteer Support Projects -- supporting recruitment, training and preparation, and retention</i></p> <p>2. <i>Professional Development projects – supporting professional development, training and preparation, fulfillment and retention of professional staff</i></p>	<p>- Volunteer Training or Professional Development events or curriculum planning</p> <p>- Volunteer or Staff Handbook</p> <p>- Retention Analysis (volunteers or staff)</p> <p>- Human Resource Analysis– staff structures, models, etc.</p>
<p>CAPACITY OF OPPORTUNITY</p> <p><i>Projects help understand or create EXTERNAL CONDITIONS (e.g political or social) that enhance an organization’s ability to fulfill their mission</i></p>	<p>1. <i>Policy Review– evaluating the effectiveness, outcomes, and/or implementation of a policy</i></p> <p>2. <i>Campaign – organizing collective action toward a particular political or social goal that impacts your partner’s work</i></p>	<p>- Policy Analysis</p> <p>- Policy Recommendation</p> <p>- Social Action Campaign</p>

PROJECT NEEDS BRAINSTORMING

Use the following questions to brainstorm project needs for community organizations.

Brainstorming Question	Supports:
Why does your organization exist? What do you wish you better understood about the problems, issues, cultures, and systems that produce a need for your organization?	Mission/Purpose
What are the dreams and goals for your organization? How might these dreams and goals need to evolve?	Objectives
To what extent is you organization making a difference? How do you know? How do you tell the story of that impact?	Impact
What is limiting your organizational effectiveness? How might your organization be more effective? What work, models, or organizations inspire you?	Effectiveness
What problems do you currently face? What are their solutions? What is your greatest challenge for the next month, and how is your organization addressing it? What about for the next year, five years, or ten years?	Problem-Solving
What changes do you foresee impacting your organization in the future, and how might you adapt to them?	Navigating Change
What decisions do you make, or have made, when the best option isn't clear? On what issues do people disagree within your organization?	Decision-Making
What might you want to know about your clients, or the population with whom you work, that you don't have the time and resources to find out?	Understanding Community/Clients
To what extent do you work <i>with</i> not <i>for</i> the community? To what extent is your organization diverse, inclusive, and equitable?	Inclusion and Equity
How might you work more collaboratively and strategically with other organizations in your field?	Collective Impact
What do funders and donors want to know?	Fundraising
What questions do clients and communities ask that you are unsure how to answer? What about partners and collaborators? Volunteers?	Communicating Knowledge
What questions should your organization be asking?	Strategic Thinking
If you had more time or resources, what would you like to learn more about?	Professional Development