<u>Small Groups – Fit and Goals Discussion</u>
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Loren Darrington

HCZ Overview –
1. Consists of holistic programming using a wraparound and continuum concept to build
   Harlem's community and constituents.
2. Address health, education, and community resources
3. Started small with 4 blocks and blossomed to 96

<u>Individual Fit to Hartford Children's Initiative</u>
1. Carmen – Mayor's Office for Young Children
   a. Must get commitment and follow through from Hartford agencies
   b. Mayor's Office for Young Children has a lot of data that can be used to address,
      assess and evaluate needs
2. Troy – Hartford Parks and Rec/Health and Human Services
   a. Expressed concerns about creating a program or putting large resources in a
      lose/lose situation. Better to funnel or create in a win/win situation in order to
      create buy in within the community
      i. Obstacles to Community Commitment/Buy-in (Chris's curiosity/response)
         1. Transportation? Daycare? Adult Literacy (Chris)
         2. Each neighborhood is different – personality, structure (Troy)
         3. Top Down Management within city government (Carmen)
         4. Lack of community trust between city and citizens
3. David – Uconn Center for Undergraduate Education
   a. Volunteers
   b. Partnerships with UConn, providing "manpower"
   c. Positive reinforcement; identify carrots to motivate Hartford kids to succeed
   d. Here really to observe and listen in to determine how UConn can assist in effort
4. Forgot name – Hartford Foundation for Public Giving (young lady)
   a. Brighter Futures Initiative – 5 centers are established already
   b. Community Engagement Surveys – volunteers canvassed Hartford households
      with kids 8 years old and under; report is currently in draft form, will provide
      more data for research
   c. Must break silos between Hartford groups
5. Tom – Dean, Uconn Neag School of Education
   a. Commitment to working in Urban Schools
   b. Understand role Neag can play and provide

<u>Goals</u>
1. Identify a neighborhood in Hartford to connect parts that already exist.
2. Identify elements of pipeline that are missing and address those needs

<u>School system – Resource and Challenge</u>
1. Disconnect between schools – magnet v. choice schools v. community schools
2. Underutilized resource

3. Community Schools (Clark, Simpson Waverly, Wish) are drowning due to lack of $$, but are good models because they have built in programs – literacy assistance, family resource centers, etc.
    a. Use the disconnect btwn choice and community schools to our advantage (Chris)
    b. Must find a way to get community to buy into these schools so they can be used as conduits (possibly) or created Promise Academies within these existing schools
4. Check out Community Schools Initiative

Other Resources to consider
1. Chief Roberts
2. AJ Jess