



Crossing Borders, Spanning Boundaries

HOW TODAY'S LIBRARIES (AND LIBRARIANS!) CULTIVATE OPEN KNOWLEDGE

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Crossing Borders, Spanning Boundaries

1. Framing

- Librarians, Library, Open Knowledge

2. Action

- Where are our best examples? What are we called to do today?

3. Impact

- Where are we already seeing it? How can we support it?

4. What can YOU do?





EDU∞PIA INSTITUTE

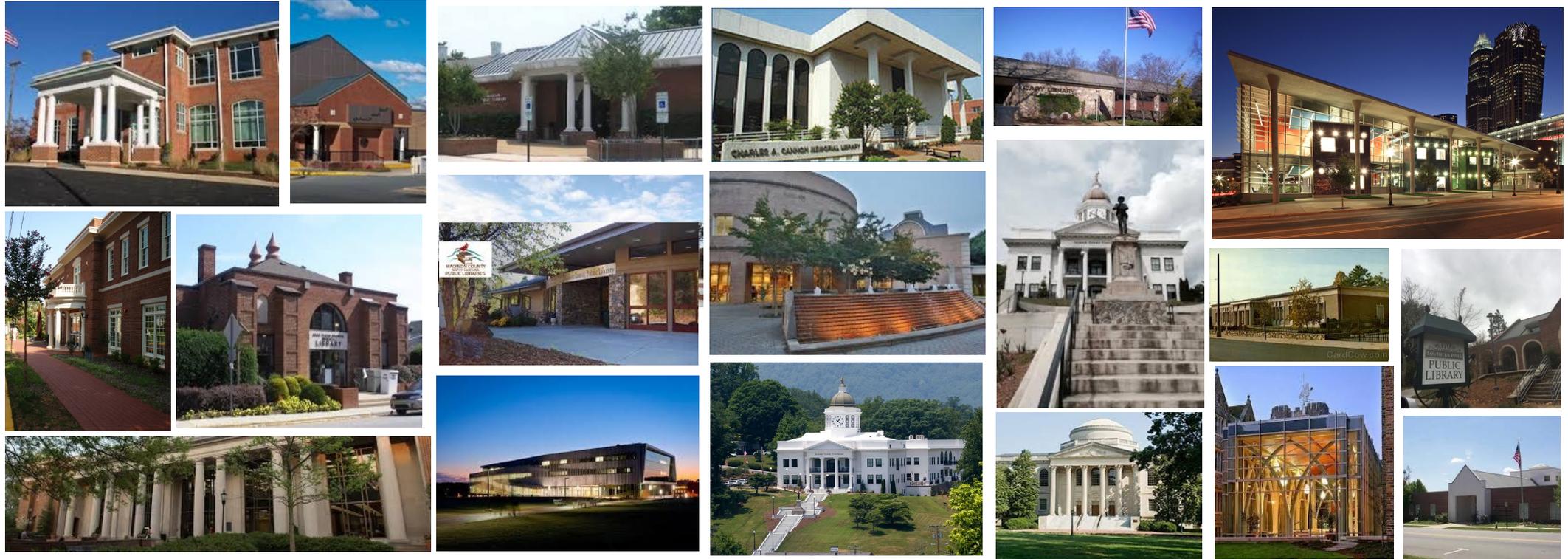


Photo by Jeremy Iwanga on Unsplash



Part 1: Framing

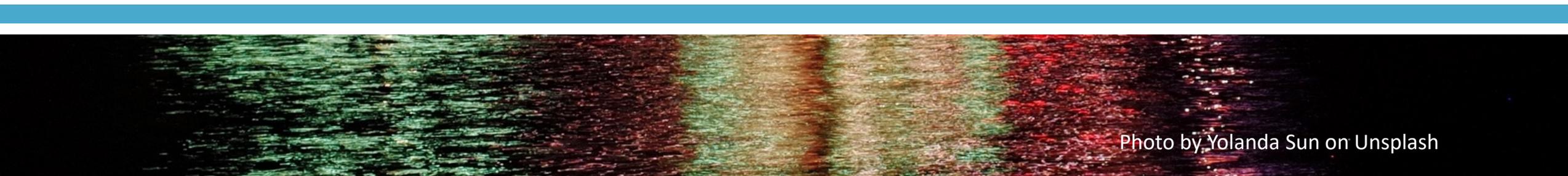
What is a “library”? A “librarian”?





Open Knowledge Institution

Physical and virtual space where anyone who wants to learn, regardless of her/his ethnicity, age, class, gender identity, sex, nationality, can tap into and contribute to a rich resource base that is at once open and accessible and usable. It extends a sense of welcome; it is governed by a sense of community-accepted norms.





What do librarians do outside libraries?

Health/Wellness....Homelessness Support

Makerspace....Literacy....Job Placement

Address Major Issues (eg: Climate Change)

Workforce Development....Youth Success

Community Building....Business Start-up

Physical Revitalization....Immigrant Support

Diversity-Equity-Inclusion Efforts....



Part 2: Action



Boundary-Spanning Exemplars - local

1. The ELITE Jail Program, Madison County Public Libraries
2. Library Service to People Experiencing Homelessness, Forsyth County Public Library
3. The Circulator (Pop Up Library), Chapel Hill Public Library
4. Historic Black Towns and Settlements Alliance, UNC



LITERACY CONNECTIONS: THE ELITE JAIL PROGRAM

Madison County Public Libraries



This grant is made possible through funding from the federal Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act as administered by the State Library of NC, a division of the Department of Cultural Resources.

MISSION: TO EMPOWER LEARNERS OF ALL AGES WITH THE OPPORTUNITY TO REACH THEIR HIGHEST POTENTIAL THROUGH DIVERSE LITERACY AND HIGH SCHOOL EQUIVALENCY INSTRUCTION.

VISION: THE MADISON COUNTY ELITE JAIL EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM ADDRESSES HOPE AND ACCESSIBILITY, GIVING INCARCERATED STUDENTS THE TOOLS TO TAKE A TRANSFORMATIONAL STEP TOWARDS SUCCESS AND REDUCING RECIDIVISM IN OUR COMMUNITY.

The ELITE-“Education Leads InTo Excellence” Jail Program

ELITE Jail Program History

Collaboration & Facilitation

Literacy Connections and the ELITE Jail Program are the culmination of years of collaborative planning with community stakeholders and organizations that strive to give residents in Madison County hope, access, and the tools to take a transformational step towards success in their lives.

Partners

- Madison County Sheriff's Office
- AB Tech Community College
- Madison County Government
- Mountain Area Workforce Development

•Volunteers



ABTech
Community College

ELITE – “Education Leads InTo Excellence” Jail Program

Why?

- There is an inverse relationship between recidivism rates and education.
Federal Bureau of Prison
- Inmates who are educated are 43% less likely to return to prison.
U.S. Dept. of Justice Rand Report
- No funding in NC budget for HSE education in municipal jails.

GOAL: Madison County Public Libraries strive to fulfill that need, and continue to provide tools and resources for **ALL** members of our society, and lessen recidivism in our community as an extension of our Literacy Connections program.



Madison County Public Libraries: ELITE

Homelessness Project

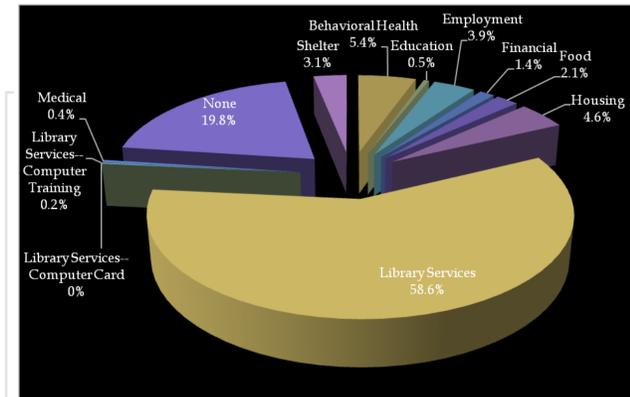
Forsyth County Public Library



Festival of Shelters

Homelessness will never go away. It is how we respond to it that makes all the difference.

- Elizabeth Skinner, Project Manager and Assistant Library Director



Project title: Library Service to People Experiencing Homelessness

Grant category: Project Outreach and Innovation Grant

About the project: For this project, Forsyth County Public Library (FCPL) partnered with community agencies to improve library services to people experiencing homelessness and to raise awareness of the issues of homelessness in their community. Forsyth County has a significant homeless population and the Central Library had become, “a de-facto day shelter,” according to assistant director, Elizabeth Skinner (pictured above). This sparked the idea to



Drumming Circle at the Central Library

bring the many services offered by area organizations directly to the homeless by meeting them where they liked to gather in the library. FCPL hired a full-time Peer Support Specialist who was trained to work with individuals experiencing homelessness, directing them to essential services and providing informational, educational and recreational programs at the Library. The library was able to hire staff to lead computer classes, offer one-on-one technology help sessions and a “Drop-In Job Seekers Lab.” A few of the recreational programs offered include, Books for Dudes Book Club, a Sunday movie series, and Chess Club.

Pop-Up Library

Chapel Hill Public Library



Here's where we will be

Bikes, Bells, and Blueberry Days

📅 May 19, 2018

🕒 12:00 pm - 2:00 pm

- Bring your bike to the [Community Center on Estes!](#) ☐ Bike Bells & Lights ☐ Mini - Bike Rodeo ☐ Games ☐ Story Time ☐ Blueberry Crafts ☐ Games ☐ 1/4 Mile & 4 Mile Bike Rides 

Movies Under the Stars

📅 June 7, 2018

🕒 8:00 pm - 9:00 pm

- *Spiderman: Homecoming* is playing. [See all upcoming shows here.](#) 

Movies Under the Stars

📅 July 19, 2018

🕒 8:00 pm - 9:00 pm

- *Star Wars: The Force Awakens* is playing. [See all upcoming shows here.](#) 

Collaborative Archiving

UNC-CH, Wilson Library



Historic Display at the HBTSA Conference





Boundary-Spanning Exemplars – national

1. Government Data
2. Software Preservation Network
3. News on the Margins



Case Study: Government Information



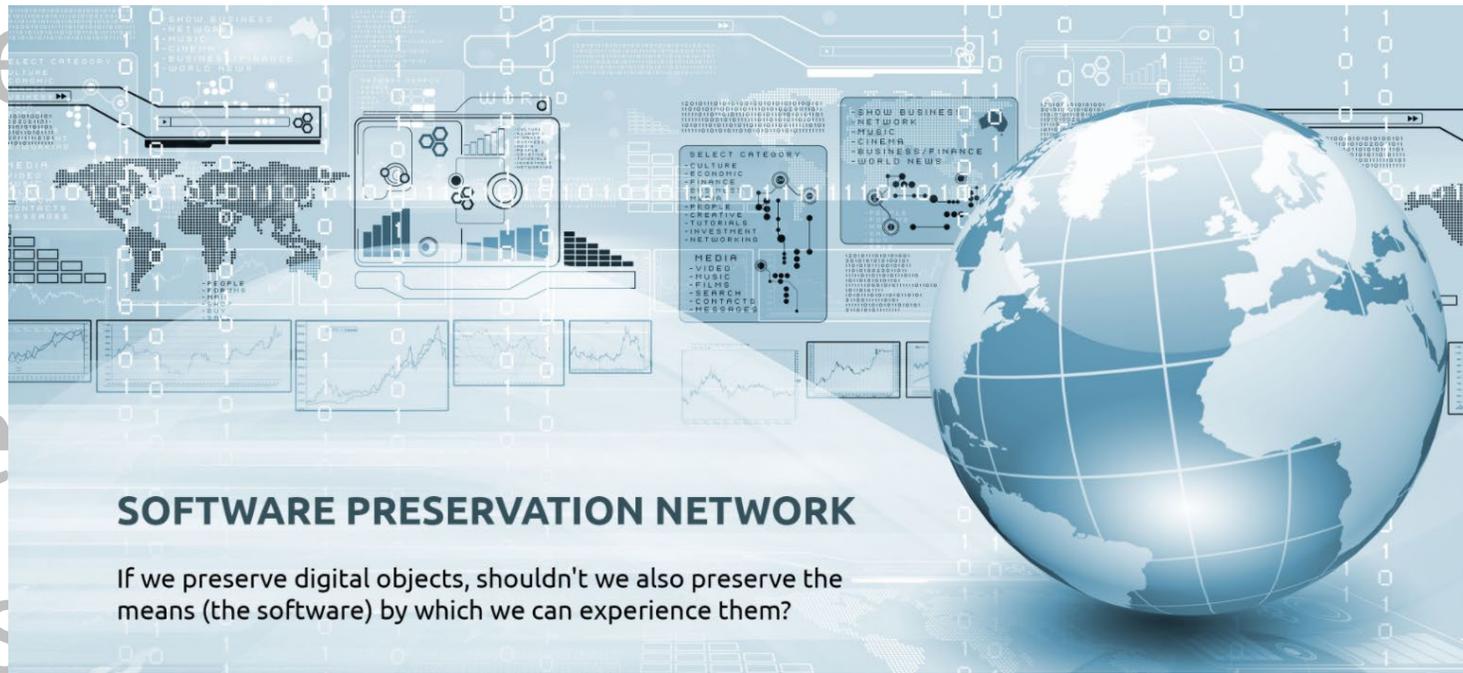
librarians
The FDLP
GIS exper
scientists
agencies

grant-funded researchers

archivists
curators
citizen
federal

Case study: Software Preservation Network

published
designers
engineers
curators



gamers
archivists
artists
lawyers

Case study: News on the Margins

journalists students publishers
editors bibliograph
photogra orarians
activists archivists technologists

Downloads | Publications | News on the Margins

News on the Margins



Published: April 2018

Download(s): [newsonthemargins_pub_20180416.pdf](#)

The accessibility and survival of historically significant news records created by and for marginalized communities is the responsibility of libraries, archives, and museums today.

The "News on the Margins: Surfacing Marginalized Voices in the Newspaper Collections of Libraries, Archives, and Museums" publication documents the design, methods, results, and recommendations of *News on the Margins*, a Fall 2017 pilot project funded by the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, and undertaken by the Educopia Institute in partnership with the Digital Public Library of America.

Author(s): Katherine Skinner





Part 3: Impact

Why spanning boundaries matters

To be of use

BY MARGE PIERCY

The people I love the best
jump into work head first
without dallying in the shallows
and swim off with sure strokes almost out of sight.
They seem to become natives of that element,
the black sleek heads of seals
bouncing like half-submerged balls.

I love people who harness themselves, an ox to a heavy cart,
who pull like water buffalo, with massive patience,
who strain in the mud and the muck to move things forward,
who do what has to be done, again and again.

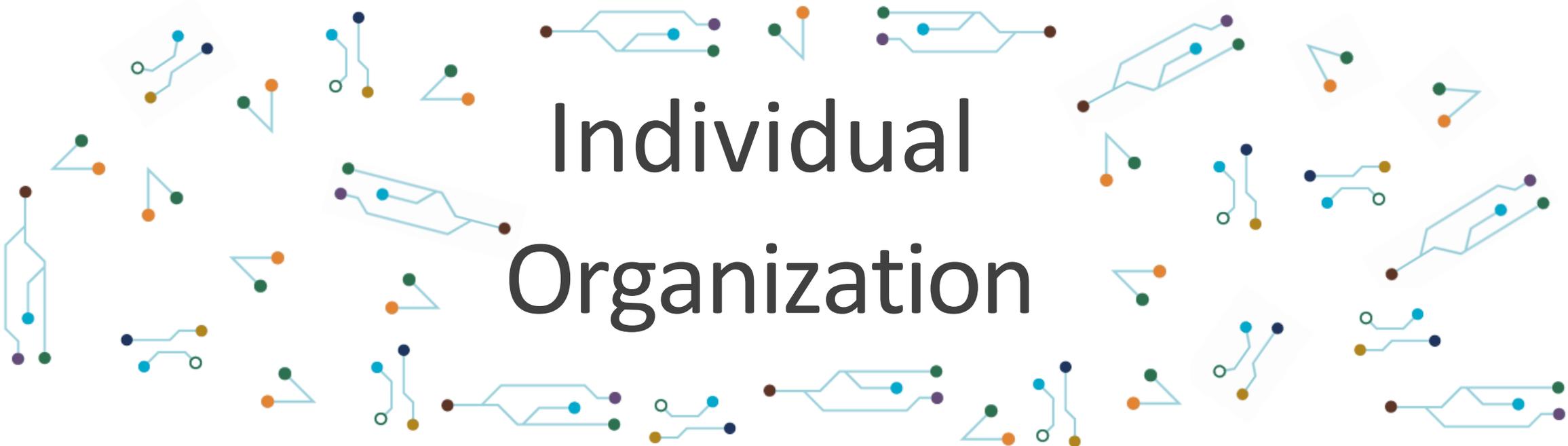
I want to be with people who submerge
in the task, who go into the fields to harvest
and work in a row and pass the bags along,
who are not parlor generals and field deserters
but move in a common rhythm
when the food must come in or the fire be put out.

The work of the world is common as mud.
Botched, it smears the hands, crumbles to dust.
But the thing worth doing well done
has a shape that satisfies, clean and evident.
Greek amphoras for wine or oil,
Hopi vases that held corn, are put in museums
but you know they were made to be used.
The pitcher cries for water to carry
and a person for work that is real.

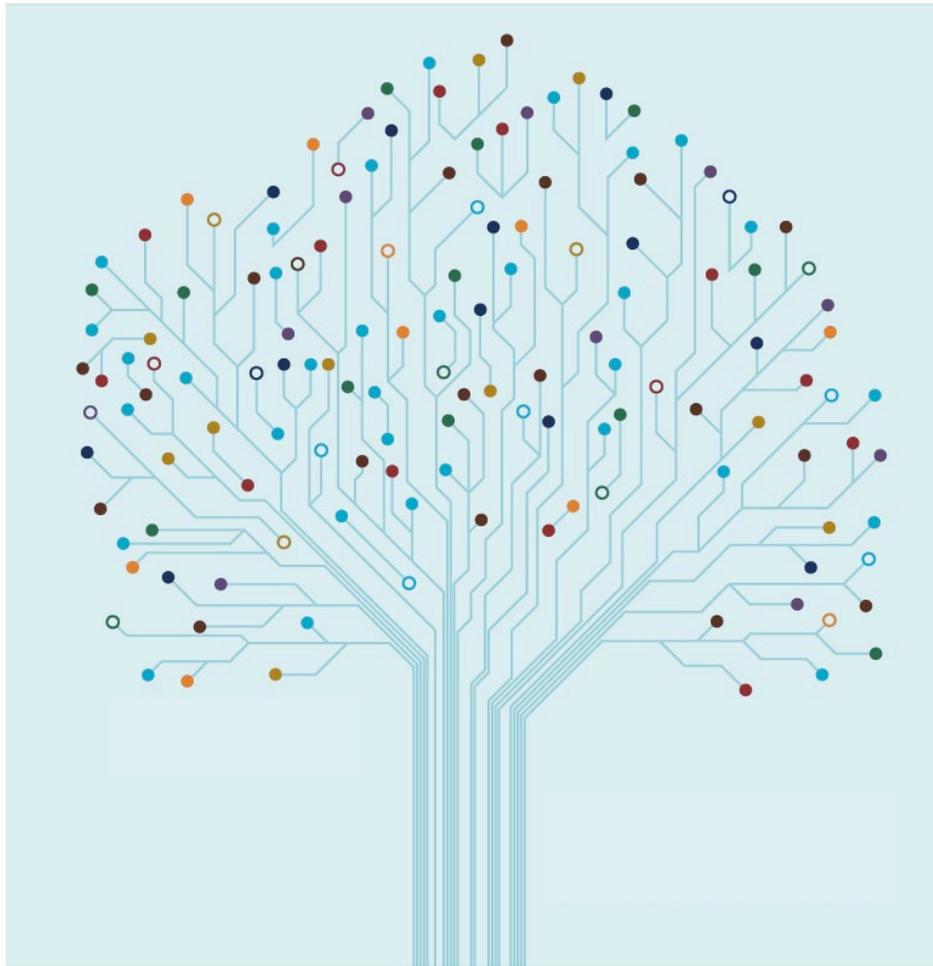


Photo: <https://www.barcelonasegwaytour.com/los-castellers-discover-one-particular-attractions-barcelona/>

Perspective matters

An abstract graphic featuring a central text area surrounded by a circular arrangement of colorful nodes (blue, green, orange, purple, brown) connected by thin, light blue lines, resembling a network or circuit diagram.

Individual Organization



Individual Organization System

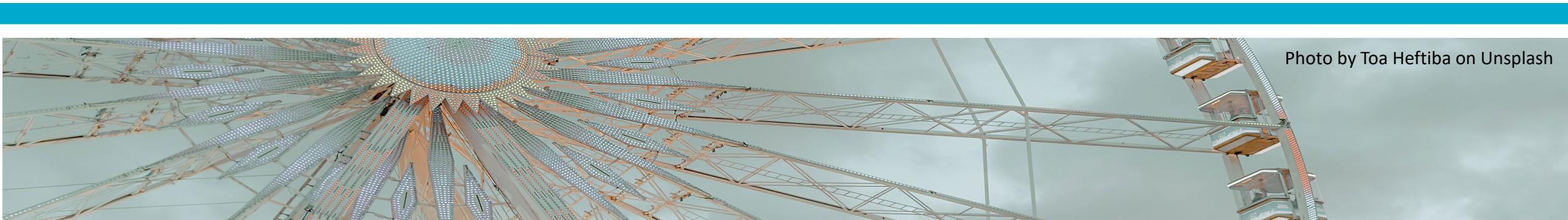


Photo by Toa Heftiba on Unsplash

Why cross-sector?

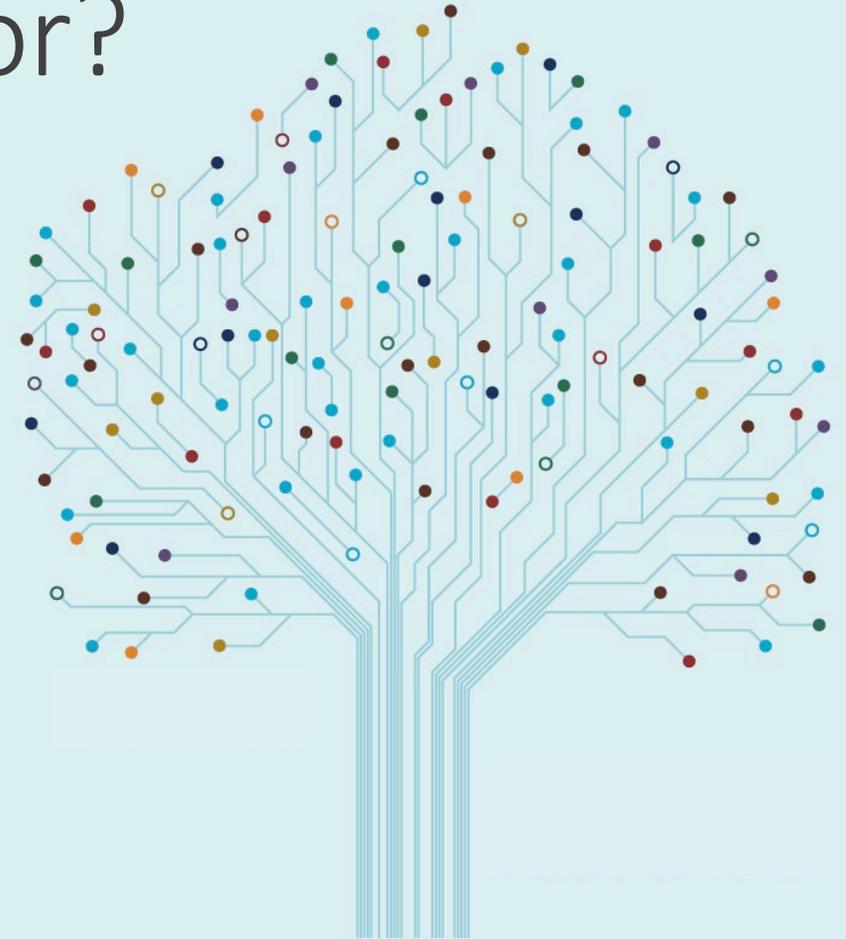
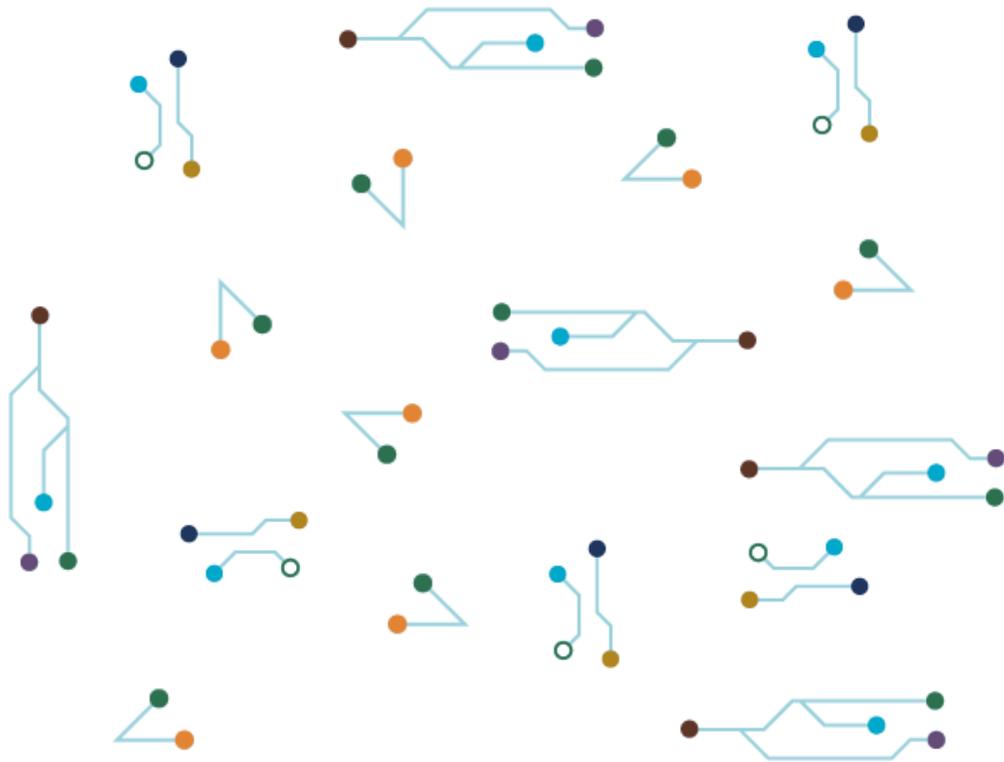


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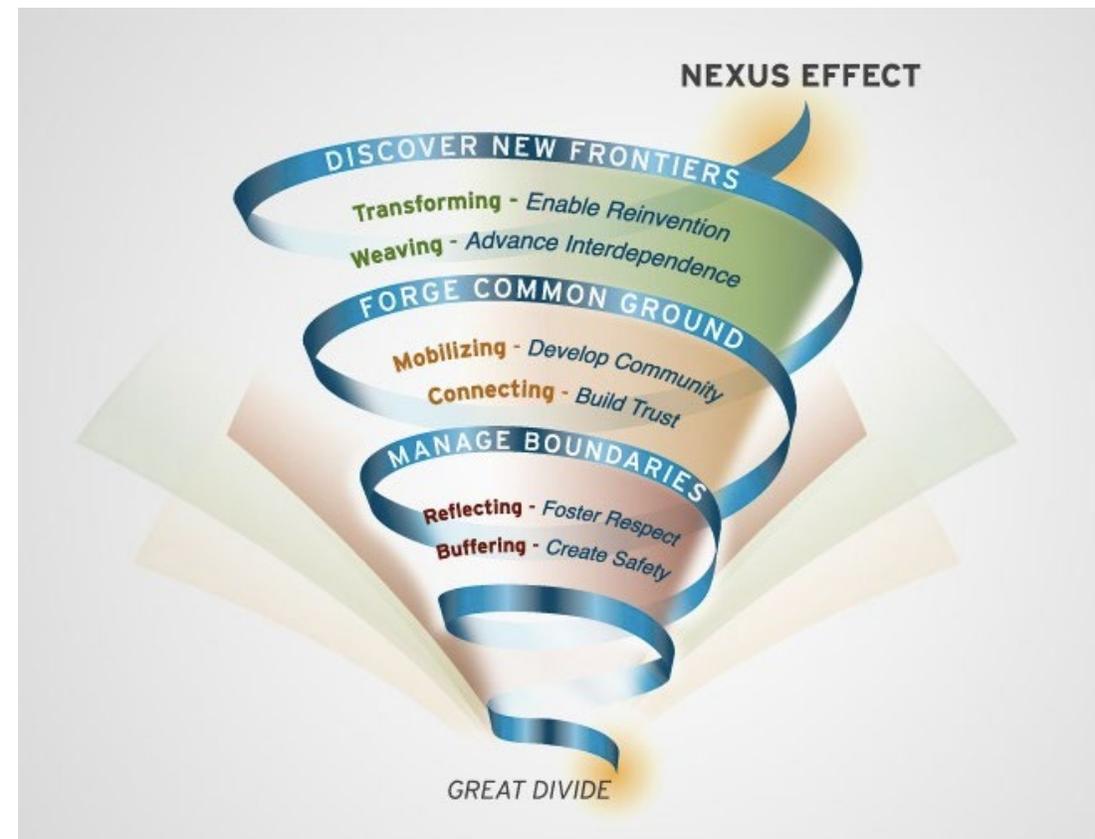


Part 4: How to do it!



Buffering
Reflecting
Connecting
Mobilizing
Weaving
Transforming

(Methodology by the Center for Creative Leadership, CCL)



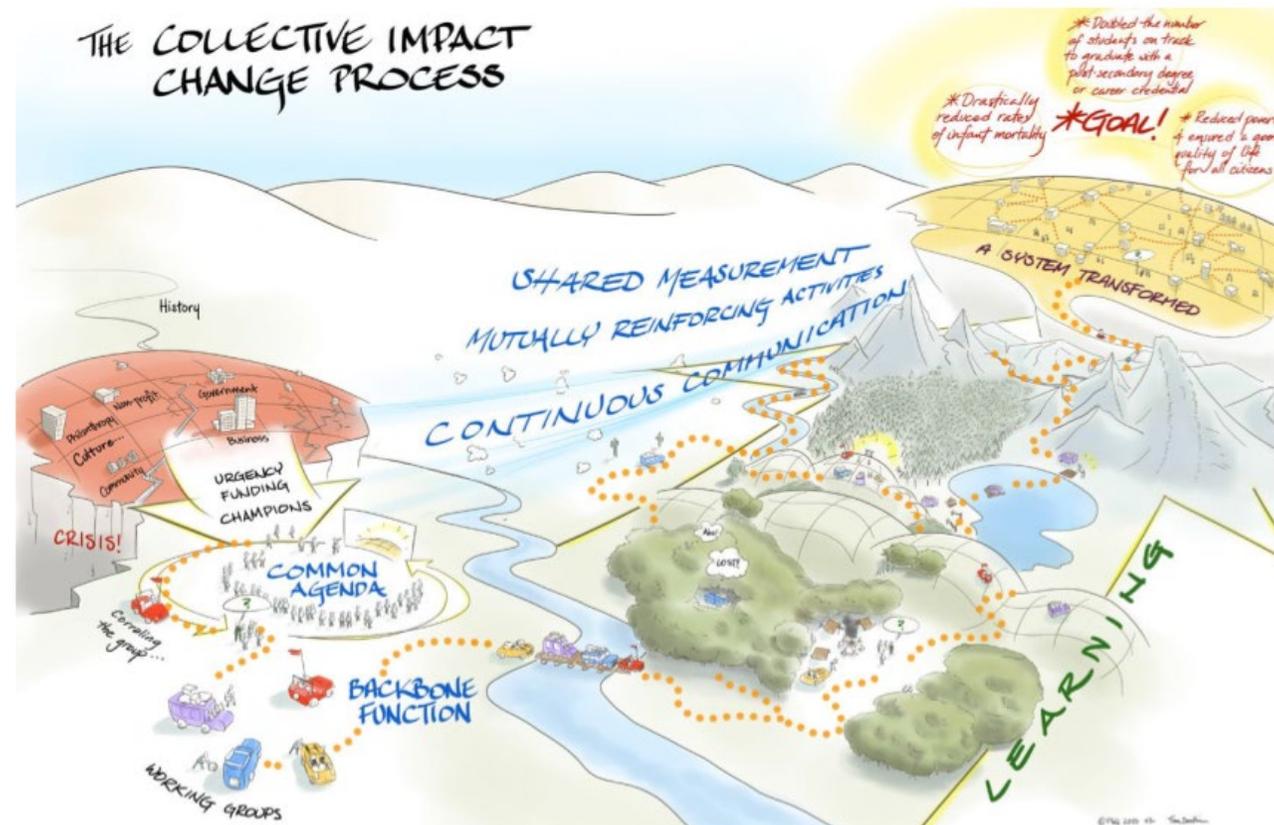
Common Agenda

Shared Measurement

Mutually Reinforcing Activities

Continuous Communications

Backbone Support



Source: H. Preskill, M. Parkhurst, J. Splansky Justler, "Learning and Evaluation in the Collective Impact Context" (FSG, 2014)



Follow your passion...

Health/Wellness Homelessness Support

Makerspace Literacy Job Placement

Address Major Issues (eg: Climate Change)

Workforce Development Youth Success

Community Building Business Start-up

Physical Revitalization Immigrant Support

Diversity-Equity-Inclusion Efforts



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