Deepening Engagement: Finding the Power to Empower

Aiding Dramatic Change in Development

September 29, 2017  •  11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Jenny Jimenez
Scenographer, Theatre-maker, and Arts Educator

Stephen Sillett
Arts Educator and Facilitator: Socio-Drama Topography (SDT), Participatory Narrative Inquiry (PNI)

NOTICE: This webinar will be recorded.
Deepening Community Engagement series

Finding the Power to Empower

OHCC and ADCID

September 29, 2017
Jennifer and Stephen are co-Executive Directors of A.D.C.I.D. (Aiding Dramatic Change in Development).

A non-profit based in Toronto whose community-driven approach, evolved over 10 years through work in rural areas and townships in South Africa, and various projects in Ontario.

www.adcid.org
A.D.C.I.D.

(Aiding Dramatic Change in Development)

We create inspirational experiences for people to influence and transform the world around them.
…using an asset-based lens. Recognising the strengths and resources that lie within the experience and knowledge of community members.
Peer Influence
Healthy Choices around HIV

SOCIO-DRAMA TOPOGRAPHY (2006 - Present)
LOCATIONS: 9 Zisize Schools, KwaZulu Natal, South Africa
THEME EXPLORED: Peer Influence
Environmental Health: Housing

SOCIO-DRAMA TOPOGRAPHY (April - September, 2009)
LOCATIONS: Two townships, Eastern Cape, South Africa
THEME EXPLORED: Places people identify with/envisage changing
Environmental Health: Water Access, Sanitation, Hygiene (WASH)

SOCIO-DRAMA TOPOGRAPHY (JAN 2012 - JUNE 2012)
LOCATIONS: Umkhanyakude Region, KwaZulu Natal, South Africa
THEME EXPLORED: Challenges with water access
Connecting Across Age & Culture
CrossGEN Niagara

CROSSGEN: Connecting Across Age & Culture
WORKSHOPS IN ST. CATHARINES AND FORT ERIE OVER 10-MONTH PERIOD RESULTING IN COMMUNITY SHARING AT EVENT IN NIAGARA FALLS

Supported by:
Ontario Trillium Foundation
Fondation Trillium de l’Ontario

2012
Imagining Possibilities
Leadership Team
"... the more general point is that organizations can be good at decision making and still falter. They falter because of deficient sensemaking. The world of decision making is about strategic rationality. It is built from clear questions and clear answers that attempt to remove ignorance.

(Daft and MacIntosh, 1981)
It’s about context

“The world of sensemaking is different. Sensemaking is about contextual rationality. It is built out of vague questions, muddy answers, and negotiated agreements that attempt to reduce confusion."

(Weick 1993, p. 636)
The contributions of community members are highly significant when used around complex, local aspects of a project. While it can be harder to facilitate, forms of sense-making can be used in these instances, and, combining sense-making with arts-based methods is very powerful.
Mood Drawings
Details of Activity:

• Use only one colour

• Just express emotions using lines, shade, shapes

• Do NOT draw with symbols, or “realistic” scenes

• Take no more than 20 seconds to draw

• Go with what your body feels
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From Mood Drawings to rich drawings on Community Development
Other Sensemaking Tools
Circumplex Model of Affect — James A Russell, 1980

Use of an emotion wheel to assist in sense-making for communities with complex physical disabilities.
ADCID’s alternative ways of unfolding knowledge from community members

These can be made intrinsically rewarding to participants, and also structured to inform the work of service providers.

For example:

- Mood / Rich Drawings combined with Image Theatre
- Participatory Narrative Inquiry (PNI)
- Conceptual Action Sociometry (CAS)
- Socio-Drama Topography (SDT) – Large Group Process
Mobilising Sensemaking to inform decision making

Sensemaking can be mobilised to inform decision making, in particular using the Participatory Narrative Inquiry (PNI) approach.
What is PNI?

PNI involves the collection of 100-150 stories around a question; the processing of stories into story cards; and participatory sense-making sessions, in which project participants look for insights in the stories. These insights are compiled into a report that can support decision making.
Participatory Sensemaking
Matrix developed by ADCID for PNI Session

NARRATIVES INFORMING HOW - THE DRAMA STORIES CAN COME ALIVE

NARRATIVES INFORMING HOW - THE GROUP DEVELOPS

NARRATIVES INFORMING HOW - WE HELP PARTICIPANTS PERSONALLY

ARRIVING
Getting to Venue
Arriving at Venue

BEFORE W/SHOP
Connecting in Café
Having food

OPENING
Gathering into circle
Chairs & Tables Exercise

CO-CREATING
Creating with fabric
Listening for story ideas,

INTERACTING
Memorable story moments
Your character doing something in story

OBSERVING
Memorable story moments
Seeing Others doing something in story

OTHER STUFF
Non-story moments
Discussions that happened
Thank you to Lorna McCue and the OHCC
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