



Coming Together for Equity

Project Background. The Rhode 2 Equity community conference brought together stakeholders from six teams and community partners to share progress, celebrate achievements, and plan for sustainability. Held at the Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island, the conference emphasized including individuals with lived experiences in decision-making processes, the importance of emotional intelligence in equity work, and the power of data-driven sustainability and advocacy paired with impactful storytelling.

Evaluation Methods

The evaluation of the Rhode 2 Equity conference included a mix of post-conference survey evaluations, observation notes, rapid feedback forms, and pre-post survey analyses. These methods helped capture the effectiveness of the sessions and the participants' takeaways.

Conference Survey: Attendees answered open-text questions for each session they attended, capturing their key takeaways and plans to apply the knowledge gained.

Rapid Feedback Forms: These forms collected immediate reactions and ratings for each session, providing a quick snapshot of participant engagement and satisfaction.

| Session _____ | | CHW? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | | | | | | |
|--|-------------------------|---|---------------|-----------|------------------|-------------------|------------------------------|-------------------|
| 5 A Great | Knowledge Gained | 1 None | 2 A little | 3 Some | 4 Quite a Bit | 5 A Great Deal | Practical Application | 1 None |
| 4 Quite a Bit | | Value of Session | | | | | | 2 A little |
| 3 Some | | Rapid Feedback Form | | | | | | 3 Some |
| 2 A little | | Ability to train, coach, and support others on the content | | | | | | 4 Quite a Bit |
| 1 None | | 1 None | 2 A little | 3 Some | 4 Quite a Bit | 5 A Great Deal | | 5 A great deal |
| Please provide additional comments on the back about what you learned | | | | | | | | |

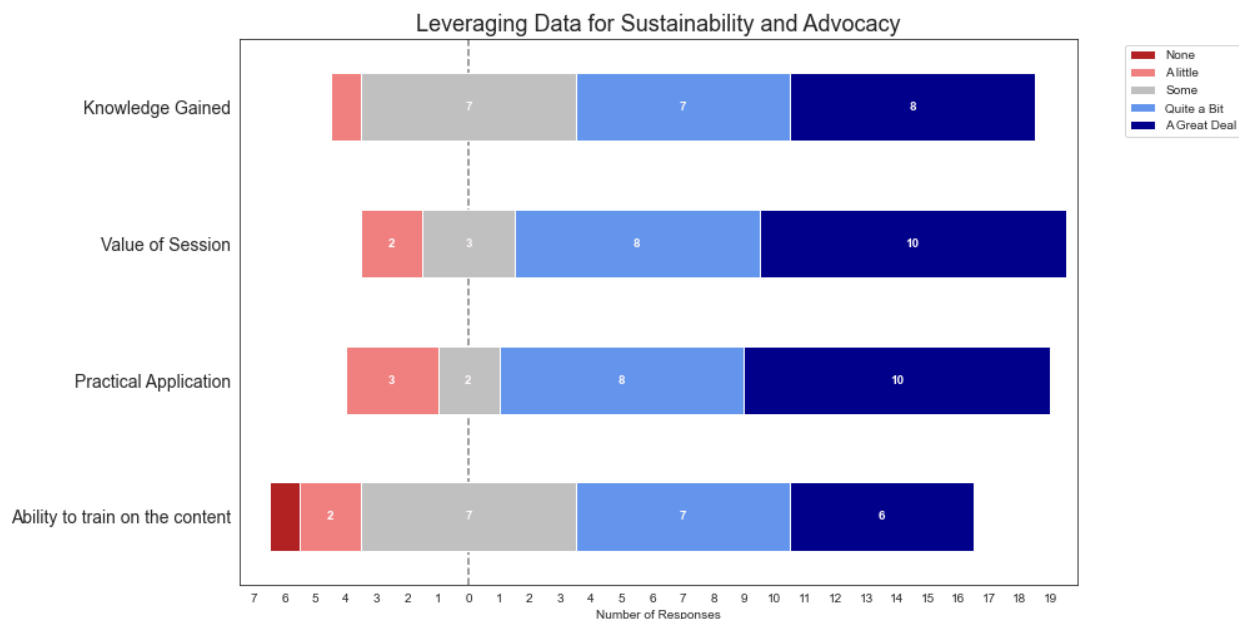
Observation Notes: Evaluators took detailed notes during the sessions, focusing on participant interaction, engagement levels, and key discussion points.

Pre-Post Survey Analysis: A pre-conference survey was conducted to measure participants' confidence in identifying areas of sustainability and collaboration. A post-conference survey then assessed changes in confidence levels.

Key Sessions and Findings

Best Practices for Engaging People with Lived Experiences of Inequity: This session highlighted the importance of including individuals with lived experiences in decision-making. Attendees learned to incorporate community voices, involve individuals in decision-making, and evaluate resident engagement efforts. The session stressed the role of emotional intelligence in fostering empathy and understanding.

Making Your Case: Leveraging Data for Sustainability and Advocacy: Participants recognized the power of combining storytelling with quantitative data to communicate effectively with grantors and funders. They emphasized using mixed methods for evaluation, incorporating storytelling techniques, and being mindful of potential biases in data collection.



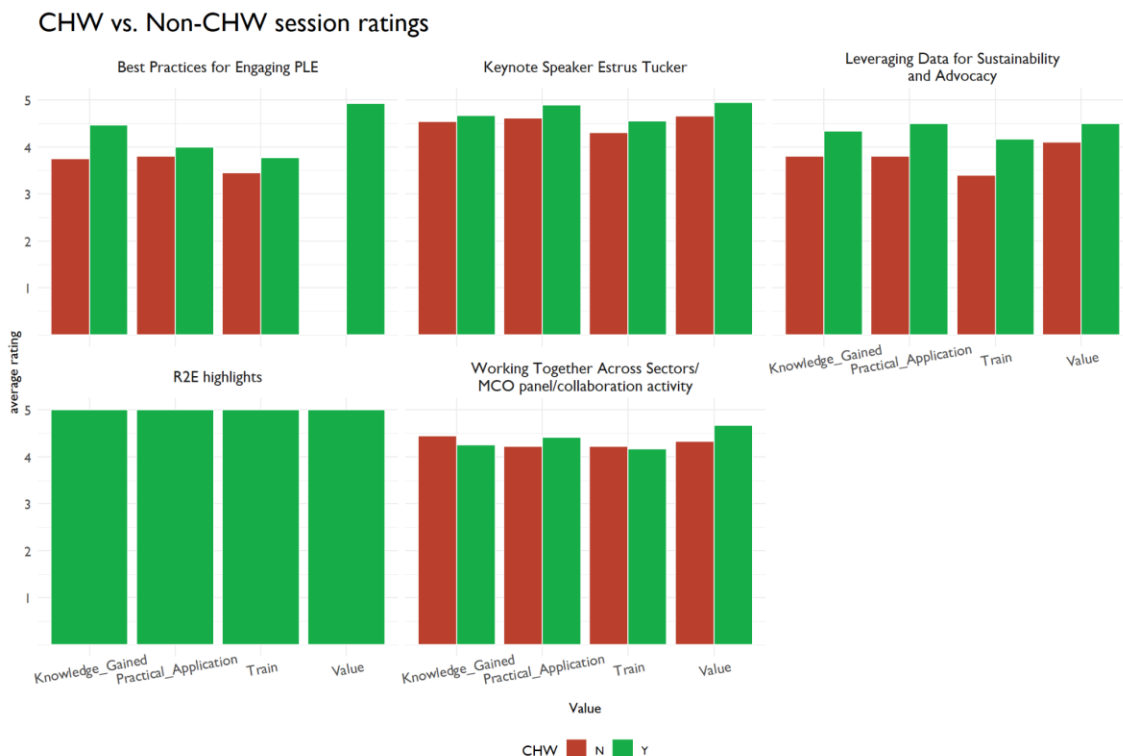
Keynote Presentation: Emotional Intelligence in Equity Work: The keynote presentation on emotional intelligence underscored its critical role in equity work. Attendees learned to manage emotions, value diverse perspectives, and create inclusive environments. The session emphasized the importance of being present and holding space for others.

Working Together Across Sectors: This session focused on the potential for collaboration among organizations. Attendees appreciated the value of community-based resources, the complexity of eligibility assessments, and the need for emotional intelligence in collaborative efforts. The session encouraged upstream thinking and highlighted the importance of addressing root causes.

Impact on Stakeholder Knowledge

The conference significantly increased participants' confidence in identifying areas for continued sustainability and collaboration:

1. **Confidence Gains:** Pre-post survey analysis showed a marked increase in participants' confidence in collaborating with people with lived experiences, managed care organizations (MCOs), and health equity zones (HEZs).
2. **Engagement and Satisfaction:** Community Health Workers (CHWs) found the sessions more valuable than non-CHWs. Overall, attendees expressed satisfaction with the conference's organization, content, and opportunities for networking and collaboration.





3. **Commitment to Application:** Participants committed to applying their newfound knowledge by incorporating lived experiences into decision-making, using emotional intelligence in their work, and leveraging data for advocacy.

Summary

The Rhode 2 Equity conference successfully engaged participants, facilitated learning and sharing, and inspired intentions for implementing new practices. Emphasizing lived experiences, emotional intelligence, and data-driven advocacy, the conference made significant strides in enhancing equity work across sectors.

Contact Us

Interested in applying these methods to your own evaluations or learning more about enhancing your programs? We'd love to help. Contact us today at mel@dawnchorusgroup.com to discuss how we can work together to achieve impactful, data-driven change in your community.