

LHION

(LAWRENCE HEIGHTS INTER-ORGANIZATIONAL NETWORK)

A ROAD LESS TRAVELLED....

SW ONTARIO FORUM

NOVEMBER 16, 2016



This resource was coproduced by partners of the [Collaborative Leadership in Practice \(CLIP\) project](#)

THE BIRTH OF LHION...

- A few agencies were working in partnership but not organized
- Lack of information and communication
- Increased gun violence
- Continued lack of trust between agencies and community residents
- Emerging presence of strong grassroots groups

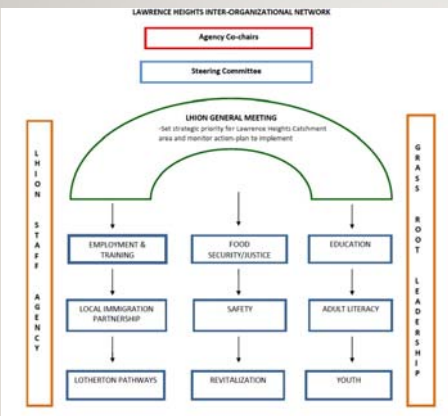


LHION @ YEAR 2005

- Formation of a formal network of service providers, community organizations and other representative of grassroots, including groups, local leaders who deliver programs and services in the communities of **Lawrence Heights, Neptune and Lotherton Pathway**



HOW WE WORKED TOGETHER...



Mission:

To build community capacity through leadership development, collaboration, effective use of resources and advocacy.

Vision:

To work together with all interested parties to build a dynamic, engaged, empowered, inclusive, vibrant and healthy community.



WHAT WORKED WELL...

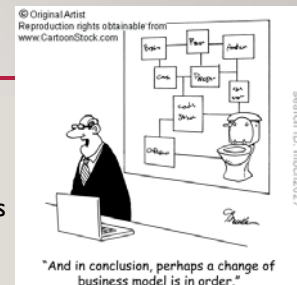
- ✓ Structured meeting – meeting on a regular day and time of the month
- ✓ Paid coordinator position to support network
- ✓ Network governed by Steering Committee
- ✓ Commitment from agencies including City, Public Health, Police, Community Health Centre, etc.
- ✓ Funding opportunities to empower resident leadership to support some workgroups
- ✓ BePART – Community Based Research project
- ✓ Annual Planning Day to allow resident & agency co-facilitate



LHION

WHAT DIDN'T WORK SO WELL...

- Meeting time not convenient to residents
- Too many meetings – difficult to act upon issues
- Lack of sustainable funding for network & workgroup coordinator positions
- Commitment from agencies became inconsistent with staff turnover
- Accountabilities became unclear;
- Lack of proper orientation process & communication tools
- Opportunities to empower residents and community leaders without financial commitment
- Lack of access to basic admin support for resident leaders



LHION

NEEDS FOR IMPROVEMENTS

- Communication
- Failed to ensure accountability for residents – petition
- Decision-making at the LHION table
- Missing youth, schools, corporations, business, faith group
- Lack of agency commitment
- Residents not compensated for taking leadership
- Sustainability
- Conflict resolution (addressing resident dissent) – power dynamic



RENEW – REFORM - RECOMMIT

- A newly proposed structure – soliciting feedback
- Resident co-chairs to be supported with honorariums
- Member agencies to be co-chairing with residents
- Sustainability – secured funding
- Accountabilities – clarify purpose, communication and decision making structure
- Commitment to ensure resident participation and empowerment as the foundation





New Vision

Lawrence Heights, Lotherton and Neptune will be three vibrant engaged, empowered and inclusive communities

New Mission

To **bring together** the communities' residents and agencies working in these communities to **identify community needs** and **create opportunities** for **community action** collaboration and **collective impact**



All great achievements
require time.

Maya Angelou

quoteagency