"Wellbeing Design Challenge"

MAWOCN Values, Reflections, and Recommendations

Kishana Smith October 4, 2023

Meet Your Presenter

Kishana Smith (she/her)

Executive Director at the Massachusetts Women of Color Network, Inc.

Survivor-leader

12 years in the DV/SA field

Business Administration-Concentration in Nonprofit Management

Monday-Friday at 5pm- Drive in Silence



Objectives for this Presentation

- 1. Understand the importance of centering the voices of survivors
- 2. Build upon your previous knowledge
- 3. Explain MAWOCN's approach to wellbeing in our work
- Self Reflection
- 5. Self- Care in the moment; no built in breaks

Take Some Deep Breaths & Set Your Intentions

Full-Frame Initiative's 5 Domains of Wellbeing

Social connectedness

Stability

Safety

Access to meaningful resources

Mastery

We need assets in all 5 domains to thrive!



JULY 2021

THE MASSACHUSETTS WOMEN OF COLOR NETWORK (MAWOCN)



KEEPING BLACK WOMEN ALIVE

- 1. SHIFT AWAY
 FROM OVER
 RELIANCE ON
 LAW
 ENFORCEMENT
- 2. CHALLENGE/ UNDO THE STEREOTYPES

3. FUND
CULTURALLYSPECIFIC MODELS
AND BEST
PRACTICES

BASED ON THE
REPORT, WE
CREATED A
COHORT OF 5
BIPOC WOMEN-LED
ORGANIZATIONS
TO FURTHER THE
WORK OF KEEPING
BLACK WOMEN
ALIVE.

Meet the Cohort:



THE CENTER FOR HOPE AND HEALING, INC.

OVER 40 YEARS OF SOCIAL JUSTICE ADVOCACY AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE PREVENTION



TRANSGENDER EMERGENCY FUND

CRITICAL
ASSISTANCE FOR
LOW-INCOME AND
HOMELESS
TRANSGENDER
PEOPLE LIVING IN
MA.





BROOKVIEW HOUSE

HELPING COURAGEOUS MOMS LIFT THEIR CHILDREN OUT OF HOMELESSNESS



LOVE LIFE NOW FOUNDATION, INC.

HEARTS AND
HANDS
RAISING
AWARENESS
AGAINST D.V

YWCA OF CENTRAL MASSACHUSETTS

IS ON A MISSION...
ELIMINATING
RACISM,
EMPOWERING
WOMEN

MAWOCN Values

- 1. Authentic Connection
- 2. Imparting History & Knowledge
- 3. Storytelling
- "Lifting As We Climb"
- 5. Sharing Power
- Community Building
- 7. Community Care
- 8. Fostering/Encouraging Thriving
- 9. Radical Self-Preservation
- 10. Collective Liberation

Inviting Invitation

Invitation:

 Culturally specific services are created by and for specific cultural communities with an emphasis on the voices and experiences of that community to create the best possible services for them.

Inviting:

- Shift from Cultural Competency to Cultural Humility
- Share power
- Create the atmosphere
- Compensate when possible
- Be flexible

How do we center communities?

Involve the community in defining and addressing service needs

Facilitate learning between providers and communities

Listen

Transparency & Clarity

Undo your bias and foster a culture that welcomes culturally-specific programming

Intentional Hiring and Training

Create respectful and meaningful relationships with culturally-specific programs

Create respectful and meaningful subcontracts

Structure and orderliness

How do we center communities?

Slow and Steady

Do away with or explain the jargon and acronyms

Respect the complexities in culture and language interpretation.

Empower others

Invite criticism, feedback, and input

Be accountable

Resources for support

Honesty

Solicit Recommendations

Continue to check in

MAWOCN Appreciates Your Intentionality and Continued Learning!

Keeping Black Survivors Alive Toolkit Coming at the End of 2024

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