## Ahead of the Curve Collaborative - Basic Outcomes Framework - February 12, 2018 Discussion

#### Who AOTC Aims to Serve & their Related Needs

- 1) Organizations represented in AOTC Cohort
  - a. Opportunities to network, share announcements about initiatives/events, make/share referrals, collaborate/create more intersection
  - b. Space to reflect together on state of beneficiaries, capacity builders, and sector as whole (including gap analysis, identification of important issues in need of a collective, multi-faceted effort)
  - c. Platform to create a uniform point of view/collective voice to influence change, set standards/trends and/or maximize impact
- 2) Nonprofit capacity builders as a whole members of AOTC and beyond (in NYC and nationally), including consultants, intermediaries, and orgs
  - a. Similar needs to those in the AOTC cohort, as listed above
  - b. Knowledge of AOTC (its work, successes, challenges, how collaborating), so that they can collaborate in their communities
  - c. Info/knowledge/tools on trends and best practices in the sector ("landscape")
- 3) Nonprofit sector as a whole service providers, funders, government that serves the nonprofit sector
  - a. Knowledge about what capacity building is, what it can do for them, what is available, and how best they can utilize it
  - b. Info/help building their capacity, strength, and impact with comprehensive/360 degree outside help of capacity builders; complementary approaches to capacity building that address multi-faceted, relevant, important, under-represented issues (e.g., risk management, DEI)
  - c. Understanding from the community about the value of the nonprofit sector (avoid misperceptions)
- 4) Beneficiaries of nonprofits served in some way by nonprofit orgs
  - a. Strong organizations serving their needs (not needs of funders or others) and doing no harm
  - b. Supportive policies, healthy communities, better quality of life/standard of living

# Proposed Approach / Activities

## **Desired Outcomes** (those in bold were flagged a priorities for 2018, number = votes cast)

Assemble (X number of) NYC capacity building orgs interested in sharing resources and collaborating to support each other and sector

Host quarterly member meetings (that allow participants to share details on upcoming events, initiatives and collaboration opportunities and provide a forum for identifying, discussing and collaborating on pressing issues in the sector)

Use BaseCamp and other forums to internally share resources, information, etc. in between meetings

Host teambuilding activities (e.g., field day, cocktails)

Coordinate internal, more intensive shared learning opportunities with broader implications on work in the sector (e.g., DEI initiative, train-the-trainer)

Generate collaborative outward facing advocacy campaigns, events, and resources on key issues affecting capacity builders and/or nonprofit sector as whole (e.g., Risk Management symposium, shared calendar)

#### AOTC Members will:

- Learn about and build community with fellow members
  - Understand the offerings, strengths, and opportunities of group members (and ourselves)
  - Make connections and build trust
  - Share client information understand overlaps and how clients are using capacity building services

# • Leverage our respective strengths / build on one another's work (9)

- Avoid unneeded duplication/conflicts in our work (while recognizing there is value in discourse that comes from different points of view)
- o Collaborate (in groups of 2 or more) on specific projects
- Make referrals / better match community with capacity building opportunities

## Work together to identify and influence key issues in the nonprofit sector (9)

- o Create common capacity building framework, lexicon, values
- Generate and share concrete learnings on topics that are relevant, important, underrepresented, multi-faceted, and in need of a comprehensive approach (e.g., risk management, DEI)
- o Jointly promote policies and topics with broad-reaching implications
- More effectively deliver our services and serve our missions

### Nonprofit Capacity Builders:

- Have a common understanding of capacity building terms (lexicon), values, and impact, and a model for how to work collaboratively (4)
- Have tools, frameworks, and resources to enrich their capacity building work and the work of their nonprofit clients
- Think and act more collaboratively
- Secure more funding for their work

### Nonprofit Sector Members:

- Have better access to capacity building services
- Are better able to identify gaps in their organizations
- Are better equipped to address identified key issues (6)
- Use nonprofit capacity services more seamlessly and successfully
- Are more sustainable / better funded
- Are more focused on services delivery
- Receive accurate news coverage / experience better or stronger public perception
- Have a greater impact

Nonprofit beneficiaries experience quality services, supportive policies, healthier communities, and a better quality of life.