



NOW Innovation Forum Newsletter

December 21, 2022

Powered by Vital Village



“In the New Year, never forget to thank your past years because they enabled you to reach today! Without the stairs of the past, you cannot arrive at the future!”

-Mehmet Murat Ildan

Welcome to the December 2022 edition of the [NOW Innovation Forum Newsletter](#). As we look to close out another year filled with transformative learning and leading with the NOW network, the NOW staff took time to reflect on the work carried forward during 2022. We gathered a few resources, opportunities, and experiences that we wanted to lift up as we transition into a New Year.

What highlights from the past year are on your heart and mind? The NOW staff invites you to share the ideas, connections, and learnings most meaningful to you from the past year. The [community reflection thread](#) will be available until 12/28!

Bienvenido a la edición de diciembre de 2022 del [boletín del foro de innovación de NOW](#). Mientras buscamos cerrar otro año lleno de aprendizaje transformador y liderazgo con la red NOW, el personal de NOW se tomó un tiempo para reflexionar sobre el trabajo realizado durante 2022. A continuación, reunimos algunos recursos, oportunidades y experiencias que queríamos levantar a medida que hacemos la transición a un Año Nuevo.

¿Qué aspectos destacados del año pasado están en su corazón y mente? El personal de NOW lo invita a compartir las ideas, conexiones y aprendizajes más significativos para usted del año pasado. ¡[El foro de reflexión de la comunidad](#) estará disponible hasta el 28/12!



2022 Network Highlights



Local Leadership and Food Systems: Webinar Series *Diana Rivera*

I continue to be inspired by the incredible ways that local leaders, all deeply rooted in their neighborhoods, are thinking about the food system -- the interconnected threads to how we build relationships, reimagine community systems, and engage in healing together. I enjoyed learning from India Hinton, Tonni Oberly, and Pantaleon Florez III, who wove personal narrative, critical insights around the intersections of food, maternal health and birth equity, and public and institutional investment towards health equity, with important calls to action. In the year ahead, I am thinking deeply about how to better support and elevate diverse voices of community leaders such as our speakers and the many other resident leaders across the country who are working to build more just and equitable food systems.

[View here!](#)





Connecting Community Leaders: Peer Learning Clusters

Corin Bauman

Joining the Vital Village staff this fall, I have been continuously moved by the collaborative leadership of our peer learning cluster leaders. Holding monthly space for community leaders to connect and learn from and with one another, they have provided an incredible model for authentic peer learning. As these learning clusters gather, they continuously ground their work and leadership in efforts to transform healthy equity and child wellbeing in communities across the country. I am excited and inspired by their vision for their continued work in 2023.

[Sign up here!](#)

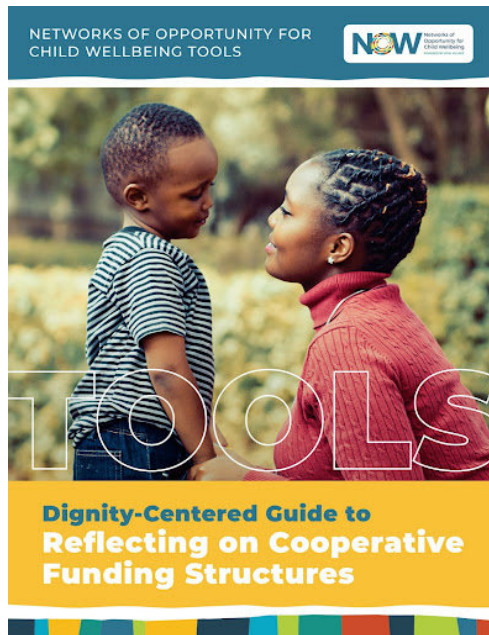
Community Power and Abundance: Data Storytelling Workshops

Milan Chuttani

This summer and fall, a cohort of community partners, resident leaders and coalitions from across Vital Village came together for a four part data storytelling workshop. Participants shared stories using innovative data collection and visualization tools including interactive timelines, open source mapping technology, and community based evaluation instruments. I am humbled by the power and strengths-based perspectives of the cohort - participants created data stories not only of health disparities but also the abundance of community knowledge and resources that exist to address them. I'm looking forward to our next data storytelling workshop series in Winter 2023.

[Sign up here!](#)





Dignity-Centered Guide to Reflecting on Cooperative Funding Structures

Ronda Alexander

In the early months of 2022 we released the “Dignity-Centered Guide to Reflecting on Cooperative Funding Structures” - a product of the 2021 Cooperative Funding Structures Design Lab - and it’s really helped me think deeply about our relationship with funders, and what it might look like to offer funding opportunities across our network. Funding is a huge part of our work, and it’s critical that we examine how we seek and provide funding against the principles of our work.

This tool is a direct result of collaborative leadership, and a prime example of what it looks like in practice. Collaborative leadership is not only about sharing wisdom and gifts, but also about sharing power - if our goal is to build partnerships and beloved community, then we must apply the same principles to our funding strategies and structures.

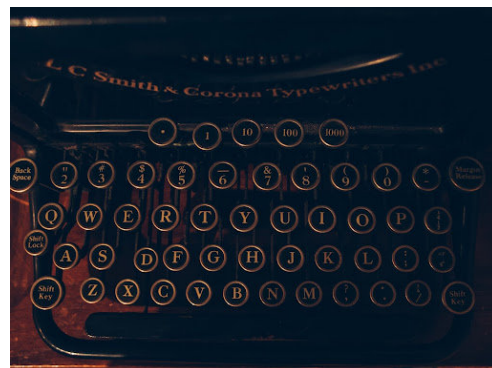
[Read here!](#)

Hearing From YOU!

What are you reading, watching, and/or listening to this month that’s pushing your thinking around how to uplift and protect the dignity of children, families, and communities?

Visit the NOW Innovation Forum [to share what you’ve learned](#) about what this work means for our communities.

[View community stories here!](#)



#VillageinMind

The NOW community hopes to stay connected and lift up the work and stories of all of our members. Follow and tag us on Twitter, @NOW_WellChild & @Vital_Village, so that we can virtually highlight the community led transformation you are leading.

Engage with us!



Back to NOW 

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