

SECTION 4



Taking Action

Title: Wheels in Motion

Aim: To identify how we can build resilience and community supports locally

Age: 10+

Time: 90 minutes (over two sessions)

Materials: Paper, markers, poster of circle with eight segments



WHAT TO DO

List all of the supports and services that people in your community need to live resilient lives. Ask the group to decide on eight of the supports they want to explore from their communities perspective. Draw a large circle with eight segments, similar to Illustration A. Display the wheel and explain that the centre of the circle where all spokes meet is the lowest point and equal to zero (not good). The outside of the wheel, where the spokes meet the tyre equals ten (excellent).

Allocate a segment and spoke to each of the eight supports chosen. As a group, rank the quality of the supports in your area from zero to ten by placing a dot on the line. Join the dots to see what the new wheel would look like. See Illustration B. Ask the group, if they were cycling a bike, which of the wheels would they prefer to have on their bike - the perfect circle or the one with lines going up and down? Discuss what needs to happen to move from the current situation to where they would like to be: Illustration C. This doesn't mean that the community has to be perfect in every way, but it is useful to focus on some areas where you would like your community to be the best it can.

Once the group have completed their own wheel, the activity can be done with family and friends as well as the wider public, to gauge how well the supports are working in their area and what needs to be done to make them better. During your next session, pull together the outcomes from the various wheels and try to create an overview of your community's feelings on the issue. Display the outcomes where as many people as possible can see it. Send it to your local politicians to let them know that you are aware of the needs in your area (see Contacts for how to reach your TDs, but you can also contact local Councillors).

Illustration A

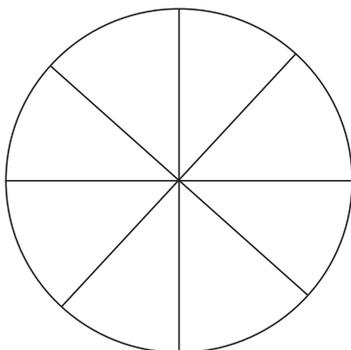


Illustration B

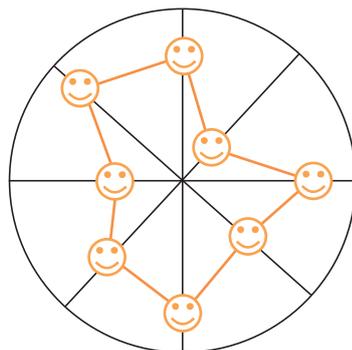


Illustration C

