

Reflections on “Partnering”

*Major Themes/Current Challenges/Future
Action*

Major Themes

- **Pre-field preparation/planning**

- Time for community/faculty discussion of long-term change
- Discussion of individual/organizational self-interest related to the immediate project
- Joint production of course learning objectives (faculty/community)
- Direct community input on the course syllabus
- Willingness of faculty to re-frame course and expectations based upon community input (ongoing)

continued

- **Course Changes**

- Community-led, pre-field orientation, by agency leadership
- Community participation in reflection-Active role in creating reflective prompts, participation in student reflection
- Integrate community leaders into the teaching team presenting content in which they have expertise
- Invite community leaders to suggest ongoing changes in syllabus
- Create opportunities for student/community/faculty dialogue outside of the classroom

continued II

- Post Course Change
 - Involve community leaders in evaluating student service
 - Engage community leaders in evaluating course offerings/content
 - Invited community leaders to play a central role in future program development

Current Challenges

- Balance
 - How do we achieve the goals of transformative learning without overburdening community leaders
- Direct Communication
 - Insuring regularized communication between community leaders and campus faculty
- Voice
 - Honoring community voice
 - Recognizing the complex nature of community voices (Community chorus)

Challenges II

- Intentionality v. Time
 - Creating time for resident leaders and faculty to discuss requirements of long-time change
 - Support resident leadership in developing parallel coursework for their own development
 - Assist students in understanding the opportunities and challenges of community-based change
 - Empowering community leaders to say no!