



# Leveraging Participatory Action Research (PAR) to Engender Trust



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Beloved Community

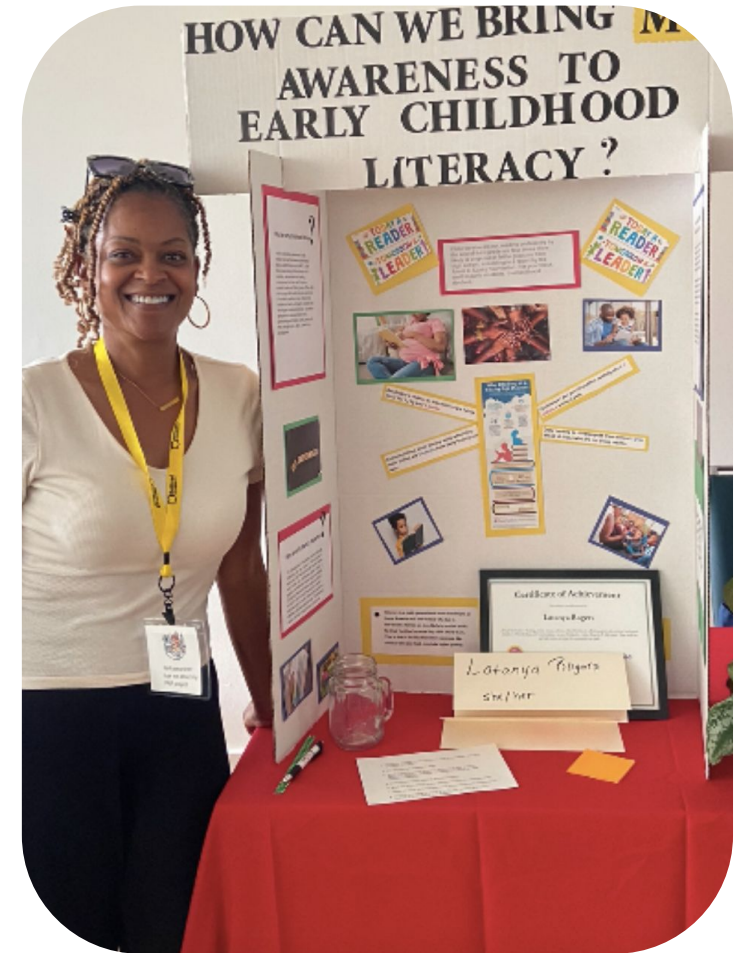


# Key Objectives

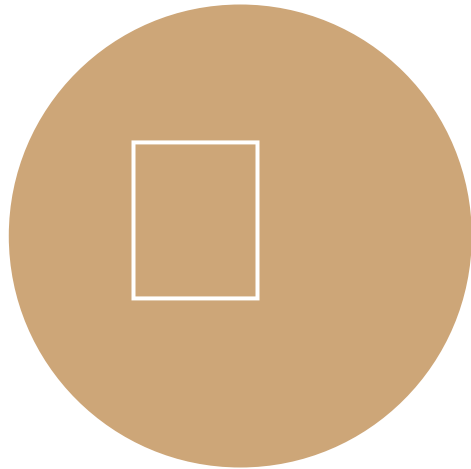
- Learn how PAR as a methodology prioritizes relationship and agency
- Explore conditions for community researchers to influence policy
- Workshop opportunities for systems leaders to engage educators in rigorous data collection and analysis

# Agenda

- Context for NOLA C.A.R.E.S. Collaborative
  - Key Components of our PAR model
  - Implications for two-way trust building
  - Recommendations
- Workshop opportunities to build trust between Early Childhood Educators and decision makers
- Final Say



# Think - Pair - Share



What has been your experience with community-engaged research?



# **NOLA C.A.R.E.S. Collaborative**

Creating Access Resources and Equity for Success

- JPMC Advancing Cities 2022-2024

- Mix of direct service, policy, and capacity building orgs with alignment on ECE as a vehicle for economic mobility for Black and Latine women



# Strategies of Wealth Building



# Participants:

- ♥ Ages 18-65
- ♥ Current Early Care educators & directors
- ♥ 90% CDA students

# Participatory Action Research



## Overall Insights

- Life happens while researching
- Dreaming and societal bias creeps in

- Participants are experts in experiences.
- People. Change. Systems.
- Inclusive & People-centered.
- Steps for change
- Remain accountable
- Move with intention
- Emancipatory
- Share findings with communities
- Systematic & detailed

- I really liked "being in person; I do better talking in person to ask more questions & facial expressions"
- I learned "to be more patient with parents in the acceptance of their child's delay"
- My project "help[s] people become aware of the importance of relaxation"
- "I have learn alot about myself; mental health is real & people need to be heard"



Researching was motivating!

Bilingual Translations, childcare, travel stipends, adaptable participant incentives & meeting times, culturally relevant food choices, weekly check ins.

Collective Action & Co-learning

# Key Components of our PAR model

- 3-year arc
- Recruited workers from NOLA CARES Collaborative orgs
- Transparent about NOLA CARES goals on economic mobility/wealth building
- Stipend for all PAResearchers
- Research Training
- Weekly check in calls
- Aid with processing findings
- Language interpreters/headsets
- Annual showcase of PAResearch questions and findings
- Facilitated policy meetings, extension activities/research opportunities

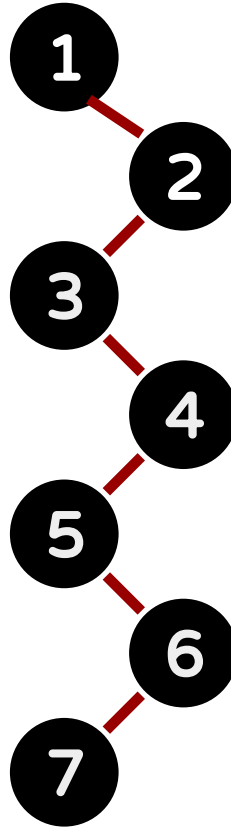
# Participatory Action Research Journey

## Information sharing and Recruitment

**What is PAR?** What is a Research Question?

**Data Collection:** How will you keep track of what you find?

**Dissemination:** Who needs to hear your recommendations? What kinds of partnerships need to happen?



**Community building:** Who are we? and Where do you find knowledge?

**Methods of Collecting Data:** How will you answer research question?

**Collective analysis:** What are you noticing in your data? How will you share what you find?

# Learnings

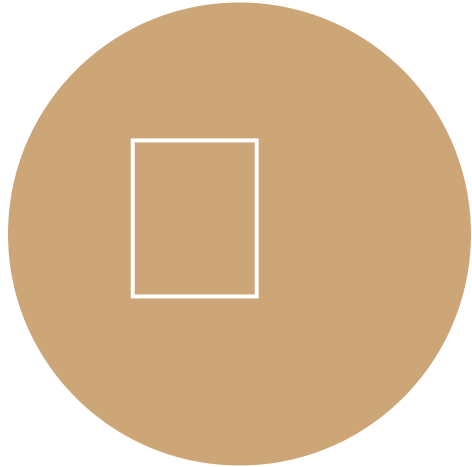


**Co-Create as much as possible**

**Timing Matters**

**Research on the horizon**

# Table Talk



1. What opportunities do you have to co-create research, data or eval questions with Early Childhood Educators/Frontline Educators?
2. What barriers exist to co-creating with them?

# Putting trust into practice

As you reflect on learnings from today's session, how might you categorize these opportunities?

## Quick Wins

Actions that can be taken immediately - don't require new funding or staffing

## Adjustments

Actions you can fold into your existing work

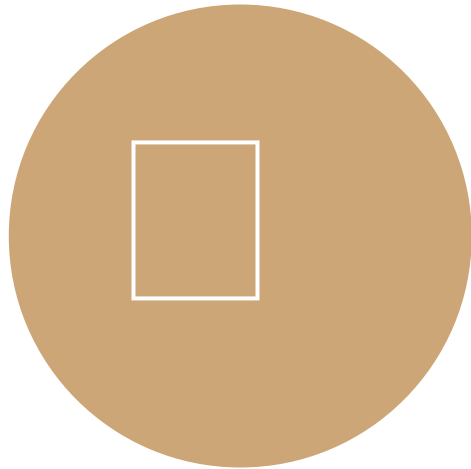
## New Actions (additional resources)

New actions you might take that would require additional staff, funding, or longer, enduring conversations

## Enduring Conversations

Wonderings that you want to invite more community members into/source more nuanced data

# Final Say



What is one thing that you want to:

- try in your own practice
- bring back to your team
- reflect on more deeply



# Thank You

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