Water Warriors Unite!

Organized by the Sierra Club MI EJ Action Group

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Welcome!/Introductions
Purposes of this Workshop

➢ Build relationships between people who care about water as a human right and public health necessity
➢ Learn about the power in the room
➢ Learn about the importance of policy, and power mapping as a tool for analyzing power for/against an issue
➢ Practice power mapping
➢ Identify next steps for creating change

Building Power & Making Change Through Policy
What is Power?

“What is Power is the ability to influence or make a decision to win our policy goals, despite resistance from others.”

Source: The “Mobilizing for Policy Change to Advance Water Justice” Training (May 2018) based on policy advocacy trainings developed by the Detroit Community-Academic Urban Research Center

Purpose of Power Mapping

“To win a campaign, you need to correctly identify who has the power to fix the problem you want fixed. Then you need to pressure them to make the right decision. Power mapping is a tool to not only identify who holds that power, but, crucially, who holds influence over that person, and, therefore, who to target with your direct actions and campaign activities. A power map, properly done, can reveal these relationships and power dynamics and help you design a winning strategy for your campaign.”

Source: “Power Mapping” by Andrew Boyd https://beautifulrising.org/tool/power-mapping
Power Mapping Supports Policy Change

“Action without vision is only passing time, vision without action is merely day dreaming, but vision with action can change the world.”

~ Nelson Mandela

What is a “policy”?

A policy is a plan or course of action that helps to guide decisions.

➢ Policies serve as guidelines that governments, organizations, institutions and groups use to respond to issues and situations

➢ Policies can take different forms (e.g. rules, procedures, regulations, codes of conduct) and may be official/written or unofficial/unwritten

Source: The “Mobilizing for Policy Change to Advance Water Justice” Training (May 2018) based on policy advocacy trainings developed by the Detroit Community-Academic Urban Research Center
# Solutions: Policies vs. Programs/Activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Policy</th>
<th>Program/Activities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>➢ Addresses bigger problem and usually root causes of problem</td>
<td>➢ Addresses small piece of problem and usually symptoms of the problem</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>➢ Big picture issues</td>
<td>➢ Day-to-day issues</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>➢ Creates movement toward broader goals</td>
<td>➢ Meets an immediate need</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>➢ Creates change at institution and/or community levels</td>
<td>➢ Creates change moreso at individual level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>➢ Lasting change</td>
<td>➢ Short-term change</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: The “Mobilizing for Policy Change to Advance Water Justice” Training (May 2018) based on policy advocacy trainings developed by the Detroit Community-Academic Urban Research Center

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# You know it’s a policy when it’s called...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>➢ Laws</th>
<th>➢ Budget/budget appropriation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>➢ Regulations</td>
<td>➢ Resolutions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>➢ Tax</td>
<td>➢ Ballot initiative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>➢ Executive order</td>
<td>➢ Court decisions &amp; court orders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>➢ Administrative rule</td>
<td>➢ Eligibility standard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>➢ Code</td>
<td>➢ Zoning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>➢ Enforcement</td>
<td>➢ Recall</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: The “Mobilizing for Policy Change to Advance Water Justice” Training (May 2018) based on policy advocacy trainings developed by the Detroit Community-Academic Urban Research Center
Why create or change policies?

Policies can...

➢ Be far reaching
➢ Be long-lasting
➢ Make individuals & organizations accountable
➢ Guide future decisions
➢ Signal a commitment

Source: The “Mobilizing for Policy Change to Advance Water Justice” Training (May 2018) based on policy advocacy trainings developed by the Detroit Community-Academic Urban Research Center

Now back to power... 3 Questions for You

➢ Where does power come from?
➢ What kinds of power are there?
➢ How do we mobilize power to bring about change?

Source: The “Mobilizing for Policy Change to Advance Water Justice” Training (May 2018) based on policy advocacy trainings developed by the Detroit Community-Academic Urban Research Center
To Mobilize Our Power, We Need to Know...

➢ Who has the power to make our policy change?
➢ Who are the key players with a stake in our issue?
➢ Where do they stand?
➢ How much power do they have?

Source: The “Mobilizing for Policy Change to Advance Water Justice” Training (May 2018) based on policy advocacy trainings developed by the Detroit Community-Academic Urban Research Center

Change Agent Questionnaire/
List of Orgs Addressing Water
Practicing Power Mapping

Remember - To Mobilize Our Power, We Need to Know...

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Power Map

Policy Goal: Ensure That Michigan’s Proposed Water Infrastructure Fund

Central Decision-maker: Governor & State Legislature

Definitions:
- Central Decision-maker: Has control over the decision
- Supporters: Are on our side, for our policy change
- Opponents: Are against our policy change

Detroit Urban Research Center www.detroiturc.org
Power Mapping Tips

➢ Be as specific as possible about the decision-maker (e.g. name the division or person within an organization, specific policy-maker)

➢ Take note of questions that crop up (e.g. questions about level of influence, questions about specific influencer, who may be missing)

Experiential Group Work

1. Split into groups
2. Review power mapping steps
3. Determine if group will have a scribe or if everyone will write on post-it notes
Power Mapping Next Step: Gather Information

Power maps help us see what we don’t know and need to find out.

➢ What else do we need to know?
➢ Who else do we need to involve?
➢ What opportunities for action are there?

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Debrief/Next Steps