

"Speed Networking"

Purpose:

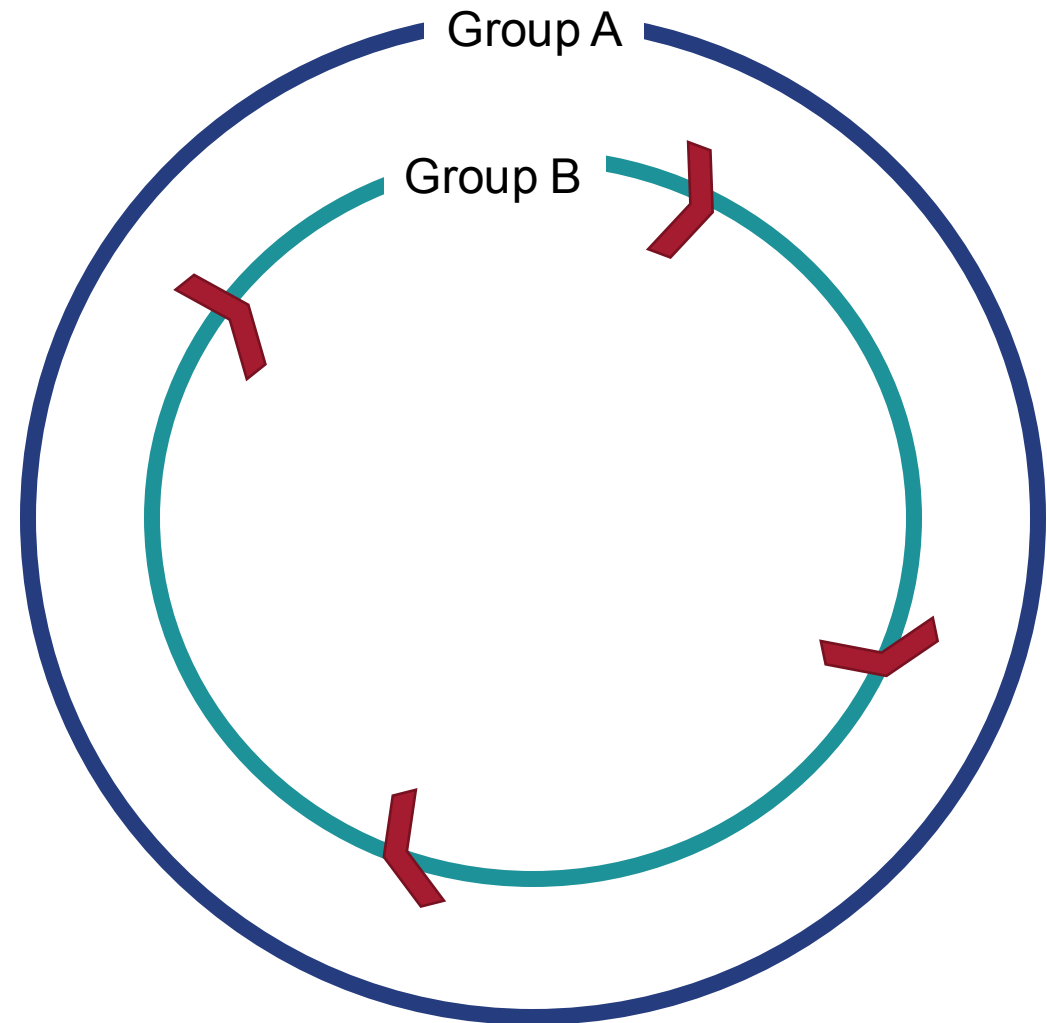
To get to know others in the space. Works well with over 10 people.

Directions:

Divide the group in half. Have each group make a circle with one circle inside and one circle standing on the outside (see diagram).

Each person should now be facing someone from the other group. Give a prompt like "What brought you here today?" / "Tell me a fun fact about yourself".

Have each person talk for ~2min. After 4 minutes, have the inner circle move one person to their right. Now there are new partners and begin the timer again with the same prompt.



"Network Mapping"

Purpose:

To visualize connections that people may already have with others in the group

Materials:

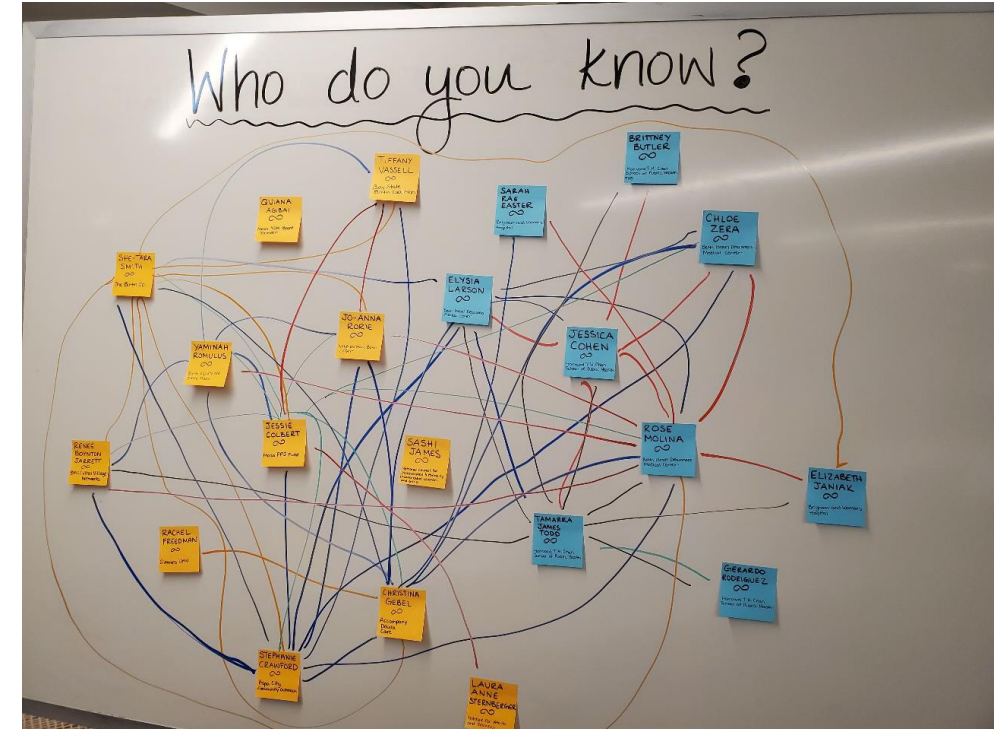
Post-it notes

Whiteboard

Dry-erase markers

Directions:

Write each attendee's name on a sticky note and place on the whiteboard. Ask attendees to draw lines to people they know and/or previously worked with.



Example network mapping exercise from community-centered relationship building event 4/6/23

Adapted from: [Research Jams \(U of Michigan\)](#)

"Brainwriting"

Purpose:

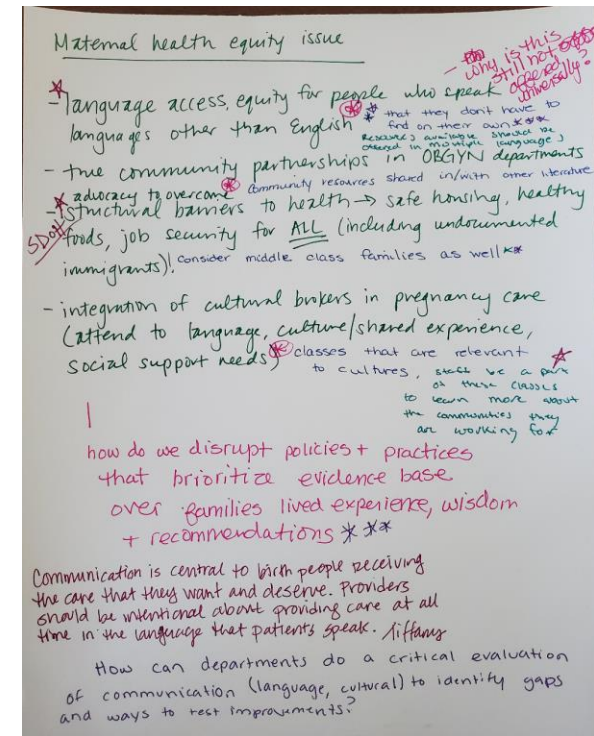
To generate ideas and build from others' ideas.
Works best in small groups (4 to 5 people).

Materials:

Paper (8x11 printer paper works)
Colored pens (each person pick a different color)

Directions:

Each person starts with a piece of paper and colored pen/marker. Give them 2 minutes to answer the prompt. After 2 minutes, each person will hand their paper to the right. Give everyone another 2 minutes to add to the ideas on this new page. If they like any idea, they can add stars or underline that idea. Continue this cycle until everyone receives their own page back. Make time to discuss major themes or ideas generated from this activity.



Example brainwriting exercise from community-centered relationship building event 4/6/23



Adapted from: [Research Jams \(U of Michigan\)](#)

"Affinity Mapping"

Purpose:

To organization information from a brainstorming session

Materials:

Post-it notes

Whiteboard

Dry-erase markers

Directions:

Typically done after brainwriting. Ask the group to write ideas generated from brainwriting (or another activity) on to post-it notes. The group at large then can decide how to categorize the ideas into themes. Once there is consensus, you can ask the group to vote on themes that resonate with them.



Example affinity mapping exercise from community-centered relationship building event 4/6/23

Adapted from: [Research Jams \(U of Michigan\)](#)

"Cover Story"

Purpose:

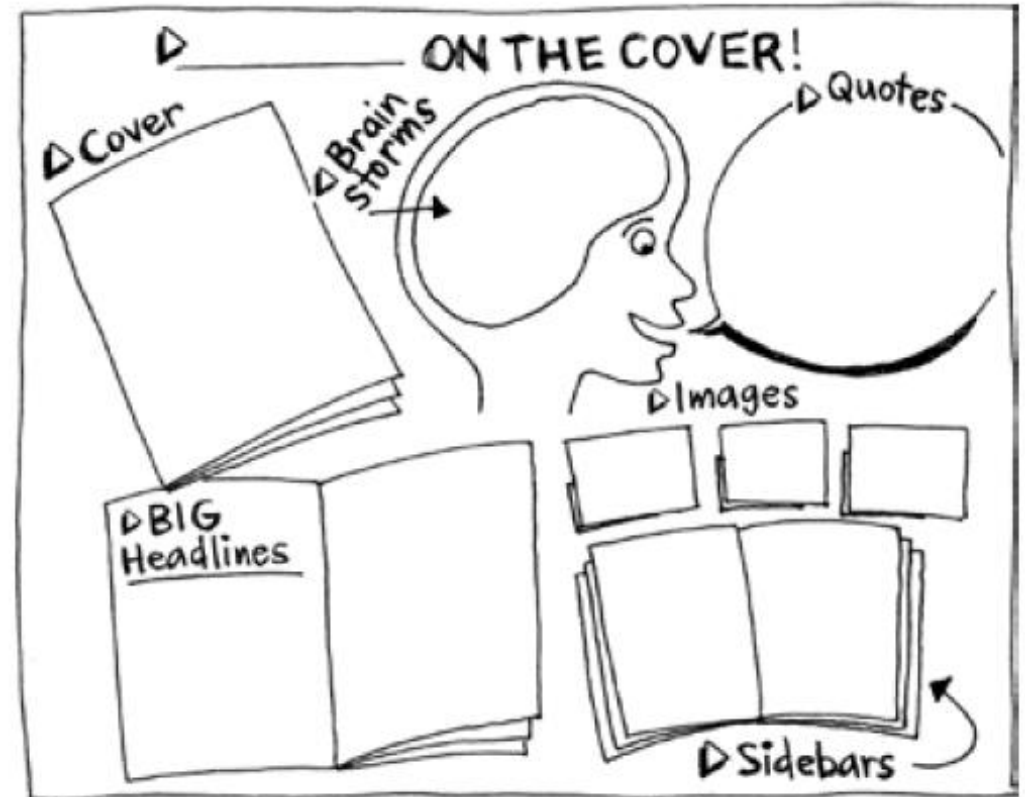
To envision what an ideal future version of an organization, collaboration, or project looks like. It can help identify goals to achieve that vision.

Materials:

Whiteboard
Dry-erase markers

Directions:

Ask the group to imagine they already implemented their idea and it was a success. What would the news story look like? What would the highlights be? What prompted? What are the desired outcomes from that idea? Have a facilitator and a note taker.



Example of a 'Cover Story' diagram
from <https://gamestorming.com/cover-story/>

Adapted from: [Research Jams \(U of Michigan\)](#)