COMMUNITY RESEARCH

RESEARCH MEETINGS: *learning together for effective action*

*-Research Meetings are a fundamental tool in community organizing. They are real-life conversations, led by community leaders, with experts, politicians, policy leaders and other people.   
-RMs are about changing the flow of information, from the inner circle of power into the hands of community leaders. Knowledge is power.*

*-RMs are about learning together, not about acting to influence the target. ‘Go in dumb, come out smart.’*

*-RMs are about moving towards ‘cutting issues’: getting clear enough about a problem that we can (later) make focused calls for change, rooted in an understanding of how the system works.*

*-RMs are about practicing together, which is how we build relationships, which is how we build power.*

***Roles*:** Chairperson, Credential Giver, Questioners

***Agenda Structure:***

Welcome, Purpose & Introductions – Chairperson

* *‘Hello, my name is and I will be chairing this meeting.’*
* *Welcome, thanks, etc.*
* *Purpose: we are here to LEARN about…*
* *Round of personal introductions*

Credential – Credential-er

* *Who are we? Who do we represent? How many people are we in relationship with? What institutions are represented by this group?*

Question 1: Questioner

* *Getting to know the target; get them telling a story that gives you insight into who they are.*
* *E.g. ‘tell us about your role…’; ‘how did you come to do this work?’; ‘what motivates you?’; etc.*

Question 2: Questioner

* *First major theme/topic*
* *Follow up/clarifying questions under this topic are OK from anyone*

Question 3: Questioner

* *Second major theme/topic*
* *Follow up/clarifying questions under this topic are OK from anyone*

Question 4: Questioner

* *Third major theme/topic*
* *Follow up/clarifying questions under this topic are OK from anyone*

Question 5: *is there anyone else we should speak to?*

Thank you – Chairperson