“Discovery consists of looking at the same thing as everyone else and thinking something different.”

A.Szent-Gyorgyi
What Do People Want?

- To be Healthy, Happy, and Safe
  - Meaningful Day Activities (Interesting things to do)
- To Live in their Own Home (Housing)
- To Be Able to Get Around (Transportation)
- Friends and relationships (Social Capital)
How Have We Done

- 76% unemployment or underemployment
- Only 6.1% own their own home (69% norm)
- Public Transportation cuts and limitations
- Friendship voids and social isolation
- Vulnerable people at greater risk of violence
- Only 32% report being “very satisfied”
- Limitations in civic engagement
- Increased morbidity (10 to 12 years sooner)
Why Haven’t We Done Better?

How Can We Do Better?
We Use A Flawed Paradigm
Paradigms

A paradigm is a set of rules and regulations that:

1) Defines boundaries

2) Tells you what to do to be successful within those boundaries

Adapted from Joel Barker
Micro Paradigm

- Looks at deficits, deficiencies, weakness
- Separates and congregates
- Relies on Experts to make decisions
- Attempts to fix the person

"Wait a minute here, Mr. Crumbley…Maybe it isn’t kidney stones after all!"
Detailed Micro Paradigm

- The person is the problem
- The problem is in the person
- The person is labeled
- The label leads to separation
- The experts do an assessment
- The person gets a treatment plan
- The program attempts to fix the problem
Difference Model leads to:

- Identifies and highlights the difference
- The difference is identified in stereotypes
- The stereotypes separates the person
- The person is then avoided/stigmatized
Effects of Difference

- Person is Misunderstood
- Person is Avoided
- Person is Not Welcomed
- Person is Banned
- Person is Banished
- Person is Isolated and at greater risk
- Person Dies Sooner
Results of Treatment Model

- Separate programs
- Segregated residential settings
- Limited work opportunities
- Sheltered Workshops or menial work
- Segregated Day Programs
- Limited Relationships, except with others w/vulnerabilities
- Separate recreational programs
IS THIS AS GOOD AS IT GETS?
“Walt! Walt! Listen to me! ... We don’t HAVE to be just sheep!”
“Destiny is not a matter of chance, it is a matter of choice”

~W.J. Bryan
The Magic Wand

If you could wish for 3 things for yourself or someone you love, what would they be?
Quality of Life Indicators

- Healthfulness
- Happiness
- Longevity
Research Shows

- Healthfulness
- Happiness
- Longevity

**ARE ALL TIED TO SOCIAL CAPITAL**
What is Social Capital?

The value, benefits, and resources made available, and accessed, through our relationships and social networks. Three key values of Social Capital are:

1. Instrumental
2. Emotional
3. Informational
Research Also Shows

Social Capital is related to:

- People getting jobs
- People finding others to live with
- People finding rides/transportation
- People being more tolerant, respectful, kind, helpful and the like
- People being safer
- Increased pro-social behaviors
Simply Stated

The quantity and quality of your relationships is important. The more social capital you have, the healthier you are, the happier you are, the more you achieve, the longer you live, and the better the outcomes are in your life.
Knowing how it could change the lives of canines everywhere, the dog scientists struggled diligently to understand the Doorknob Principle.
“To think is to differ”

~C. Darrow
Investing in Social Capital

- We need to stop thinking clinically and focus our attention on the community
- We must understand how community operates
- We must find ways to reverse institutionalization and micro treatment models
- We must listen to people and allow them to decide
- We must help people build social capital
“Social problems stem not from individual differences or deficits, but from the failure of society to meet the needs of all its members”

L. Gutierrez
Community

- Community is a network of different people who come together on a regular basis for some common cause or celebration.

- Key Ingredients of Community are:
  - Commonality
  - Difference
  - Regularity
Similarities vs. Differences

When people first meet they are drawn by their similarities, but differences can (and do) push us apart. What mitigates this struggle are two critical ingredients:

- Regularity/Frequency of exchange
- More Similarity that people find
Indentifying Social Capital

- Think about the relationships and connections one already has
- Identify the clusters of relationships (i.e. church, school, work, clubs, etc) that might apply
- Social Network Analysis – The Sociogram
People you see and know

People you know and do things with

People you love & care deeply for

Sociogram
Building Social Capital

- Identify key areas of interest/affinity
- Find a matching group or community
- Understand the community’s culture
- Find a gatekeeper
The Gatekeeper

Someone already in the community who has some influence or authority over the other members. They can have formal or informal influence, and can affect how people react to new things in either positive or negative ways.
Research on Gatekeepers

- They tend to be positive people
- They reach out to people
- They are willing to take risks
- They are usually flexible
- Often they are right brain thinkers
- More often than naught they are female
Magic of Community

When Similarities Override Differences
He who would be a leader, let him first become a bridge.
The Bridgebuilder

An old man going a lone highway, came at the evening cold and gray, to a chasm vast deep and wide; the old man crossed in the twilight dim, the sullen stream held no fear for him, but he turned when safe on the other side and built a bridge to span the tide.
“Old man” said a fellow pilgrim near, “you are wasting your time with building here, you never again will pass this way, your journey will end with the close of the day, you have crossed the chasm deep and wide, why build you this bridge at even tide.”
The builder lifted his old gray head. “Good friend, in the way that I’ve come,” he said. “There follows after me this day, a youth whose feet must pass this way. This stream which has been nothing to me, to the fair haired youth might a pitfall be. Yes he too must cross in the twilight dim; Good friend, I am building this bridge – for him.”
“We must become the change we wish to create.”

Gandhi
"If we pull this off, we'll eat like kings."
“In a new sense, all life is interrelated. All persons are caught up in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied to a single garment of destiny. Whatever affects one directly, affects all indirectly. I can never be what I ought to be, and you can never be what you ought to be, until I am what I ought to be. This is the interrelated structure of reality.”

Martin Luther King, Jr.
Al Condeluci, PhD.

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