**Speed Meeting Activity**

(45 minutes)

This activity is for programs addressing poverty, particularly those that are using the *Thriving Communities* or *Building Prosperity for All* discussion guides.

**Purpose of activity:**

* To get participants comfortable talking in pairs and about poverty, class and economic inequity
* To allow participants an opportunity to reflect on their past and present experiences
* To help participants feel more comfortable thinking about their experiences through an economic equity lens.

**Materials Needed:**

* Flip chart or newsprint
* Pens/Pencils

**Background:**

This activity was created so that participants could start talking about poverty, class and economic equity in pairs. This activity helps participants begin to build relationships. Through answering the 6:00 and 9:00 questions, participants will be able to reflect on their past and present experiences through an economic equity lens.

**Preparation:**

* Review the questions and see if they are questions appropriate to the community’s needs. If not, with your co-facilitator, create new questions.
* Think about how you will show the questions for the participants. This could be on a flip chart or PowerPoint. Remember to model how you want your participant’s to answer.

**Directions:**

1. Hand out the speed meeting handout and a pen/pencil.
2. Explain the directions:
   1. Have the participants find four “meetings” and ask them to find people they don’t know really well. Once they have their partners ask them to return to their seat.
   2. Ask them to write the name of someone on each line, and to check to make sure their partner has their name written for the same time.
      1. For example, my 3:00 has to be the same as my partner’s 3:00
   3. Read and model the first question and then send them to their meeting.
   4. Bring them back and ask a few people to share something that stood out to them or something they learned.
   5. Read and model the following questions, then share out after each question.
   6. After the 9:00 question, ask the group why we asked the 6:00 and 9:00 questions. Get a few responses. Then, send the participants to their 12:00 date.
3. Have groups talk about the following questions in pairs (5 minutes per question):
   1. 3:00- Why did you want to come here today? Why did it feel important for you to come?
   2. 6:00- What does it look like in this community when people are not doing well? What does it look like when people are doing well?
   3. 9:00- Describe a time when you or someone close to you struggled to make ends meet. What was it like? How did others react?
   4. 12:00- In what ways do these experiences impact you as a community member? How do they impact the relationships you have with your neighbors and others in the community, in particular people who have different economic backgrounds than you do?

**Debrief:** (20 minutes)

Bring the group back and get a few people to answer these questions:

1. Why do you think we did this activity?
2. How did you feel during this activity? At ease? Uncomfortable? Happy? Curious? Some other feeling? Why?
3. What connections or similarities did you notice?
4. What did you learn that surprised you? Why were you surprised?
5. What did you hear or feel that gives you hope?

**Speed Meeting**

1. Find a “date” for 3:00, 6:00, 9:00, and 12:00.
2. Choose people you do not know well.
3. Write the person’s name on the line and then go back to your seat once you have 4 “dates.”
4. Make sure the person has your name down for the same time



3:00 –

6:00 –

9:00 –

12:00 –