PUTTING THE COALITION IN CONTEXT

Cathy Slemp, MD, MPH West Virginia Public Health & Medical Preparedness Conference May 23, 2013

Healthcare Coalition: HPP Program

- A collaborative network of healthcare organizations and their respective public and private sector response partners within a defined region.
- Healthcare Coalitions serve as a multi-agency coordinating group that assists Emergency Management and Emergency Support Function (ESF) #8 with preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation activities related to healthcare organization disaster operations. The primary function of the Healthcare Coalition includes sub-state regional, healthcare system emergency preparedness activities involving the member organizations. Healthcare Coalitions also may provide multiagency coordination to interface with the appropriate level of emergency operations in order to assist with the provision of situational awareness and the coordination of resources for healthcare organizations during a response.

Source: ASPR HPP Healthcare Preparedness Capabilities, Capability 1: Healthcare System Preparedness

What is a Coalition?

co-a-li-tion (k-lshn). noun.

- 1. An alliance, especially a temporary one, of people, factions, parties, or nations.
- 2. A combination into one body; a union.
- 3. A group of usually two to six male lions that drive off and replace the male lions in a pride in order to mate with the females and protect the resulting offspring.

[French, from Medieval Latin coaliti, coalitin-, from Latin coalitus, past participle of coalscere, to grow together; see coalesce.]

Source: The Free Dictionary (online)

What is a Coalition?

co-a-li-tion

noun ∖ kō-ə-ˈli-shən∖

- 1. a : the act of <u>coalescing</u> : <u>UNION</u>
- 1. b : a body formed by the coalescing of originally distinct elements : <u>COMBINATION</u>
- 2. a : temporary alliance of distinct parties, persons, or states for joint action

Source: Merriam-Webster Dictionary (free - online)

Cathy's New Life







TED Radio Hour: What is Beauty?

What Is Beauty?

- Are Some Things Universally Beautiful? (Dennis Dutton)
- Are We Hard Wired for Beauty? (Dennis Dutton; Nancy Etcoff)
- Does Being Beautiful Make You Happy? (Cameron Russell)
- Can Beauty Change a Life? (Bill Strickland)
- How Does Beauty Feel? (Richard Seymour)

 Richard Seymour: Defining Beauty -- Do We Think Beauty or Do We Feel it?



What Makes Something Beautiful?

- Structure
- History: The story behind it
- Meaning
- Tensions
- Emotional Connections
- Movement

How different is that from "What Makes a Coalition Effective?"

Putting the Coalition in Context: What Really Makes a Community Prepared?

Purpose: What is the outcome from health preparedness that we're really looking for? **(Meaning)**

Key Components:

- What influences the outcome most (Structure)
- How do components intersect? What relationships are most important (Connections)
- What are the dynamics (Tensions)
- What are the stories that provide meaning and identity? (History)

How Do We Advance and Track Progress? (Movement)

Putting the Coalition in Context: What Really Makes a Community Prepared?

Purpose: (Meaning)

What is the outcome we're really looking for?

Putting the Coalition in Context: What Really Makes a Community Prepared?

Key Components:

- What influences the outcome most (Structural Components)
 - Magnitude of the event
 - Pre-event health status
 - Pre-event community functioning (formal and informal)
 - Formal preparedness and response structures?

Rethinking Coalition Context

- If this is what really impacts outcome in a community.....
 - Magnitude of the event
 - Pre-event health status
 - Pre-event community functioning (formal and informal)
 - Formal response structures?

Do Health Care Coalitions play a role in these?

Rethinking Coalition Context

Do Health Care Coalitions play a role in these?

- Magnitude of the event: Coalition ability to adjust to varying magnitude events: Specificity vs flexibility of plans? Redundancy of networks?
- Formal response structures: Coalition as a Preparedness vs Response Structure (formal or informal)?
- Pre-event health status: What's the role of the Healthcare Coalition in advancing pre-event health status in the community? Is that a legitimate function?
- Pre-event community functioning (formal and informal): What's the role of the Coalition in strengthening routine healthcare system operations vs disaster response operations? What's the role of the Coalition in promoting community connectedness/leadership?

What Makes a Strong Coalition?

- How do components intersect? What relationships are most important (Connections)
 - Networks: Within HC Coalition, Among Coalitions, With EM, State PH, etc.
 - How does the Coalition create internal and external relationships?
 - Public Trust: Concept of Pre-positioning Trust;
 - Does the Coalition need this? How does a Coalition help establish it?
 - Social Connectedness: (Volunteerism; Social Networks; Communities of Faith, etc.).
 - How does the Coalition interplay with or help build these?

What Makes a Strong Coalition?

- What are the dynamics and how can you use them to advance efforts (Tensions)
 - Everyday vs disaster use
 - Structured response planning vs flexibility to adapt to situations at hand
 - Collaborative vs competitive nature of healthcare organizations
 - Threat-specific vs all-hazard planning.

What Makes a Strong Coalition

Defining a history?

- Working together / Connecting during an emergency changes how we connect afterwards / going forward.
- What other stories communicate and sustain identity?

What Makes a Coalition Strong?

How Do We Advance and Track Progress? (Movement)

- Role of Science
- Role of Practice
- Role of Measurement

What Makes a Strong Coalition?

- A Coalition is deepened by understanding its Context and building upon the Environment within which it works.
 - **Structure:** Does structure connect to and advance the bigger picture of what makes a difference in the community?
 - **History:** What history do you create together? What stories bring it to life?
 - Meaning: Acting on common values, passion, purpose for a clear goal
 - **Tensions:** Ability to hold opposing forces that shape action
 - Connections: Creating a web or networks of internal and external relationships
 - **Movement:** Tracking and Celebrating Progress

What defines your coalition?

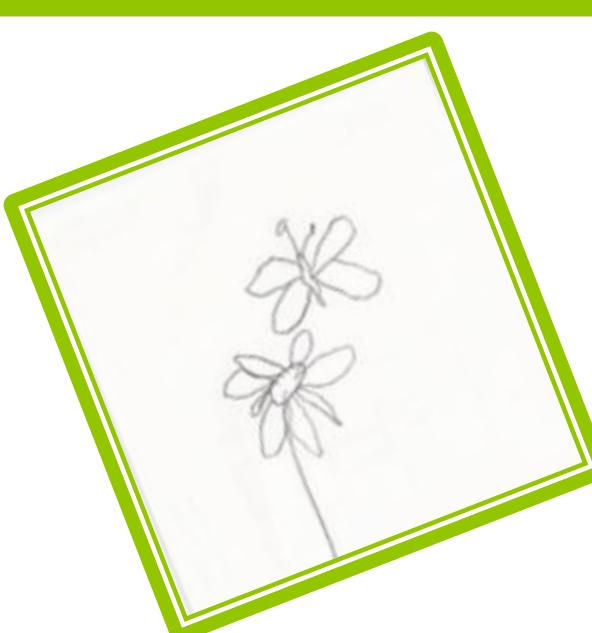
co-a-li-tion (k-lshn). noun.

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or



 A temporary (?) alliance of distinct parties, persons, or states for joint action



What's the story behind your coalition?