From Grassroots to Treetops: Using the Constellation Model for Collaborative Action in the First Food Field

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The Power of Collaboration
USBC’s Recipe for Change

Collective Impact

Strategic Framework
Coalitions: Capacity Building Supports

- National **conferences** (annually in June)
- **Webinar** series:
  - CDC-USBC Bi Monthly Webinar Series
  - Power Tools Webinar Series
  - Racial Equity Webinar Series
  - Collective Impact Webinar Series (re-launch in Feb)
- **Networking** resources (sharing communities, discussion forums, file libraries)

USBC Affiliated Constellations

- Subset of partners voluntarily participates based on their own interests and assets
  - Partners represent breadth of knowledge, diverse constituencies and expertise
- Focus can be formal project or opportunistic initiative (e.g., advocacy campaign or response), or forming a community of practice, as long as in service to larger goals of partnership
- Increased impact and credibility
### USBC Constellation Pathway

#### Pre-Pathway Stage
- **Connect & Learn**
  - LEARNING
  - COMMUNITY

#### Pathway Stage 1
- **Generate Ideas & Dialogue**
  - INCUBATION
  - CONVERSATION

<table>
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<tr>
<th>What</th>
<th>Participants</th>
<th>Objective</th>
<th>USBC Support</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Online forum dedicated to a specific topic</td>
<td>Any member org rep interested in the topic</td>
<td>Constellation formation</td>
<td>Support vision of the group with emphasis on equity</td>
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<td>Convene incubation conversations to generate ideas</td>
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### USBC Constellation Pathway

#### Pathway Stage 2
- **Initiate Action**
  - EMERGING
  - CONSTITUTION

#### Pathway Stage 3
- **Organize for Impact**
  - ORGANIZING
  - CONSTITUTION

#### Pathway Stage 4
- **Sustain Action & Impact**
  - USBC-AFFILIATED
  - CONSTITUTION

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<td>An action-focused collaborative group.</td>
<td>Member organizations at the national, state &amp; local level. <strong>Non-member organizations may be invited</strong></td>
<td>Work toward specific Priority Strategies for national/state levers for change.</td>
<td>Private workspace&lt;br&gt;Meeting support for constellation leaders and facilitators&lt;br&gt;Web conferencing&lt;br&gt;Consultation on CI Theory &amp; Practice</td>
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USBC Membership Expansion

- Member organizations are participants in USBC-Affiliated Constellations
- USBC Membership Expansion
  - In the past only national organizations
  - Now – CBOs & coalitions can be participants in most!
- Applications opened Jan. 25th; Priority deadline is March 31st

How to Adopt this Model

1. Engage Your Networks
   - Engagement Levels on different topic areas
2. Convene on different topics (recommend no more than 5)
   - Learning, sharing and networking, have organizations assign representatives
3. Assess who is at the table and who isn’t, but needs to be – be intentional!
How to Adopt this Model

4. Identify your Backbone Organization
5. Identify a Steward – making sure meetings are scheduled, don’t lose momentum!
6. Identify Priority Strategies
7. Stay engaged with CI & DEI principles

Learn, Connect & Take Action

- Create USBC Individual Profile
- Join the Coalition Learning Connection
- Register for webinar Series
- Attend the National Conference in June!
- Consider membership with USBC
Contact Us!

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Questions about USBC Membership:
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Thank you!

We are better, together!