

7 Ways the Work Gets Done

ORGANIZATIONAL CHANGE

Learning more about the larger systemic challenges and raising the expectations and accountabilities for everyone involved helps us each lead deeper change back in our own organizations.

COLLABORATIONS

Collaborations, which may involve just a few participants, emerge spontaneously as we learn about one another's plans and priorities and identify opportunities to advance the work together in part of the system.

NETWORK INITIATIVE GROUPS

Initiative groups are created and implemented around key intervention points through “member power” with staff and logistics support from the backbone organization, and may leverage additional funding for bigger projects from funders, including company foundations, or agencies.

WHOLE NETWORK PROJECTS

Certain large or complex initiatives may be developed and implemented as projects involving the whole network with staff and logistics support from the backbone organization and project funding from other parties.

SPIN-OFFS OF THE NETWORK

Especially large initiatives sometimes evolve into a separate network, a new partnership, or a new organization or social venture that is formally spun off from the main network.

THROUGH OTHER GROUPS AND ORGANIZATIONS

Certain initiatives are important to advance but, for any number of reasons, may not be a good fit for the particular network. The group can “frame up” these initiatives and hand them off to other organizations or collaborations.

INFLUENCING THE LARGER SYSTEM

Just the existence of a collaboration starts to shift the context in the system you're working to change. When others see that many influential people are working together toward a big goal, it makes them pay attention to the issue you're working on and influences them to take action toward the goal, even when they are not part of the collaboration itself.