



Appreciative Inquiry Handout

<p>Step 1: DISCOVER what works This stage emphasizes identifying strengths, successes, and other positive elements that contribute to community vitality and resilience.</p>	
<p>Task</p>	<p>Group Response</p>
<p>Looking at findings from the study, reflect on these findings and share experiences of what is working well in their community.</p> <p>Identify strengths, successes, and other positive elements that contribute to community vitality and resilience.</p>	
<p>Step 2: DREAM about what could be This stage focuses on inspiring possibilities and translating hopes into visual representations.</p>	
<p>Task</p>	<p>Group Response</p>
<p>You have been assigned a theme from the study findings. Choose one type of solution to design: (1) develop a behavioral change campaign, (2) draft a policy proposal, (3) design a practical resource or tool to address community violence, or (4) create a programmatic solution.</p> <p>DREAM SESSION: Thinking about your assigned theme, think about how you solve this problem. Create visual depictions of your ideal future and envision an ideal future for your community. Imagine the best possible outcomes for reducing violence, fostering safety, and building strong relationships.</p> <p>Use the first poster board (and any other materials you'd like) for your DREAM session.</p> <p>Questions to think about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If we won an award for best Ward in DC, what would our Ward look like? • What could we do to amplify or improve what is already working? • How can we get even better? • If we had no limitations at all what would our future look like? • What kind of future would mean we would be unstoppable? • How can we take what is going well and apply the same behaviors or thinking somewhere else? 	

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Learn more about Safety 7 at <https://www.childtrends.org/project/centering-youth-experiences-youth-participatory-action>.

Step 3: DESIGN concrete actionable steps The Design stage translates their collective aspirations into concrete, actionable steps.	
Task	Group Response
<p>Create a “solutions board”. The solutions board should include solutions of what a city without violence would look like.</p> <p>Use the second poster board (and any other materials you’d like) for your DESIGN session.</p> <p>Collaboratively outline specific strategies, tasks, and responsibilities to guide their community toward the envisioned future.</p> <p>Questions to think about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What would it take to deliver it? • If we’re doing this work, what else has to happen around us? • What would be the outcome? How will we know when we finish? • Who benefits from this work? • What do we need to achieve this? • What skills do we need? What people do we need? What funding do we need? • Does this resonate with the city’s goals? 	
Step 4: DESTINY/DELIVER your dreams This stage emphasizes empowerment, ongoing engagement, and collaboration among all stakeholders, with the goal of building sustainable solutions that resonate within the community.	
Task	Group Response
<p>Present your ideas to the larger group, fostering accountability and shared commitment.</p> <p>Identify specific actions you can commit to, whether through personal changes, community initiatives, or policy advocacy.</p> <p>Questions to think about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What steps must be implemented to achieve this dream? Consider the changes to systems, processes, and strategies discussed above. • Who is responsible for making these changes? 	