

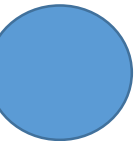
# Welcome

Think Tank - August 2020

Wash U Implementation Science Center for Cancer  
Control

# Today's Agenda

- 11 Welcome & Principles to Guide Our Work
- 11:10 Introduce Break Out Activity
- 11:15 Interactive Break-Out Session
- 11:40 Large Group Discussion
- 11:55 5 minute stretch break!
- 12:00 Overview of new “Data Briefs”
- 12:20 Wrap-Up and Next Steps
- 12:25 End

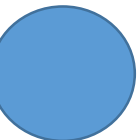


# Welcome

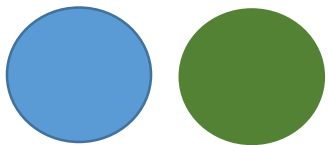
Use the Chat Box as you want to contribute to discussion, or feel free to speak up.

Today's goal is to continue building momentum as a Think Tank community guiding the work of our NCI funded center and learning from each other.

Our product today will be a list of research topics/needs/ideas that you all think are important. We'll follow that with a survey to rank importance and these will guide the calls for research proposals that come out of our Center.



# Principles for Our Work



# Principles to guide the think tank

Interventions to prevent, control, and treat cancer are part of all of our lives, yet most people do not participate in the deciding and designing the implementation of such interventions. In particular, the people who are most affected by cancer disparities tend to have the least influence on decisions about whether, how, what, when, and where the research intended to help them happens.

The think tank aims to make the research process more participatory, using a justice and equity approach that centers people and organizations typically marginalized by research institutions, researchers, and research processes. We use collaborative practices to address the cancer prevention and control challenges faced by communities in the Siteman Cancer Center catchment area, inclusive of the rural and urban counties across Missouri and Illinois, including St. Louis.



# Principles as a work in progress

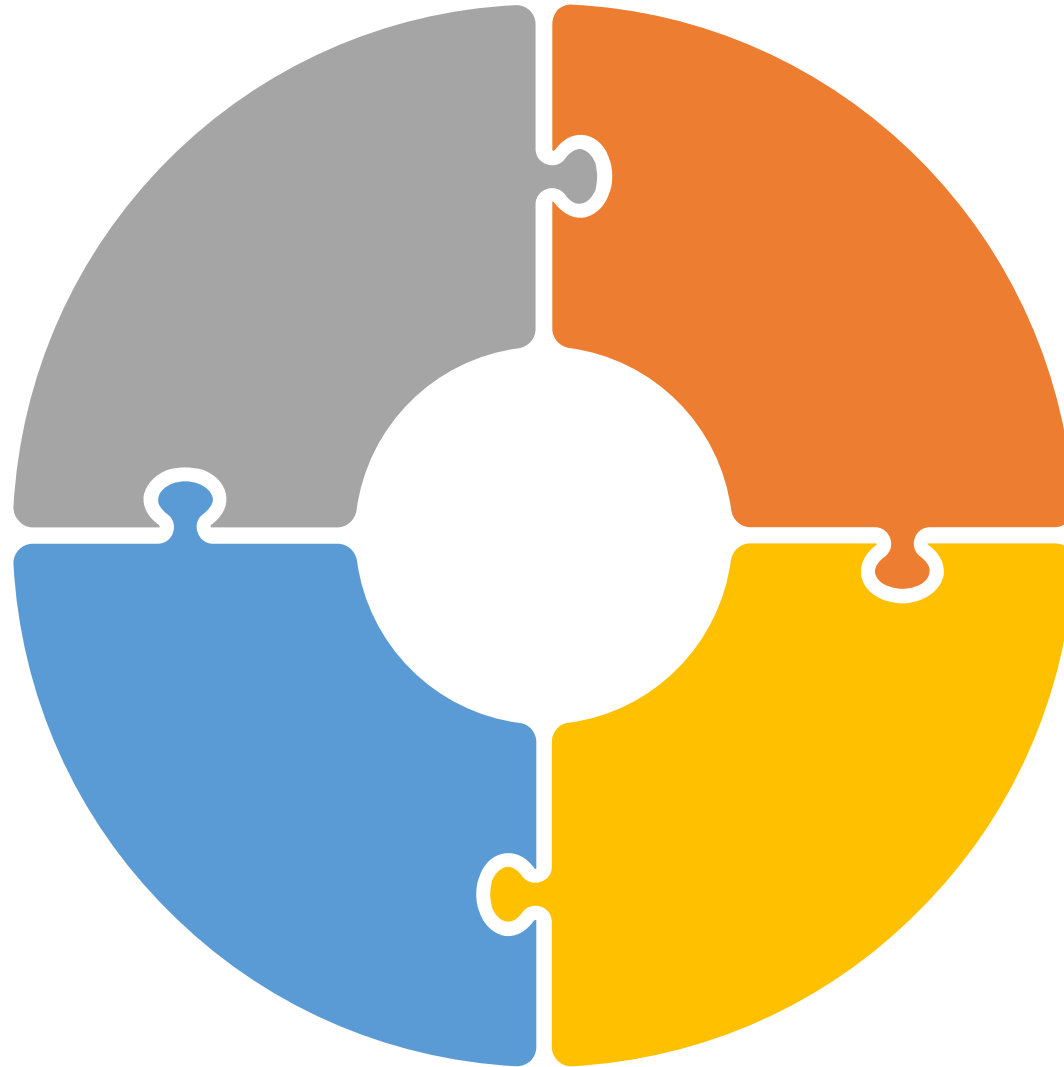
These principles are a continued work in progress. We have developed this first draft of the principles from themes identified at the first think tank meeting in March 2020 during the break out sessions and the full group discussions. The principles we share were guided, as well, by design justice principles(1).

(1) Costanza-Chock, Sasha. 2020. *Design Justice: Community-led Practices to Build the Worlds We Need*. Cambridge: The MIT Press.



## Access

Making data, research, and activities accessible



## Participation

Building on the expertise of think tank members

## Process and collaboration

Building long-term collaborations, reducing duplication of effort, and addressing power differences

## Cancer Control Focus

Focus on solutions that impact communities



# Access

- The think tank aims for members to have access to data about and research efforts in their communities and communities in the region.
- The think tank aims to make accessible information about evidence and evidence-based interventions.
- The think tank aims to present data and information using modes and formats most relevant to communities, including using preferred languages and limiting academic jargon.\*
- The think tank aims will continually strive to make meetings and activities as accessible as possible to a range of stakeholders in the Siteman Cancer Center catchment area

Informed by: Full group discussion and Break out discussions from March 2020 Think Tank.

\*Added by Think Tank organizers to acknowledge that (1) academics use jargon and that implementation science has its own 'language' and (2) acknowledge that English is not the only language spoken in the catchment area and that there are multiple dialects and variations of English and other languages spoken in the catchment area. During the investigators' retreat, this issue of limiting jargon was also raised as important to facilitating more interdisciplinary approaches to cancer prevention and control.





# Participation

- We presume that all members hold expertise, and begin by listening to think tank members' knowledge and experience.
- During think tank meetings, faculty at Washington University will serve as listeners and facilitators\* rather than as experts.
- The think tank supports multiple types of communication to ensure that all members have the ability to contribute their perspectives to processes.\*\*

\*We use the term *facilitator* to acknowledge that WU investigators are convening this process and to identify our role in lending support to (but not controlling) the process. We also use it to address the notion that WU researchers might support community-engaged solutions through pilot studies and other ideas generated by Think Tank members.

\*\*This comes from comments members made about who was not part of the March think tank meeting, comments about travel difficulties, and also the COVID-19 environment that has made the need for flexibility and multiple modes of communication even more obvious.



# Process and Collaboration

- The think tank aims to build a long-term network of organizations and people and puts importance on process as critical to effective end products.
- The think tank embraces collaboration (over competition) among researchers, among communities, and between researchers and communities.
- Before introducing new studies or interventions, we learn from what has already been done by local community partners and by researchers, to avoid overburdening community partners and participants and to build on local solutions.
- We acknowledge power differences among think tank members and between and among researchers and community members. We work to identify and address these power differentials, rather than reinforce them, in all language and activities.

Informed by: Large and small group, comments about need for more communication between researchers, need for researchers to know and value what's already going on in communities; Break outs, comment about researchers duplicating effort. Large group discussions, questions about what has been done.



# Cancer Control Focus

- We acknowledge that people are already acting on cancer control issues in their communities in some fashion. Understanding those actions is the starting point for developing effective strategies to resolve the problem, so we focus on the solutions, not the problems.
- The think tank offers space for people to identify research needs and gaps, as well as solutions, together.
- We prioritize the impact of cancer prevention and control interventions on communities over the intentions of the researchers who designed the intervention or over a singular disciplinary or intervention perspective.\*

Informed by: Small and large group discussions about what was already happening in the communities that think tank members serve. Also adapted from the Allied Media Project's network principles: <https://www.alliedmedia.org/about/network-principles>

\*Adapted from The Design Justice Network, Principle 3. <https://designjustice.org/read-the-principles>



# How we put these principles into practice

- We use input and critique to strengthen them
- We use them to reflect and evaluate our activities and progress
- They have guided our activity today



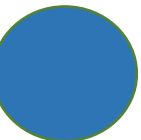
# Break-out Activity

## **What are areas of importance for cancer control research in our region and for you?**

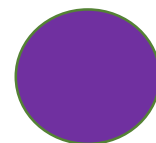
This can include health needs or gaps, or areas where services could be improved or where research is needed.

It can include strengths that you would like to see further support for.

The goal today is to build on what you know to get that starting list.

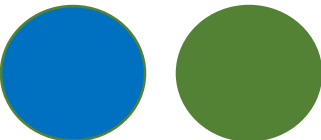


# Zoom instructions & Using the “whiteboard”



# Break-Outs

Share your general insights from the Break-Out Discussion





# Data Briefs