



CEIO Organizer's Path *Critical Components of Organizing*

Individual organizers and groups organize in different ways. The CEIO Organizer's Path centers around a process of community organizing that includes eight critical components. Applicants' organizing experience will be reviewed according to the following framework.

1. VISION FOR A NEW REALITY:

- Promotes a vision for a social change

2. BUILDING POWER / PEOPLE POWER / BASE BUILDING:

- Is based in people power
- Builds a base of people or institutions (this can be issue-based or geography-based) to build collective power

3. CHANGING RELATIONSHIPS TO POWER:

- Seeks to change relationships to power by ensuring that those directly affected by social problems are creating solutions that lead to lasting structural and institutional change

4. LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT:

- Nurtures the growth of members or people organizing together
- Develops a sense of purpose and power of members or people organizing together
- Creates politically active constituencies by focusing on strengths and solutions rooted in their experiences
- Includes political education and skills training of those directly affected

5. POSITIVELY CHANGING PEOPLE'S LIVES IN TANGIBLE WAYS:

- Centers organizing around enacting specific social changes that lead to short- and long-term change
- Shifts policy and practices in tangible ways

6. POWER ANALYSIS:

- Relies on a power analysis that informs direction, decisions and campaigns

7. USING STRATEGY TO DEVELOP AND EXECUTE CAMPAIGNS:

- Utilizes research and issue definition
- Develops campaigns and utilizes tactics to affect systemic change

8. DEMOCRATIC DECISION-MAKING:

- Uses democratic decision-making (majority rule or consensus), explicitly inclusive of those directly affected by the issues