

## Community Partners Meeting

# Winter/Spring 2017

December 09, 2016

Scientists for Tomorrow (SfT) had its annual Winter/Spring Community Partners meeting where directors, principals and coordinators from various schools and community based organizations (CBOs) participated to learn about the programs and new initiatives. In attendance we had 26 members from Enlace Chicago, Brighton Park Neighborhood Council, Youth Opportunity United, Frazier Prep Academy, the Resurrection Project and more.

At the meeting, participants had the opportunity to visualize with others on the question, "How do you envision your center/organization structure providing high quality and consistent youth programming?" Participants brainstormed ideas through the process of "Metaphorming" developed by Dr. Todd Siller. Building physical models and explaining their interpretation, the participants proposed answers to the main question. For more information regarding this activity, please access the Journal of Business Strategy- "Pointing your way to success through metaphorming."

In the activity participants had to create a model using, paper, magazines, posters, markers, play-dough and other accessible materials, to represent their vision from the question, integrating the four step process: Connect; Discover; Invent and Apply.

After the activity, each team took turns presenting their model and how it proposes a symbolic answer to the question. At the end of the presentations, the participants arrived to the conclusion that funding and changes in leadership are a major obstacle to facilitate an effective high-quality program.

At the course of the meeting, members had the chance to meet the STEAMGAGE Columbia College Chicago students. These students are part of a new program designed by Marcelo Caplan, Evelyn Oropeza and Dave Morton, Columbia College Chicago (CCC) faculty and staff, to develop activities to teach and share with the communities in Chicago.

In the last part of the meeting, participants had the opportunity to learn about the Scientists for Tomorrow youth, parent and high school programs offered by the Department of Science and Mathematics from Columbia College Chicago.

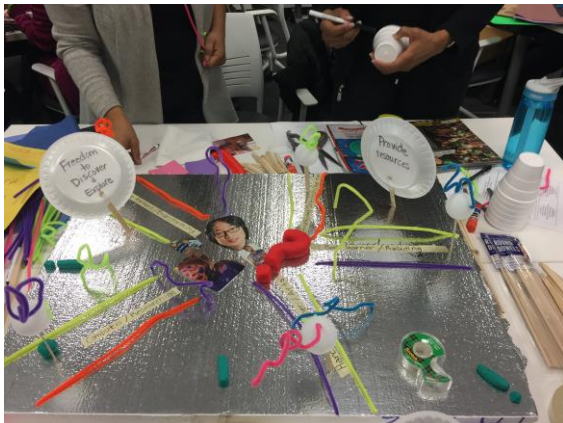
Below are pictures demonstrating the activities.



Brighton Park Neighborhood Council working along with Enlace Chicago and others constructing their vision for their organization that has consistent and high quality programs.



Twenty-six community members attended the meeting and did the metaphorming activity.



Each group developed a model representing their vision of how a Community Center should run to have a positive and effective impact through their programs.