



Relational Approach to Community Engagement

Relational Approach	Engaging Community Members
Prepare to Engage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand that each person is unique in their experience, knowledge, and interests • Be open to difference in perspective and opinion • Approach community members with patience, respect, and humility
Gather Information	<p>Ask about them (without being too intrusive)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tell me about yourself • How long have you lived in the area? • What do you like about living here? (schools, parks, services, etc.) • What do you not like so much about living here? (housing, traffic, cost of living, etc.)
Take Time to Understand	<p>Find out what they think is important so you can connect census to their priorities and interests</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What programs and services do you and your family use (health, education, public transit, housing, etc)? • What would it mean for you and your family if there wasn't enough funding for those programs/services? • How do you think your community would be impacted if those programs/services were no longer available?
Share Relevant Information	<p>Give concrete examples related to what they think is important for them and their community</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If we don't count everyone, there won't be enough funding for the program/service that your family relies on • We need to count everyone so we know where to offer program/service • We need to understand who lives here so we know how to reach everyone who needs the program/service